

STATE BUDGET 2018-19

Small Business Priorities



STATE BUDGET PRIORITIES

Our advocacy agenda for the 2018-19 State Budget is focused on seven key themes:

- 1 Taxation:** A competitive and business-friendly tax system is fundamental to creating a thriving and prosperous economy and reducing the drag on economic activity.
- 2 Public Sector:** Improvements must be made to public sector productivity, efficiency and effectiveness to reduce the ballooning cost to taxpayers.
- 3 Infrastructure:** Investment in diverse projects will lead to quality infrastructure that boosts economic activity and lifts the standard of living across Queensland.
- 4 Energy:** Placing downward pressure on historically high electricity prices must be a key focus of this budget.
- 5 Skills and Training:** Ensure Queensland's workforce can meet the skills needs of the future, with a particular focus on workforce development across regional Queensland.
- 6 Trade:** Businesses need to be optimally placed to access international markets and increase their competitiveness in the global marketplace.
- 7 Small Business Growth:** Red tape and other barriers to business growth must be removed so businesses have the ability and confidence to take risks and flourish.

 For an in-depth look at the recommendations we have put forward, **please visit our website to access our State Budget 2018-19 submission.**

A MESSAGE FROM CCIQ

"The 2018-19 State Budget is an opportunity for the State Government to create the right architecture, and pull the correct levers to drive small business growth across Queensland."



The State Budget is a key determinant of business confidence. Queensland's unique and evolving economy means small businesses look to the State Government to provide stable and responsible economic policy.

As the peak association for employers across Queensland, we believe the 2018-19 State Budget must be a budget that lifts business confidence by creating the conditions for more investment and employment over the coming years.

It's time to put the budget on a path that unleashes small business growth and best prepares SMEs to face-off potential economic headwinds. There are undoubtedly some tough political decisions to be made, but in doing so, it will set the foundations for a promising economic trajectory.

Kate Whittle, General Manager of Advocacy

CCIQ'S KEY PRINCIPLES

At CCIQ, we are guided by the following principles which are the key levers for small business prosperity:

- Increase the **digital capacity** of SMEs;
- Ensure access to **procurement** opportunities;
- Reduce business **operating costs**;
- Streamline and reduce **red tape**;
- Simplify the **tax** system;
- Invest in skills needs and **workforce** development; and
- Deliver productive **infrastructure**.

THE VOICE OF BUSINESS

The Chamber of Commerce and Industry Queensland (CCIQ) is the peak organisation representing the 426,000 small and medium businesses across Queensland. Our guiding focus is to develop and advocate policies that are in the best interests of Queensland businesses, the Queensland economy, and the Queensland community.

CONTACT US

Let us know your thoughts on our State Budget agenda or about the issues affecting your small business. To contact us, send an email to kwhittle@cciq.com.au or for more information on our advocacy work, visit cciq.com.au.