

Western Australian Building and Construction Consultative Committee (BCC Committee)

Key Outcomes of Meeting 3 December 2024

- An update on the work performed by Western Australian Building and Construction Consultative Committee (BCCC), in relation to consultation on the Department of Finance's (Finance) draft Code of Conduct (Code) for procurement on government construction projects was provided by Australian Venture Consulting and the Finance. The draft Code of Conduct will be provided to the Minister for Industrial Relations and the referred to the Minister for Finance for further consideration.
- Finance provided a high-level overview of the Western Australian Bid Contribution Policy for Major Projects launched by the Minister for Finance to support increased market capacity and competition in Western Australia to deliver major State infrastructure.
- Mates in Construction provided a presentation of the MATES/University of Western Australia's research findings from the "Constructing a Safer Industry: WA Construction Industry Suicide and Mental Health Benchmarking Study". The study provided insight into the current mental health of workers in the building and construction industry in Western Australia.
- The Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety's Secretariat (The Secretariat) provided an overview of the results from the "Construction Induction Training Card" (or White Card) system review survey, a key deliverable arising from the BCCC Strategic plan. The Secretariat presented the survey results, which strongly supported reviewing and modernising training content to include crystalline silica awareness, psychosocial hazard awareness, recent legislative changes and how to prepare suitable Safe Work Method Statements.
- WorkSafe provided an update to the Committee on efforts made to improve the management of psychosocial hazards within the building and construction industry and the inspectorate. Ongoing initiatives include mental health grants, a psychosocial hazards forum, and new resources, with plans focused on clear codes of practice and systems to prevent psychosocial hazards and bullying.
- The Construction Training Fund (CTF) provided updates from the Women in Construction Round Table where efforts made by Western Australian government departments to address gender imbalance within the construction industry were discussed. CTF noted that little progress had been made at improving female participation in the workforce over recent years. Post election, CTF have indicated a desire to revisit the issue in 2025, with participation from industry, to assess progress, identify successes, and define strategies to create more inclusive and supportive workplaces for women.
- The next BCC Committee meeting is yet to be scheduled.