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Commonwealth State Apprenticeships Team
Department of Employment and Workplace Relations
Australian Government

By e-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear Commonwealth State Apprenticeships Team

Re: Refreshing the National Code of Good Practice for Australian Apprenticeships

The Master Builders Association of Victoria (MBV) welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback to the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) in response to the refresh of the National Code of Good Practice for Australian Apprenticeships (the Code).

As the leading voice for Victoria's building and construction industry we support reviewing the Code to make sure it remains relevant and effective in supporting apprentices, trainees, and employers.

We believe it is important to include clear procedures and contact points for resolving disputes or issues that may arise during the apprenticeship. We also suggest providing resources and support systems to address mental health issues among apprentices and trainees. This may include mentoring guidance including strategies and best practices for effective mentoring to support apprentices and trainees throughout their training period.

Additionally, we recommend the following specific guidance and resources would be most helpful for employers, apprentices, and trainees:

- Building good employer and apprentice or trainee working relationships.
- Handling complaints and managing disputes.
- Managing safety and wellbeing in the workplace.
- Supporting women apprentices in male-dominated industries.
- Supporting CALD communities.

- Supporting apprentices or trainees with disability, neurodivergence (e.g. ADHD), and/or mental health issues.

We also recommend including programs to improve understanding of diversity and inclusivity, as well as standardised best practices tailored to different industries. These additions will ensure a more comprehensive and supportive framework for all parties involved in apprenticeships and traineeships.

We would welcome the opportunity to contribute further and review any changes to the Code. Please contact Victoria Giddens, Policy & Industry Collaboration Advisor [REDACTED] if you wish to discuss any matters raised or if there are opportunities for MBV to continue to be involved in the review process.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Caroline Speed
Director Policy and Industry Collaboration
Master Builders Victoria

IS YOUR BUILDER A MASTER BUILDER?

