

**Opening Statement to the
Joint Committee on Public Accounts and Audit
from
the Project Management Institute (PMI)**

**Inquiry into the 2018-19 Defence Major Projects Report and the Future Submarine
Project – Transition to Design (Auditor-General's Reports 19 and 22 (2019-20))**

Opening Statement:

My name is Ben Breen and I am Managing Director, Asia Pacific, for the Project Management Institute.

On behalf of the Project Management Institute or PMI, I would like to thank the Committee for inviting the organisation to appear. We are here to assist the Committee with our perspective on the importance of project management as a profession in delivering value and desired outcomes.

PMI is a not for profit, peak professional organisation. We were founded in 1969 and we represent and support more than 3 million professionals working in nearly every country in the world. We deliver global advocacy, collaboration, education and research for the project management profession.

We work with industry and the private sector, governments and the public sector. In relation to the public sector we specifically provide advice on more effective and efficient leading practices and global trends across people and process factors of the projects and programmes governments are delivering.

PMI was founded and is headquartered in Philadelphia, in the US and the organisation operates on a regional basis with representatives covering our teams in North America, Latin America, Europe, Africa, the Middle East, China, India, and the Asia Pacific.

We work with governments and government business enterprises in each of these regions, as well as contributing to economic development bodies, including the World Economic Forum.

The Project Management Institute Education Foundation works to forge partnerships with the non-profit organisations that support and prepare youth for success by offering our project management expertise, resources, and volunteers to aid them in their missions.

PMI undertakes ongoing research into the nature of project delivery and our research continues to find that the world of work is changing faster than ever. I would like to briefly share an insight from our research with the Committee.

Even before the Covid-19 crisis, our research was telling us that how we will work tomorrow isn't like how we work today. 79% of executives agree that the future of our work will be based more on specific projects than roles.

A large part of this is due to changes in technology which are accelerating faster than people and organisations can adapt. The way we work is also changing because people are shifting behaviours to adapt to technology.

As a result, the skills people need to successfully deliver value are changing and this is an ongoing challenge to those seeking to deliver projects.

On behalf of PMI I am here to provide our views and insights as a global professional peak body. As I am sure members of the Committee will appreciate, I and my organisation are not in a position to reflect on, judge or make comments in relation to delivery of specific projects.

I am however in a position, on behalf of PMI, to offer our assistance to the Australian Parliament and Government to improve outcomes for the Australian community.

I would be pleased to offer an informed, comprehensive and global perspective on the value and impact of project management for organisations.

I look forward to the opportunity to answer the Committee's questions.