



16 April 2008

Mr Terry Moran AC  
Secretary  
Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet  
PO Box 6500  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Moran

### **Lobbying Code of Conduct – Exposure Draft**

I am pleased to provide you with our comments on the exposure draft of the Lobbying Code of Conduct released earlier this month by Minister Faulkner.

The Property Council of Australia strongly supports the Government's objective to enhance the transparency, integrity and honesty of contact between lobbyists and Government representatives. We believe it is of pivotal importance for the public to have trust and confidence in stakeholder interaction with Government.

As an industry association, representing the interests of the nation's commercial property investors and residential developers Australia-wide, we understand that the Property Council will not be required to register as lobbyists under the Code.

Our only concern regarding the proposed register of lobbyists is that sufficient education is undertaken to ensure that ministerial and departmental staff are aware that organisations such as ours are not required to register, and that our lack of registration does not erroneously preclude us from meeting with Government representatives.

The Property Council endorses the behaviour espoused in the draft Code of Conduct. We will continue to promote awareness of our industry and the market place we represent. The Property Council does not, and will not, make representations to Government on the behalf of individual members. We advocate on behalf of our industry.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Code.

Yours sincerely

**Peter Verwer**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Property Council of Australia**  
pverwer@propertyoz.com.au

---

## The Voice of Leadership

LEVEL 1 11 BARRACK STREET SYDNEY NSW 2000  
PH 02 9033 1900 - FAX 02 9033 1966 - ABN 13 008 474 422  
Email info@nat.propertyoz.com.au - www.propertyoz.com.au

**PROPERTY**  
**COUNCIL**  
of Australia