

Joint statement

Business welcomes Government's establishment of Royal Commission into antisemitism and social cohesion

Major employers of Australia's business community strongly welcome the Federal Government's decision to establish a Royal Commission into antisemitism and social cohesion, following the tragic events at Bondi Beach.

The establishment of a federal Royal Commission, led by former High Court justice, the Honourable Virginia Bell, recognises the importance of a coordinated, whole-of-nation response.

As business representatives, we recognise the central role that safe, inclusive and cohesive communities and workplaces play in Australia's social and economic success. Our workplaces bring together people from diverse backgrounds every day and are deeply representative of the communities found across our nation.

Without safe and cohesive communities and workplaces, it is not possible to deliver prosperity for all Australians, which is the ultimate goal underpinning the advocacy and efforts of our organisations.

A federal Royal Commission provides an opportunity to learn and understand what happened, identify what needs to be done differently, and bring Australians together in the shared goal of preventing future tragedy.

A federal Royal Commission also addresses limitations of existing approaches, and the findings and recommendations of the Commission can build on the work already undertaken by Federal, State and Territory governments, and contribute to a consistent and effective response to antisemitism across the country.

We strongly welcome the incorporation of the Richardson Review into this Royal Commission and the reporting date of 14 December 2026, ensuring Australia can act decisively, comprehensively, and without delay.

In tandem, Business representatives will continue to work constructively with the Federal Government and Australia's Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism Jillian Segal, to identify and implement concrete actions to help stamp out antisemitism.

We welcome the Government's leadership in establishing the Royal Commission and stand ready to work with the Government throughout the process.

This joint statement is on behalf of:

Australian Banking Association

Australian Industry Group

Australian Institute of Company Directors

Australian Retailers Association

Business Council of Australia

Council of Small Business Organisations Australia

Insurance Council of Australia

Master Builders Australia

Minerals Council of Australia

Property Council of Australia