



## The Hon Jihad Dib MP

Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government  
Minister for Emergency Services  
Minister for Youth Justice

## The Hon Scott Stewart MP

Minister for Resources

Ref: BN-04066-2024

## The Hon Dr Jim Chalmers MP

Commonwealth Treasurer  
By email: [jim.chalmers.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:jim.chalmers.MP@aph.gov.au)

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Re: eConveyancing interoperability reform

Dear Treasurer *Jim,*

We write in relation to the national electronic conveyancing (eConveyancing) reforms.

While the shift to eConveyancing in NSW and Queensland has been a success, progress with the reform program has revealed specific issues which are not best regulated by states and territories. We welcome further engagement with the Commonwealth to consider these issues.

As you know, eConveyancing enables buyers and sellers to complete land transactions online, rather than on paper. This reform has brought significant benefits across Australia in time savings, security and lower costs for participants.

eConveyancing includes the lodgment of dealings with the land titles registry and financial settlement with banks.

The lodgment aspects of the reform have been led by states and territories through the Australian Registrars' National Electronic Conveyancing Council (ARNECC).

Concurrently, ARNECC has been leading an 'interoperability' reform to support competition among Electronic Lodgment Network Operators (ELNOs).

Greater competition in the market would have the benefit of creating more consumer choice and putting downward pressure on costs associated with home ownership.

The Australian Banking Association, the Law Council of Australia and both operating ELNOs have all raised the need for leadership by a federal body with the authority, remit and expertise to oversee the financial settlement aspects of eConveyancing.

The issues raised by the banking industry in particular are beyond the responsibilities of states and territories.

The expertise of Commonwealth Government and regulators will be important to addressing these issues effectively to deliver the benefits of competition in this critical market.

NSW and Queensland are working together to reviewing the key issues that would benefit from Commonwealth engagement, as part of a comprehensive analysis of the competition reform and potential pathways forward.

We expect this work to be completed in October and will seek a meeting with your office to discuss the outcomes of this review.

Sincerely



**Jihad Dib MP**  
Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government  
Minister for Emergency Services  
Minister for Youth Justice

06/09/2024



**Scott Stewart MP**  
Minister for Resources

05/09/2024

CC:  
Assistant Treasurer and Minister for Financial Services  
[AssistantTreasurer@treasury.gov.au](mailto:AssistantTreasurer@treasury.gov.au)

Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities and Treasury, Assistant Minister for Employment  
[Andrew.Leigh.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Andrew.Leigh.MP@aph.gov.au)



DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE

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Darwin NT 0801  
Telephone: 08 8936 5688

The Hon Dr Jim Chalmers MP  
Commonwealth Treasurer  
Parliament House

The Hon Stephen Jones MP  
Assistant Treasurer  
Minister for Financial Services

The Hon Dr Andrew Leigh MP  
Assistant Minister for  
Competition, Charities and  
Treasury  
Assistant Minister for Employment

Via email: [Jim.Chalmers.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Jim.Chalmers.MP@aph.gov.au)  
[AssistantTreasurer@treasury.gov.au](mailto:AssistantTreasurer@treasury.gov.au)  
[Andrew.Leigh.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Andrew.Leigh.MP@aph.gov.au)

Dear Treasurer and Ministers

**eConveyancing and the need for Commonwealth oversight**

eConveyancing enables buyers and sellers to complete transactions in land online, rather than on paper. This world-leading reform has brought significant benefits across Australia, in time savings, security and reducing costs for participants.

eConveyancing includes the lodgment of dealings with the land titles registry and financial settlement with banks. The lodgment aspects of the reform were led by States and Territories, through the Australian Registrars' National Electronic Conveyancing Council (ARNECC).

**Stakeholders have raised the need for Commonwealth regulation**

The Australian Banking Association, the Law Council of Australia and both operating Electronic Lodgment Network Operators (ELNOs) have all raised the need for leadership by a federal body, with the authority, remit and expertise to oversee the financial settlement aspects of eConveyancing.

The issues raised by the banking industry and other stakeholders are beyond the legislative remit of States and Territories to address effectively. In particular, ARNECC is leading the 'interoperability' reform to support competition among ELNOs, but this reform cannot progress without the issues raised by stakeholders being resolved.

We request the Commonwealth Government and regulators review these issues so the benefits of competition can be delivered to eConveyancing.

Yours sincerely

CHANSEY PAECH

- 2 JUL 2024





**Government  
of South Australia**

**Minister for Housing and  
Urban Development**

**Minister for Housing  
Infrastructure**

**Minister for Planning**

GPO Box 11032  
ADELAIDE SA 5001

T: (08) 8235 5580

E: [ministerchampion@sa.gov.au](mailto:ministerchampion@sa.gov.au)

**Hon Nick Champion MP**

24EXT0222

Hon Dr Andrew Leigh MP  
Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities and Treasury

By email: [Andrew.Leigh.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Andrew.Leigh.MP@aph.gov.au)

Dear Assistant Minister *Andrew*

Electronic conveyancing (eConveyancing) enables buyers and sellers to complete transactions in land online, rather than on paper. This world-leading reform has brought significant benefits across Australia, in time savings, security and reducing costs for participants.

eConveyancing includes the lodgment of dealings with the land titles registry and financial settlement with banks. The lodgment aspects of the reform were led by states and territories through the Australian Registrars' National Electronic Conveyancing Council (ARNECC).

The Australian Banking Association, the Law Council of Australia, and both operating Electronic Lodgment Network Operators (ELNOs), have all raised the need for leadership by a federal body, with the authority, remit and expertise to oversee the financial settlement aspects of eConveyancing.

The issues raised by the banking industry and other stakeholders are beyond the legislative remit of states and territories to address effectively. In particular, ARNECC is leading the 'interoperability' reform to support competition among ELNOs, but this reform cannot progress without the issues raised by stakeholders being resolved.

Accordingly, I request the Commonwealth Government and regulators review these issues so the benefits of competition can be delivered to eConveyancing.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nick Champion'.

**Hon Nick Champion MP**  
Minister for Planning

*9/11* / 2024



Minister for Energy and Renewables  
Minister for Parks and Environment

Level 10 15 Murray Street HOBART TAS 7000 Australia  
GPO Box 123 HOBART TAS 7001 Australia  
Ph: +61 3 6165 7739  
Email: [minister.duigan@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:minister.duigan@dpac.tas.gov.au)



2 October 2024

Hon Dr Andrew Leigh MP  
Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities and Treasury  
Assistant Minister for Employment  
Sent via email to: [Andrew.Leigh.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Andrew.Leigh.MP@aph.gov.au)

Dear Minister

**Electronic Conveyancing and the need for Commonwealth oversight**

Electronic conveyancing (also known as eConveyancing) enables buyers and sellers to complete land transactions online rather than on paper. This world-leading reform has brought significant benefits across Australia in time savings, security and reducing costs for participants.

Electronic conveyancing includes the lodgment of dealings with the land titles registry and financial settlement with banks. The lodgment aspects of the reform were led by States and Territories through the Australian Registrars' National Electronic Conveyancing Council (ARNECC).

Stakeholders have raised the need for Commonwealth regulation.

The Australian Banking Association, the Law Council of Australia and both operating Electronic Lodgment Network Operators (ELNOs) have all raised the need for leadership by a federal body, with the authority, remit and expertise to oversee the financial settlement aspects of electronic conveyancing.

The issues raised by the banking industry and other stakeholders are beyond the legislative remit of states and territories to address effectively. In particular, ARNECC is leading the 'interoperability' reform to support competition among ELNOs, but this reform cannot progress without the issues raised by stakeholders being resolved.

We request the Australian Government and regulators review these issues so the benefits of competition can be delivered to electronic conveyancing.

Yours sincerely

Hon Nick Duigan MLC  
**Minister for Parks and Environment**



## The Hon Sonya Kilkenny MP

Minister for Planning  
Minister for the Suburbs

1 Spring Street  
Melbourne, Victoria 3000 Australia

FOI 3761  
Document 5

Ref: BMIN-1-24-4244

**Hon Jim Chalmers, MP**  
Commonwealth Treasurer  
[jim.chalmers.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:jim.chalmers.mp@aph.gov.au)

**Hon Stephen Jones, MP**  
Assistant Treasurer  
Minister for Financial Services  
[stephen.jones.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:stephen.jones.mp@aph.gov.au)

**Hon Andrew Leigh, MP**  
Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities and Treasury  
Assistant Minister for Employment  
[andrew.leigh.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:andrew.leigh.mp@aph.gov.au)

Dear Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and Minister for Financial Services and Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities and Treasury, Assistant Minister for Employment

### **eConveyancing and the need for Commonwealth oversight**

eConveyancing enables buyers and sellers to complete transactions in land online, rather than on paper. This world-leading reform has brought significant benefits across Australia, in time savings, security and reducing costs for participants.

eConveyancing includes the lodgement of dealings with the land titles registry and financial settlement with banks. The lodgement aspects of the reform were led by States and Territories, through the Australian Registrars' National Electronic Conveyancing Council (ARNECC).

### **Stakeholders have raised the need for Commonwealth regulation**

The Australian Banking Association, the Law Council of Australia and both operating Electronic Lodgement Network Operators (ELNOs) have all raised the need for leadership by a federal body, with the authority, remit and expertise to oversee the financial settlement aspects of eConveyancing.

The issues raised by the banking industry and other stakeholders are beyond the legislative remit of States and Territories to address effectively. In particular, ARNECC is leading the 'interoperability' reform to support competition among ELNOs, but this reform cannot progress without the issues raised by stakeholders being resolved.

We request the Commonwealth Government and regulators review these issues so the benefits of competition can be delivered to eConveyancing.

Yours sincerely



**The Hon Sonya Kilkenny MP**  
Minister for Planning  
Minister for the Suburbs

Date: 27/09/2024



**Shane Rattenbury MLA**

Attorney-General  
Minister for Consumer Affairs  
Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction  
Minister for Gaming

Member for Kurrajong

24/72845

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The Hon Dr Andrew Leigh MP  
Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities and Treasury, Assistant Minister for Employment  
[Andrew.Leigh.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Andrew.Leigh.MP@aph.gov.au)

The Hon Jim Chalmers MP  
Commonwealth Treasurer  
[Jim.Chalmers.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Jim.Chalmers.MP@aph.gov.au)

The Hon Stephen Jones MP  
Assistant Treasurer and Minister for Financial Services  
[AssistantTreasurer@treasury.gov.au](mailto:AssistantTreasurer@treasury.gov.au)

Dear Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities and Treasury, Assistant Minister for Employment, Commonwealth Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer and Minister for Financial Services

**eConveyancing and the need for Commonwealth oversight**

eConveyancing enables buyers and sellers to complete transactions in land online, rather than on paper. This world-leading reform has brought significant benefits across Australia, in time savings, security and reducing costs for participants.

eConveyancing includes the lodgment of dealings with the land titles registry and financial settlement with banks. The lodgment aspects of the reform were led by States and Territories, through the Australian Registrars' National Electronic Conveyancing Council (ARNECC).

**Stakeholders have raised the need for Commonwealth regulation**

The Australian Banking Association, the Law Council of Australia and both operating Electronic Lodgment Network Operators (ELNOs) have all raised the need for leadership by a federal body, with the authority, remit and expertise to oversee the financial settlement aspects of eConveyancing.

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 [rattenbury@act.gov.au](mailto:rattenbury@act.gov.au)

 @ShaneRattenbury

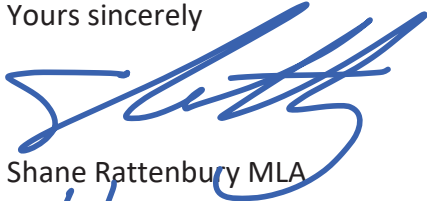
 shanerattenburymla

 shanerattenbury

The issues raised by the banking industry and other stakeholders are beyond the legislative remit of States and Territories to address effectively. In particular, ARNECC is leading the 'interoperability' reform to support competition among ELNOs, but this reform cannot progress without the issues raised by stakeholders being resolved.

Together with my State and Territory colleagues, I request the Commonwealth Government and regulators review these issues so the benefits of competition can be delivered to eConveyancing.

Yours sincerely



Shane Rattenbury MLA

22/7/24



**From:** [Bezzi, Marcus](#)  
**To:** s 22  
**Cc:** s 22  
**Subject:** RE: Papers - Ministerial Forum on interoperability and eConveyancing reforms [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Date:** Wednesday, 29 May 2024 2:57:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)

**OFFICIAL**

Sounds good, thank you.  
Kind regards,  
Marcus

**Marcus Bezzi — Chief Advisor**

Competition Taskforce  
Markets Group

P s s 22

[treasury.gov.au](https://treasury.gov.au)

Level 29, 201 Kent Street SYDNEY NSW 2000

[Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Facebook](#)

*The Treasury acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, water and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to elders both past and present.*

**OFFICIAL**

**From:** s 22 @TREASURY.GOV.AU>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024 2:56 PM  
**To:** Bezzi, Marcus <Marcus.Bezzi@TREASURY.GOV.AU>  
**Cc:** s 22 @TREASURY.GOV.AU>  
**Subject:** RE: Papers - Ministerial Forum on interoperability and eConveyancing reforms [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Will give you a buzz tomorrow with some background.

**OFFICIAL**

**From:** Bezzi, Marcus <Marcus.Bezzi@TREASURY.GOV.AU>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024 2:55 PM  
**To:** s 22 @TREASURY.GOV.AU>  
**Cc:** s 22 @TREASURY.GOV.AU>  
**Subject:** RE: Papers - Ministerial Forum on interoperability and eConveyancing reforms [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Thanks s ,  
I notice there is no one there from Commonwealth Treasury. s 47B  
I understand why Treasury officials are not required but let me know if you would like to discuss this aspect of the meeting.  
Kind regards,  
Marcus

**Marcus Bezzi — Chief Advisor**

Competition Taskforce  
Markets Group

P s 22 M s 22

[treasury.gov.au](https://treasury.gov.au)

Level 29, 201 Kent Street SYDNEY NSW 2000

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*The Treasury acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, water and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to elders both past and present.*

**OFFICIAL**

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**From:** s 22 <[REDACTED]@TREASURY.GOV.AU>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 29, 2024 2:48 PM

**To:** s 22 <[REDACTED]@TREASURY.GOV.AU>

**Subject:** FW: Papers - Ministerial Forum on interoperability and eConveyancing reforms  
[SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

**OFFICIAL**

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Hi s 22 – FYI.

**OFFICIAL**

**From:** Susan Madden <[susan.madden@customerservice.nsw.gov.au](mailto:susan.madden@customerservice.nsw.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024 5:58 PM

**To:** Leigh, Andrew (MP) <[Andrew.Leigh.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Andrew.Leigh.MP@aph.gov.au)>

**Cc:** s 22 <[REDACTED]@aph.gov.au>; s 22 <[REDACTED]@aph.gov.au>

s 22 <[REDACTED]@aph.gov.au>

**Subject:** Papers - Ministerial Forum on interoperability and eConveyancing reforms

Good afternoon

Further to the email on behalf of the Hon. Jihad Dib MP, NSW Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, inviting you to the Ministerial Forum on interoperability and electronic conveyancing reforms, Tuesday 11 June 2024 at 2:00pm - 3:00pm (EST), please see attached meeting papers:

- Ministerial Forum Agenda
- Australian Registrars' National Electronic Conveyancing Council (ARNECC) Ministerial Forum Paper
- NSW Productivity Commission Report - The eConveyancing market study
- Submissions by Industry, Peak Bodies and ELNOs

If you require any further information please contact NSW Office of the Registrar General at this email address, [registrar.general@customerservice.nsw.gov.au](mailto:registrar.general@customerservice.nsw.gov.au) or contact Susan Madden on 0450 922 439.

Kind regards

Susan Madden

Manager | Business Operations

Office of the Registrar General

s 22 <[REDACTED] E [Susan.Madden@customerservice.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Susan.Madden@customerservice.nsw.gov.au)

[registrargeneral.nsw.gov.au](http://registrargeneral.nsw.gov.au)



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**From:** Susan Madden

**Sent:** Thursday, April 18, 2024 5:47 PM

**To:** 'Andrew.Leigh.MP@aph.gov.au' <[Andrew.Leigh.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Andrew.Leigh.MP@aph.gov.au)>

**Cc:** s 22 <[REDACTED]@aph.gov.au>; s 22 <[REDACTED]@aph.gov.au>

**s 22** @aph.gov.au>

**Subject:** RE: Placeholder - Ministerial Forum on interoperability and eConveyancing reforms

Good afternoon

I am writing on behalf of the Hon. Jihad Dib MP, NSW Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, in relation to the placeholder for the next Ministerial Forum on interoperability and eConveyancing reforms.

Due to scheduling matters, the forum has been rearranged to the new date of Tuesday 11 June 2024 from 2:00pm – 3:00pm (AEST). The Minister is inviting State, Territory and Commonwealth Ministers, Registrars, ACCC and the NSW Productivity Commissioner. ELNOs and peak bodies will provide written updates to be included in the forum papers.

The objective of the Ministerial Forum is to provide Ministers with an opportunity to review the status of the interoperability reform and to consider broader issues and opportunities in the electronic conveyancing market. After the Forum, Ministers will update industry through a Ministerial Statement.

Following this email, I will update the Ministerial Forum placeholder with the new date.

Thank you for your time, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Kind regards

Susan Madden

Manager | Business Operations

Office of the Registrar General

[www.registrargeneral.nsw.gov.au](http://www.registrargeneral.nsw.gov.au)

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**From:** Susan Madden **On Behalf Of** NSW Office of the Registrar General

**Sent:** Thursday, February 15, 2024 6:05 PM

**To:** 'Andrew.Leigh.MP@aph.gov.au' <[Andrew.Leigh.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Andrew.Leigh.MP@aph.gov.au)>

**Cc:** **s 22** @aph.gov.au>

**Subject:** Placeholder - Ministerial Forum on interoperability and eConveyancing reforms

Good afternoon

I am writing on behalf of the Hon. Jihad Dib MP, NSW Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government, with a placeholder for the next Ministerial Forum on interoperability and eConveyancing reforms.

In November 2023, Ministers met to review the progress of competition reforms and to consider key issues for the future of eConveyancing. Ministers agreed to meet again during 2024 to review progress. In January, the Australian Registrars' National Electronic Conveyancing Council published the Model Operating Requirements which include a timetable for implementing the interoperability reform.

The proposed date for this next Forum is 11:30am - 1:00pm (AEST) on Monday 20 May 2024 via video conference. The Minister is inviting State, Territory and Commonwealth Ministers, Registrars, ACCC, as well as ELNOs and peak body representatives to attend the Forum.

Objective of the Ministerial Forum

This Forum will provide Ministers an opportunity to review the status of the interoperability reform and to consider broader issues and opportunities in the electronic conveyancing market. After the Forum, Ministers will update industry through a Ministerial Statement.

Next steps

The Minister will write to you formally with a proposed agenda. In the meantime, and following this email, I will forward to you and your office a placeholder meeting invitation.

Thank you for your time, and please let me know if you have any questions.

**Susan Madden**

Manager | Business Operations

**Office of the Registrar General**

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[registrargeneral.nsw.gov.au](http://registrargeneral.nsw.gov.au)



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