

Progress of Economic Reform Roundtable – February 2026

There were ten actions announced following the roundtable, significant progress has been made to deliver those actions.

1. Abolishing more nuisance tariffs, subject to consultation

- Consultation following the Treasurer's announcement that the Government will abolish another 500 nuisance tariffs closed on 10 December 2025. Government is considering the submissions.

2. Reducing complexity and red tape in the National Construction Code.

- The relevant portfolio Ministers announced that the government will:
 - pause and streamline the National Construction Code
 - fast track assessment on more than 26,000 homes currently under EPBC Act consideration.
- Treasury is consulting on a discussion paper on streamlining and modernising the code which will close on 27 February 2026.
- The Housing Minister has appointed three project leads (Rebecca Billings, David McCarthy, Dan O'Brien) to support the delivery of the report and engagement with industry.

3. Accelerating *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) reform in line with the principles from the Samuel review.

- The Environment Protection Reform Act, implementing the Government's EPBC Act reforms, passed the Parliament on 28 November 2025 and received Royal Assent on 1 December 2025.
- The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water is developing a related best-practice guide and guidelines.

4. Dealing with a backlog of environmental approvals for new homes.

- As of 4 February 2026, nearly 17,000 new homes had been approved through national environmental laws as a direct result of the immediate action to establish a housing strike team within the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water.

5. Releasing the letters for regulators on opportunities for better regulation, with the Council of Financial Regulators to coordinate actions and lift ambition for financial sector regulators

- The letters from 38 Commonwealth regulators containing more than 400 ideas to reduce regulatory burden and support productivity growth – were published in September 2025.
- An Implementation Plan of commitments from the letters was published by the Council of Financial Regulators in December 2025.

6. Introducing a bill on regulatory reform, including 'tell us once'

- The Regulatory Reform Omnibus Bill, including the 'tell us once' reforms, passed the Parliament on 27 November 2025.

7. Developing an APS AI plan

- The Government released the APS AI Plan in November 2025. The plan provides the platform for public servants to have foundational training, support, access and guidance needed to use AI tools safely and responsibly.

8. Accelerating work on a national AI capability plan, including national interest principles for data centres

- The National AI Plan was released on 2 December 2025. The plan intends to accelerate the broad development and adoption of AI, capture opportunities and spread benefits of AI, and keep Australia safe as they engage with AI.

9. Commencing the Investor Front Door pilot in September

- The Government launched the pilot of the Investor Front Door in September 2025.

10. Working with states on road user charging

- On 5 September 2025, the Treasurer issued a joint statement with State counterparts outlining their approach to road user charging.
- At the 28 November 2025 Council on Federal Financial Relations (CFFR meeting), Treasurers discussed progress on road user charging policy design.

CURRENT AS AT 4 FEBRUARY 2026.

Package	Commitment Immediate action future work	Portfolio/Minister	Timing	s 22	Status and next steps On track At risk Delayed	s 22
s 22						
Better regulation roadmap and legislative workstream	Release regulator letters s 22	Treasurer/Minister Gallagher	5 September	s 22	Complete	s 22

CURRENT AS AT 4 FEBRUARY 2026.

Package	Commitment Immediate action future work	Portfolio/Minister	Timing	s 22	Status and next steps On track At risk Delayed	s 22
	Introduce regulatory reform bill 'tell us once'	Minister Gallagher	End of year	s 22	Complete Regulatory Reform Omnibus Bill introduced 8 October	s 22

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Package	Commitment Immediate action future work	Portfolio/Minister	Timing	s 22	Status and next steps On track At risk Delayed	s 22
	PC to give options on best way to measure progress on better regulation around the world	Treasurer	The final report of the PC's inquiry into 'Creating a more dynamic and resilient economy' is due to be provided to Government in December 2025.	s 22	Delivered This was delivered as part of the PC's report on 'Creating a more dynamic and resilient economy,' provided to Government (and published) in December 2025.	s 22
Speeding up approvals in national priority areas	Accelerate the introduction of EPBC Act before the end of 2025	Minister Watt	Legislation received Royal Assent on 1 December 2025.		On track – Delivered.	