## **Independent Communications Committee**

Mr Chris Jordan AO Commissioner of Taxation Australian Taxation Office PO Box 9977 Civic Square ACT 2608

Dear Mr Jordan

## COMPLIANCE ADVICE ON THE PROPOSED PHOENIX 2018–19 (PHASE 1.1) CAMPAIGN

The Independent Communications Committee (the Committee) considers proposed advertising campaigns with expenditure expected to be \$250,000 or more, and provides independent advice to the relevant Chief Executive.

On 27 November 2018, the Committee considered the Phoenix 2018–19 (Phase 1.1) campaign being developed by the Australian Taxation Office. As part of its consideration of this campaign, the Committee met with your officers and reviewed the following supporting documentation:

- 1. communication strategy
- 2. research/industry data
- 3. draft media strategy and indicative media plan overview
- 4. a statement against Principles 1 to 4 of the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by non-corporate Commonwealth entities (Guidelines).

The Committee is satisfied that the campaign is relevant to government responsibilities (Principle 1), and that the campaign is being developed in line with Principles 2 to 4 of the Guidelines. The Committee's view has been formed at the communication strategy stage, and it has not considered the advertising materials. For this reason, the Committee has concluded that the proposed Phoenix 2018 (Phase 1.1) campaign is capable of complying with Principles 1 to 4 of the Guidelines.

As legal and procurement matters relating to the campaign are not considered by this Committee, you will need to seek advice and assurance from your entity with respect to compliance with Principle 5 of the Guidelines.

This letter will be published on the Department of Finance website after the campaign is launched.

Any additional phases of the campaign will require separate consideration by the Committee.

Yours sincerely

Greg Williams

Chair

Independent Communications Committee

**27** November 2018