

# **SMALL BUSINESS WHITE PAPER**

**POLICY OPTIONS FOR AUSTRALIA**



**IPA** INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC<sup>®</sup>  
ACCOUNTANTS

# BACKGROUND TO THE INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS AND THE IPA DEAKIN UNIVERSITY SME RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP

The Institute of Public Accountants (IPA) is one of the three legally recognised professional accounting bodies in Australia. The IPA was established in 1923 and has grown rapidly in recent years to represent more than 35,000 members and students in Australia and in more than 80 countries. The IPA has offices around Australia and in London, Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Kuala Lumpur and Hong Kong. It has a range of partnerships with other global accounting bodies. The IPA is a full member of the International Federation of Accountants and has over 6,000 individual accounting practices in its network, generating in excess of \$2.1 billion in accounting services fees annually. The IPA's unique proposition is that it is for small business; providing personal, practical and valued services to its members and their clients/employers. More than 75 per cent of IPA members work directly in or with small business every day. The IPA has a proud record of innovation and was recognised in 2012 by BRW as one of Australia's top 20 most innovative companies.

In 2013, the IPA partnered with Deakin University to form the IPA Deakin University SME Research Partnership, a first in Australia. The goal of the partnership is to bring together practitioner insights with cutting edge SME academic research to provide substantive policy input. This Australian Small Business White Paper builds upon the solid work plan that has delivered a range of SME policy events and publications to date.

The IPA Deakin SME Research Partnership comprises:

**Chair Andrew Conway FIPA**

(Chief Executive of the IPA and Professor of Accounting *honoris causa* Shanghai University of Finance and Economics)

**Professor Peter Carey**

(Deakin University Head of Department of Accounting)

**Professor Barry Cooper**

(Deakin University Associate Dean, Industry Engagement and Partnerships)

**Wayne Debernardi**

(General Manager Media & Communications)

**Mr Tony Greco FIPA**

(IPA General Manager Technical Policy)

**Mr Michael Linke**

(IPA Executive General Manager Member Experience)

**Ms Vicki Stylianou**

(IPA Executive General Manager Advocacy & Technical)

**Professor George Tanewski**

(Deakin University)

**Dr Vincent Bicudo de Castro**

(Deakin University)