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| Portfolio: | Assistant Treasurer |
| Witness: | Mr SCOTT |
| Committee member: | Mr MAAS |
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Relevant text:

Mr MAAS: In terms of the social enterprises themselves, what has the response from social enterprises been with regard to the social procurement framework?

Mr SCOTT: I have to say there has been a very positive response, and members I am sure will have varying engagement with social enterprises. This is a sector where beyond the specific commercial purpose of the organisation there is a broader social purpose. The response has been very positive, because this is a really important government initiative where there is a focus on ensuring that there is a chance for social enterprises to have access to government procurement. While there has been engagement, particularly in terms of some of our larger construction projects, and the railway level crossing removal program is an example of where social enterprises, particularly disability social enterprises, have been heavily engaged—

The CHAIR: Minister, I am loath to interrupt you at that point, given that I believe the content of the answer is actually probably some of the most important material that you have presented us with. But I do look forward to you having the opportunity to provide that as a question on notice.

Answer:

Through a range of internal and external forums, the Victorian Government has received positive feedback and support from the social enterprise sector regarding the Social Procurement Framework. This is consistent with feedback provided by Government's social procurement partner, Social Traders, that there is an increase in both the number of certified social enterprises and opportunities for these enterprises to participate in government procurement. The extent to which social enterprises are participating in government procurement will be reported annually under the measurement and reporting framework.