



Media Release

Issued By Bob Pritchard

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The Reed Group Welcomes BER Taskforce

The Reed Group welcomes the establishment of the Federal Government's Commonwealth BER Implementation Taskforce to ensure school communities are receiving value for money under the BER program.

"We trust that the taskforce will expose the many false and misleading statements that have appeared in the media about the BER program and particularly The Reed Group's BER projects," said Geoff Reed, Managing Director.

"The taskforce will demonstrate that the media has grossly exaggerated Reed's fees.

"I am proud of our BER project management team and their handling of this complex project for the Federal and State Governments. I am especially proud of the way they have continued to deliver value for money projects for school communities on time and within the complex set of requirements set up by the Federal and State Governments, while under extreme media pressure," Mr Reed said.

There are no secret fees in Reed's costings. The Reed Group has been open and transparent in detailing its project cost estimates (Estimated Construction Sum or ECS) and providing these to the NSW BER Integrated Program Office, as required by the BER contract, for approval.

The Reed Group successfully tendered to the NSW State Government for the role of Managing Contractor for BER projects in the NSW North Coast and New England regions against other major building companies.

As a result The Reed Group has 404 projects across 335 schools in a widely dispersed geographic area, from Tea Gardens to Tweed Heads and west to Moree. To date projects at 140 schools have been completed.

Audits have been undertaken throughout the program by the NSW Government with 9 completed on The Reed Group. Each audit reported very positive results, with The Reed Group demonstrating due diligence in all work. These audits demonstrated compliance with the NSW Government Code of Tendering and NSW OH&S legislation.

"Reed is meeting the Federal Government's requirements and its contractual obligations to the NSW Government," Mr Reed said.

The Reed Group is confident that further audits on projects it manages will continue to confirm value for money has been delivered.

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