

MEDIA RELEASE

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TCCI disappointed by federal budget's half-hearted support for business

The TCCI is the voice of business in Tasmania and says that tonight's federal budget does not go far enough to tackle the major issues Tasmanian businesses are facing.

TCCI CEO, Michael Bailey, said a number of issues were impacting businesses.

"We talk to businesses right across the State every day and conduct a detailed survey every three months," Mr Bailey said.

"Businesses tell us the main issues are the cost of doing business, the cost of living, skills shortages, insurance costs, interest rates and red tape.

"While the budget does offer some cost-of-living relief, it's overlooked most of the other key issues affecting business.

"What little support there is in the budget for businesses seems halfhearted.

"We had hoped that the much-hyped Made In Australia initiative would have provided something tangible for Tasmanian business, but even this seemed more of a thought bubble than an actual strategy.

"While there are some good initiatives in this budget, the business community would like to see the Federal Government make more of an effort to support the engine room of the economy.