



MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 24 August 2018

DELOITTE AECOM MUST LOOK TO WA FUTURE IN PORT INVESTIGATION

The McGowan government's Westport Taskforce announced on Thursday that Deloitte and AECOM have been awarded a \$224,000 contract to investigate transport flows for the Fremantle, Kwinana and Bunbury ports for both shipping and traffic movements.¹

Western Harbours Alliance (WHA) is keen to see that this work incorporates and builds on the extensive **Trade Flows and the Development of Westport** report produced by Kwinana Industries Council and Infranomics earlier this year.²

Kim Dravnieks, WHA Chair said "A high level of industry consultation went into the Trade Flows report, with 40 detailed interviews including Fremantle Port Authority, a thorough analysis of resources/agribusiness projects and with initial financial modeling incorporated."

"The independent report identified previous trade forecasts, undertaken ahead of the proposed sale of Fremantle Port, could have been out by approx 30% including underestimating the transformational potential of Lithium Valley and the developing new energy metals industries. Now is the time to solidly build on the new data with a keen eye to Western Australia's future in the global arena." Ms Dravnieks said.

"It is also important that the investigation has a specific focus on WA's trading opportunities with its Indian Ocean connections, as against risking being too eastern states focused." she said. "We hope Deloitte and AECOM take this on board, particularly with the huge potential emerging with Lithium Valley."

"The 2017 election showed that the community was not going to tolerate any return to the Perth Freight Link debacle to increase freight into Fremantle so working to find sustainable transport solutions is high on our agenda."

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¹ <https://www.businessnews.com.au/article/Deloitte-Aecom-win-key-Westport-work>

² <https://www.westernharboursalliance.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/InfraNomics-Report-1-FINAL.pdf>,
<https://www.westernharboursalliance.com/resources/>