



Dear Minister Bourke,

I hope you are well.

I am writing to formally update you on the launch of **the Blue Card Program**, which will officially commence in South Australia from 1 July 2026.

The Blue Card Program is an industry registry, workforce engagement and Industry Professional Development initiative designed specifically for the wall and ceiling industry. The program has been developed following close to two years of consultation with industry, contractors, regulators and workforce participants nationally, including successful piloting in Western Australia. The objective of the program is to:

- strengthen industry participation,
- improve workforce engagement,
- encourage Industry Professional Development,
- improve technical and compliance awareness,
- and better define and connect the workforce operating within the wall and ceiling sector.

Importantly, the Blue Card Program is not a licensing program or statutory competency card. Rather, it is an industry-led initiative designed to progressively align the industry toward current regulation, evolving compliance expectations and future workforce capability frameworks. The program encourages participation in introductory workshops and Industry Professional Development including:

- Fire Rated Systems
- Seismic Systems
- Standards and compliance
- Safety
- Technical awareness and best practice

We also welcome a broader conversation with the Department around how AWCI Australia may assist subcontractors and workforce participants to better understand and adapt to the rollout of the Department's subcontractor requirements through the Industry Professional Development framework underpinning the Blue Card Program.

As the recognised peak body for the wall and ceiling industry nationally, AWCI Australia believes the Blue Card Program represents an important opportunity to strengthen workforce capability, participation and professionalism across the sector.

I would welcome the opportunity to brief you further on the launch and progress of the program and discuss how AWCI Australia can continue supporting positive outcomes for the South Australian construction industry.

Thank you again for your continued engagement with industry and I look forward to meeting with you in due course.

Kind regards,

Simon Tengende
CEO
AWCI Australia