

Small companies' wish list in mail

The chairwoman of the Small Business Council will write to Minister for Small Business Joe Hockey with an initial list of recommendations aimed at improving the environment for small business.

While these deal with unfair dismissal, insurance, taxation and superannuation issues, Kim Tunbridge said in an interview last Wednesday that she could not go into detail until the federal minister had received her letter.

"Rather than just talking about it, we've managed to put together some suggestions in writing to the minister," Ms Tunbridge said.

Earlier this year, SBC set up working groups to consider the topics to be discussed at this second meeting. Also attending the April 1 meeting were representatives from Treasury, the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations and AusIndustry who addressed the 12-member council that Mr Hockey appointed last November.

At SBC's third meeting on August 12, education and training, human resources, late payments, debtors and overlapping state and federal legislation is on the agenda.

SBC can make recommendations, but the minister is not obliged to use them. "The objective is to get a grassroots view," Ms Tunbridge said.

Mr Hockey has agreed to a fourth meeting on November 25.

Mark Fenton-Jones

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