

President's Message

This week Deloitte Access Economics released a report – Mythbusting the tax reform debate.

The report aims to address what Deloitte believes are a number of “misconceptions”. One of those being that low income earners would be worse off the GST was increased. The report modelled raising the GST to 15 per cent as well as modelled raising the GST to 12.5 per cent and broadening the base to include fresh food. It allowed enough compensation for the poorest Australian families so that they were actually better off.

Businesses were not forgotten and Deloitte advocated cutting company tax as a way to boost investment, wages and living standards, even if the budget remained in deficit. It is interesting to see this recommendation when it was only last month that a 5 percent cut for unincorporated businesses and a small decrease from 30 to 28.5 percent for companies was passed by parliament.

On the 23rd of September the Redland City Chamber of Commerce will be hosting our monthly Suncorp Bank Business Breakfast. Our guest speaker is Suncorp's Executive General Manager Distribution – Kevin Potter. Kevin will be discussing the changing dynamics of Australia's property market and the opportunities and challenges for small business owners here in QLD as we transition from the mining boom to a broad based economy.

His thoughts on how a possible GST increase will impact the economy and business in general will be of interest.

James Hill

Vice President