

MEDIA RELEASE

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Victorian Small Business Commission calls for Mediators

The Victorian Small Business Commission (VSBC) announced today that it has opened an application process to appoint commercial dispute mediators to its newly formalised Mediation Panel.

Last year the VSBC held over 600 mediations. The new panel will enable the establishment of a diverse group of experienced mediation professionals to continue to provide a low cost, highly effective alternative dispute resolution process.

Victorian Small Business Commissioner Judy O'Connell said a competitive selection process will be in line with government probity practice, ensuring an accountable, transparent and efficient service for Victorian small businesses.

"Formalising the Mediation Panel will provide for more productive ongoing management of external mediators. It will also streamline administrative procedures and reporting on the mediation services," Ms O'Connell said.

The application process will be open until midnight Friday 29 September.

Find out more about the VSBC Mediation panel at <u>www.vsbc.vic.gov.au</u>.

The Victorian Small Business Commission can be contacted on 13 VSBC (13 8722) or visit <u>www.vsbc.vic.gov.au</u>

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