

PwC's Indigenous Consulting (PIC)



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Private & Confidential

Letter of Support for Food Ladder's submission to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Food Pricing and Food Security in Remote Communities

29 June 2020

Dear Sir or Madam

The purpose of this letter is to support Food Ladder's submission to the Parliamentary Inquiry into food pricing and food security in remote communities.

PwC's Indigenous Consulting (PIC) has worked with many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island communities across Australia over the past seven years, and we are acutely aware of the issues relating to food pricing and food security in remote communities particularly.

We understand that the location of many of these communities, and the complex supply chains that exist for the Australian grocery industry, are large drivers in both the relatively high price charged for groceries in remote communities and the limited choice of food that is made available through community stores and other shops.

We agree with Food Ladder that in many instances this leads to a lack of fresh, healthy food available to people living in remote communities, and that improved nutrition would help to address some of the health challenges that remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities face on a daily basis.

We have been introduced to Food Ladder's approach and some of the initiatives that they have been involved in and believe that there is merit in exploring how to support remote communities to produce more of their own food. Remote communities should be given the opportunity to have greater control over the food that is available to them, and if at the same time there can be sharing of knowledge and potentially creation of enterprises (and associated jobs), this is an added benefit.

We support Food Ladder's submission to the Parliamentary Inquiry, and are hopeful that the Inquiry can lead to meaningful change and improved outcomes for those who live in remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island communities.

Yours sincerely

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