

16 February 2018

Hon Grant Robertson MP  
Minister of Finance  
Parliament Buildings  
WELLINGTON 6011

Dear Minister

## PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION SUBMISSION: NEXT ROUND OF INQUIRIES

In reply to your letter of 21 December 2017 the Productivity Commission proposes the following as potential topics for inquiries:

- the economic impact of migration and population growth;
- towards an innovative and sustainable health system; and
- local government funding and financing.

A more detailed specification of each topic is attached to this letter.

These topics have been chosen as they are consistent with criteria approved by the Minister of Finance and our judgement of the potential benefits from building on previous inquiries. They also reflect our assessment of New Zealand's productivity challenge. They are important topics that would benefit from the Commission's focus on workable advice; high-quality, evidence based analysis; and on skillful communication and engagement.

At our discussion in December last year you noted an interest in pursuing work within the broad theme of 'technological change and productivity'. In addition to our topic suggestions we have included some thoughts on this area that could form the basis of more in-depth research work or inquiries by the Commission or that may assist you in narrowing or prioritizing topic nominations received via the current process.

I would be happy to discuss the contents of this submission in more detail.

Yours sincerely



**Murray Sherwin**  
Chair