PSG#3 - P2.11.5 Sustainable Procurement for Modern Methods of Construction

Date: Tuesday 20th October 2026

Time: 9.30am – 11.00am AWST

Attendance:

- Davina Rooney (Green Building Council) - Meeting Chair
- Yingbin Feng (Western Syndey University - Project Lead
- Greg Lawrence (WA Dept of Housing and Works)
- Mohamed Abdellah (Transport for NSW)
- Peter Vanderaa (QLD Treasury)
- Peter Nelson (QLD Dept of Housing and Public Works)
- Claire Thorstensen (QLD Dept of Transport & Main Roads)
- Vasilios Papastamoulis (Curtin University)
- Cathy Inglis (Think Brick Australia)
- Jack Gill (Think Brick Australia)
- Duncan Brand (Burbank)
- Marco Liang (RPL Central)
- Haowei Ruan (RPL Central)
- Will Hackney (SBEnrc)
- Adriana Sanchez (SBEnrc)
- Lindsay Kyle (SBEnrc)

Notes

Research Scope and Literature Review: Yingbin Feng presented the project's three objectives and the revised literature review, while Davina Rooney and Vasilios discussed how modern methods of construction (MMC) should be classified across housing, buildings, infrastructure, and industrialized construction.

Regulatory and Procurement Friction: Will Hackney, Peter Nelson, Davina Rooney, and Cathy Inglis led discussion about how MMC adoption is affected less by an absolute regulatory prohibition than by procurement qualification, risk allocation, approval effort, and the ability of institutions to provide practical pathways for newer suppliers.

Market Certainty And Demand Aggregation: Davina Rooney and Peter Nelson led the discussion that suppliers need credible, budget-backed and sufficiently aggregated demand signals rather than flexible project pipelines alone to justify investment in MMC factories, technology, and specialist capability.

Procurement Models and Contracting: Participants discussed procuring MMC for repeat delivery, comparing jurisdictional approaches, using early market engagement, and balancing government requirements with supplier freedom to innovate.

Non-Price Value Measurement: Participants identified delivery speed, waste reduction, safety, carbon, public disruption, repeatability, and financing effects as potential non-price outcomes that should be measured and rewarded in MMC procurement.

Workforce Capability Development: Yingbin Feng outlined the workforce capabilities and development pathways required for MMC, Cathy Inglis identified a new prefabrication-installation vocational program as a potential training resource.

Case Study Program and Data Collection: Yingbin Feng confirmed three case studies covering public infrastructure, public housing and building programs, and supplier perspectives, and requested project nominations, interview participants, and relevant documentation from PSG members.

Project Schedule and Governance: Yingbin Feng confirmed that interviews are being planned, the draft report is targeted for the first quarter of 2027, the current payment milestone can proceed, and changes in industry partners or personnel are being recorded as an implementation risk.

Communications and Collaboration: The team reviewed completed and planned communications, student and research-assistant involvement, and international collaboration through conferences and a sustainable-procurement panel.

Actions

1. **MMC Definition Alignment:** Align the modern methods of construction definition with the related Scaling Housing for MMC project and Soheila's project team. (SBEnrc, Yingbin Feng)
2. **Training Program Research:** Investigate Melbourne Polytechnic's new Certificate III in Prefabrication Installation and the Future Housing Construction Centre of Excellence for relevance to the project's workforce findings. (Yingbin Feng)
3. **Case Study Recruitment:** Nominate suitable public infrastructure, public housing/building, and supplier projects and recommend relevant interview participants for the three case studies. (Project Steering Group members, Yingbin Feng)
4. **Case Study Materials:** Share the case-study presentation through the PSG webpage so members can identify potential projects and interview opportunities. (Yingbin Feng)
5. **Literature Review Feedback:** Submit any final comments on the completed literature review report to the research team. (Project Steering Group members, Yingbin Feng)
6. **Implementation Risk Tracking:** Record changes in industry partner organisations and personnel as an implementation barrier and monitor the risk through close partner communication and timely mitigation. (Yingbin Feng)