



Keep building going



WITH THOUSANDS OF JOB LOSSES AND A SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION IN BUILDING ACTIVITY ON THE HORIZON, SWIFT AND DECISIVE ACTION IS NEEDED WITH IMMEDIATE AND FAST-TRACKED STIMULUS MEASURES THAT GENERATE DEMAND AND CONFIDENCE AND IMMEDIATELY KICK-START BUILDING ACTIVITY.

The building industry faces a looming crisis that will impact us beyond the immediate effect of COVID-19 lockdowns and directives. While the restrictions have been felt by the industry, the true impact is yet to be known; but this could be mitigated with swift and decisive action from the Queensland Government.

In Queensland, builders and tradies are set to run out of new work in the next few months if nothing is done.

While the building industry has been fortunate to remain open, a lack of confidence is creeping in, with the state of building activity before COVID-19 even hit the real concern. Queensland building activity dropped 26.5% during 2019, to 31,100 commencements, and many businesses were already struggling on the back of a slow 2019.

If nothing is done, the job losses and impact on small business will send catastrophic waves through the community, particularly in the face of the job losses already seen in hospitality and retail.

To safeguard thousands of jobs and small businesses, we're calling on the Queensland Government to supercharge and fast-track their stimulus measures even further.

THIS SITUATION IS DANGEROUS. AT RISK IS THE VIABILITY OF NEARLY 78,000 BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION "BUSINESSES, THE JOBS OF 247,000 QUEENSLANDERS AND THE INDUSTRY'S CAPACITY TO AID THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY. Grant Galvin, Master Builders Queensland CEO

LET'S GET CREATIVE WITH STIMULUS

New look grant for new home builds

Increase the size of the First Home Owners' Grant and expanding its eligibility to include anyone ready to build a new home.

Home renovation funding programs

Bring back the Household Resilience Program to create work for the residential renovation sector and deliver long-term benefits for the community. The program (which ran from July 2018 – November 2019) was a resounding success in improving the resilience of 1,748 homes in cyclone-impacted regions from Bundaberg to Cairns, as well as delivering significant insurance benefit to homeowners.

Bring forward public spending

Increase government capital expenditure on public buildings, with the initial focus on refurbishments and maintenance to get the projects moving quickly. And accelerate spending on existing budgeted projects.

These measures will help bring back confidence for consumers and businesses and turn the tide on the current wave of contract and tender cancellations or withdrawals. The government faces an enormous challenge, but these stimulus measures cannot wait.