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Master Builders is Optimistic about WA Industry Link

Master Builders congratulates the State Government on today's launch of the WA Industry Link. This initiative is a key component of the WA Jobs Act that aims to help local businesses secure work on government contracts.

Small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) across the state will reportedly benefit from the McGowan Government's procurement procedure which will distribute about \$27 billion worth of work each year – and the new WA Industry Link portal was developed to act as an online information source to help maximise these opportunities.

Master Builders fully endorses the Government's sentiments regarding local jobs and industry, and welcomes any development that seeks to create jobs, support local businesses and bolster the economy. The fact this innovative approach is "not static" and will evolve over time is also heartening.

Master Builders Director Michael McLean said: "At a time when the WA economy is languishing but on the road to recovery, any efforts to give local labour and youth an opportunity to work should be supported."

Master Builders looks forward to seeing how the Western Australian Industry Participation Strategy (WAIPS), which underpins the new Jobs Act, will impact the building and construction industry.

"The building industry is traditionally a barometer of the health of our economy, so it will be important that the Jobs Act is quickly understood and operates effectively in our industry," Mr McLean said.

Additional information is required to further understand the following:

- What is required in the completion of "participation plans" and what impact will that have on SMEs?
- Whether the proposed WAIPS framework will duplicate information already produced by tenderers under existing State Government Policies including Buy Local and Priority Start.

Master Builders hopes the Industry Link advisory service, that the Government said will provide a "human face" to help SMEs navigate the new system, will reduce any risks of confusion being created and ensure an effective implementation of this important initiative.

For more information please contact: Michael McLean, Director – m: 0412 376 660