

Stimulus Measures and State Action Commended Building and Construction Must Be Essential Service

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Master Builders Association of Western Australia welcomes the Federal Governments second stimulus package containing welcome measures to support the viability of businesses, particularly the viability of small businesses (including sole traders) and non-profit-organisations to keep people in jobs.

“We commend the Premier and the State Government today for its commitment to doing what it takes to see the state through the health and economic shock of Covid-19, with border control measures, quarantine and isolation rules designed to limit the spread, said John Gelavis Executive Director Master Builders Western Australia.

“We are pleased to see there will be exemptions for certain essential services and workers and for those delivering essential goods via ports and trucks, which remains critical for the building industry and State economy, he said

“It is of critical importance that building, and construction remains classified as an essential service. Maintaining building and construction activity in Western Australia is one of the most effective ways of injecting money into the local economy at this time of crisis. A shutdown on construction sites in WA will have devastating impact on the economy and the well-being of 121,000 Western Australians employed in the sector and 40,000 small businesses, John Gelavis said

“Unlike other forms of expenditure, the bulk of the money spent on building is retained and recycled within the WA economy and assists recovery, he said.

“Our industry is one of the largest providers of jobs in the state, employing around 121,000 people. The WA building and construction sector encompasses more than 40,000 small businesses and is responsible for around 8.9 per cent of the states workforce, he said.

“The Western Australian building and construction industry is implementing social distancing and risk mitigation policies. Local WA businesses such as builders, subbies, suppliers and manufacturers are the lifeblood of the WA economy and we call on the government to keep them in jobs by keeping our industry building, he said

“Master Builders congratulates the Federal and State governments on their actions today and remains ready and able to support them and the community through this most challenging time in our states history, he concluded.

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