

## **Media Release**

## Builder Paula West improves construction diversity

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The appointment of trailblazer Paula West to the Building and Construction Industry Training Board is a positive move towards diversity, says Master Builders WA executive director John Gelavis.

"Master Builders WA nominated Paula West to join the industry training board and we are delighted by her appointment," Mr Gelavis said.

"Paula is general manager of Inspired Homes and the first woman builder to be appointed to the Master Builders WA board. It's great to see her impressive ability and valuable industry experience get even wider recognition as she joins the decision makers at the Construction Training Fund.

"Master Builders has been promoting industry diversity for many years and Paula is a great role model and example of what women can achieve.

"The opportunities for women to bring their talents to the building and construction sector have never been better.

"Many women have been affected by COVID-19, especially in industries like retail, hospitality and tourism but the building industry is facing a shortage of workers in 2021 so this is the perfect time to reskill and take advantage of new job prospects.

"We've lost a lot of good, skilled labour during the five-year downturn so new talent is crucial to meeting the demand created by the residential Building Bonus and the \$28.8billion pipeline of infrastructure works.

"Building and construction workers also have higher than average earnings so our industry can make a difference in closing the pay gap."

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