

Media Release

Rebuilding WA's economy

December 14, 2020

Western Australia's strong economic recovery validates the State Government's focus on building homes and infrastructure, says Master Builders executive director John Gelavis.

"Today's mid-year economic review justifies the State Government's decision to support the building and construction industry to keep operating through COVID-19 and lead the way back to economic growth. I am delighted our industry has been able to repay the favour by supporting the WA recovery," Mr Gelavis said.

"The Building Bonus for new homes and the \$28.8 billion pipeline of infrastructure works for the next four years have set the state up for success.

"Building activity across the state is soaring in response to the grant and residential builders expect a consistent flow of work throughout 2021.

"Approvals data shows the Building Bonus has been highly successful. In the month of October 2020, Western Australia recorded an almost 30 per cent rise in home building approvals compared to September and a massive 96.3 per cent increase on October 2019. The grant has clearly spurred people to get started on building new homes.

"The planned infrastructure projects to roll out in the next few years, including health and educational facilities, have created a similar rise in opportunities for civil and commercial construction.

"One of the challenges will be trade shortages while travel restrictions get in the way of hiring extra workers.

"The expected skills shortage is both an obstacle and an opportunity for people to re-skill and take up new local jobs."

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