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Media Release

Builders urge training after historic Labor win 14 March 2021

Master Builders Association of WA (Master Builders) congratulates Premier, Mark McGowan and the WA Labor Government after an historic election victory on Saturday.

"Master Builders acknowledges the great Government support the building and construction industry has received in remaining operational during COVID-19, but also receiving significant stimulus, which has saved many small businesses across the state", said John Gelavis, Executive Director of Master Builders, WA.

"A strong building industry means a strong economy, it creates jobs, trains people, drives wider economic growth and builds better communities."

"State and Federal grants, along with infrastructure commitments have set the building industry up to be a driving force in COVID-19 recovery but, the sector now depends on the incoming State Government to minimise obstacles to success and support a focus on training and workforce development."

"Master Builders released a five-point policy wish list ahead of the state election to help Western Australia build its way to economic growth, which it presented to the Premier and all major parties during our four-week election campaign on behalf of our members, which included:

- 1. Building safe and productive workplaces
- 2. Economic settings for stability and growth
- 3. Infrastructure and investment
- 4. Jobs and skills for the future
- 5. More small business and less red tape.

"The building and construction industry is the State's second largest employer with 120,000 people, or 9% of the WA workforce and more than 40% of apprentices, so training the next generation, upskilling industry participants and increasing diversity are essential to achieving the highest standards of building quality and innovation."

"We look forward to a positive partnership with the McGowan State Government as we take on the challenge of rebuilding Western Australia together."

More information on our State Electorate Analysis and Advocacy Platform visit <u>mbawa.com/2021-</u> state-election or contact, John Gelavis, Executive Director – w: 9476 9800 m: 0428 884 392