

# Media Release

## Vaccination mandate phase out

June 1, 2022

Master Builders Association of Western Australia welcomes the announcement made today by the State Government to remove the vaccine mandate. In March 2022, Master Builders WA called on the State Government to remove without delay the *Restrictions on Access Directions* (mandated vaccinations) for the building and construction Industry.

Today, the State Government released new public health and social measures regarding the vaccine mandate.

Effective from June 10, 2022, WA's mandatory vaccination policy will be revised in line with health advice and will only apply to workers working with the most vulnerable. Vaccine requirements in place on other workforces will be removed from this date.

During these unprecedented and challenging times, removing the vaccine mandate will assist in bringing back a full workforce to the industry, including giving some relief and certainty for builders, tradespersons, subcontractors and the industry.

Master Builders WA has been advocating for the vaccine mandate to be removed, in order to bring back a full workforce into the WA building and construction industry, to assist throughout these challenging times. It is pleasing our calls for change have been heard.

"Trade availability and certainly skilled trade has been a critical pinch point for the industry.

"Today's announcement is going to allow the industry to breathe a sigh of relief for many of those workers and families that decided not to be vaccinated for personal reasons and leave the sector.

"We are pleased with the State Government's decision to remove the vaccination mandate. The building and construction industry will now hopefully return to pre-pandemic employment rates.

"The vaccination did its job and ensured critical sectors would remain operational throughout the high case load and very high case load environments of COVID-19, but now as we enter into the soft landing from Omicron we are pleased to have a full workforce back again", says Executive Director, John Gelavis.

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