

Media Release

Capacity Building Key to Building our Economy

19 February 2025

The Cook government today announced its commitment to strengthening the building and construction workforce for Western Australia.

Master Builders CEO, Matthew Pollock said, “Today’s announcements to invest an additional \$58 million to the rebuilding of the construction workforce is strongly supported by Master Builders.

“We need to attract and train an additional 50,000 construction workers by the end of calendar year 2027 to meet the demand for new housing, schools, roads and hospitals.

“A bigger and better skilled construction workforce is needed to support a fast-growing economy and population. It will ensure we maintain the standards of living that West Australians have become accustomed to.

“Today’s announcement by WA Labor will give more young West Australians the opportunity to get qualified in high demand trades occupations through fee Free TAFE.

“More funding for GTOs, organizations that are best geared up to support apprentices through their training, will help to lift trades apprentice completion rates which are too low. This will also give employers more support to take on new apprentices. These businesses are the foundation of our apprenticeship system and must be supported if we are to build the trades skills needed to support growth for construction services.

“The WA Builders Support Program was a key election priority for Master Builders. This is about helping construction businesses to succeed and be more resilient, and by doing so improve outcomes for consumers.

“The WA Builders Support Program will help us ensure that new construction businesses are set up for success from the beginning, we can support more tradies to become registered builders and start their own businesses, and we can provide more support for existing businesses to improve their resilience and chances of success.

“A key pillar of Master Builders election platform focused on policies to build capacity in the construction workforce.

“Strong commitments as those announced today for the growth of the building and construction industry will cement the foundations of the WA economy in the years ahead.” Mr Pollock concluded.



Who we are

Master Builders services the needs of the entire building and construction industry, from residential to commercial, and civil engineering businesses, principal contractors to subcontractors, manufacturers and suppliers. We assist members by providing access to a wide range of specialised services, an impressive degree of recognition, as well as representation to government and industry. Master Builders also serves the Western Australian public by fostering best practice work standards.

For more information, please contact:

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