

# MEDIA RELEASE

## WA building approvals bounce back

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While the rest of the country battles declining home building approvals, Western Australia is once again doing better than most, with the state experiencing its strongest approvals since May 2021.

A total of 2,410 new homes were approved across the state in January 2026 – 13.7 per cent higher than the previous month, and representing a 27.8 per cent increase on January 2025.

Over the year to January 2026, a total of 24,544 new homes were approved in WA; 13.2 per cent more homes than in the 12 months to January 2025.

Master Builders WA CEO Matt Moran said that while these numbers were a step in the right direction, the hard work is just getting started.

“While January’s numbers are heartening, we need to keep pushing.”

“Under the National Housing Accord, WA has a requirement to build 25,940 new homes per year. This means WA fell short of its target by 1,400 homes during the 12 months to January 2026.”

“The state is also behind on its lifetime Accord target by over 3,300 homes so far, with three-and-a-half years to go.”

Mr Moran said that critical skills shortages were one of the major factors impacting housing delivery in Western Australia, and welcomed the State Government’s plan to develop a new, comprehensive WA Workforce Strategy.

“MBAWA looks forward to working collaboratively with the state government and other industries to develop a pragmatic multi-sector WA Workforce Strategy to ensure we are ready for future projects.”

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### **About Master Builders WA**

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



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