

MEDIA RELEASE



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Master Builders ACT: Government's plan for quality assurance team an important step to improving build quality

Master Builders ACT today welcomes news that the ACT Government is introducing a new quality assurance team as part of new building certification reforms to improve building quality in the ACT, starting with Class 2 builds.

Master Builders ACT has long campaigned for the ACT Government to take steps to improve building quality in the ACT, through changes to the building regulatory system.

“MBA ACT supports any initiative to improve the standards and building quality in the ACT,” said Ziad Zakout, Acting CEO of Master Builders ACT.

“We note that the target focus area will initially be on Class 2 buildings, specifically unit complexes. This is a good place to start,” he said.

“In an ideal situation, defects should be identified and dealt with as they arise. This is the role of all stakeholders in the building process, including but not limited to the certification process. The ACT Government needs to ensure that quality will come from the review of all aspects of building works, not just certification.”

MBA ACT recognises that while there is merit in the proposed scheme, it should not replace the role of private certifiers in the building certification process.

“Initial feedback from members is that further information will need to be made available as to how this scheme will operate,” said Mr. Zakout.

“Members are concerned about the potential for additional costs and time delays that could result from this process where it is not efficient. We call for ACT Government to ensure that this team is well resourced, and that those carrying out these functions are suitably qualified and experienced. The scheme must also be properly funded to ensure that the costs of building work are not further increased.”

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