

# MASTER BUILDERS ACT MEDIA RELEASE

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## Strong growth in building approvals, but shortfall remains

**Latest building approval figures show strong growth in ACT home construction, but more progress is needed to hit targets.**

In August 2025, 379 new homes were approved across the ACT. This is 73.1 per cent higher than the previous month and a remarkable 379.7 per cent increase on August 2024.

Over the year to August 2025, approvals totalled 3,181 new homes. However, the ACT needs 4,206 new homes annually to meet National Housing Accord commitments. Current figures reveal a shortfall of 1,025 homes in just one year.

Master Builders ACT CEO Anna Neelagama said the data underscores the urgency of reforms such as the Missing Middle.

"It's encouraging to see approvals rising, but it's deeply concerning that we are already behind on National Housing Accord targets," Ms. Neelagama said.

"Forecasts earlier this month showed the ACT falling well short of its National Housing Accord targets. While these latest figures show a substantial increase, the gap remains wide. At this rate, we will also fall well short of the ACT Government's plans for 30,000 homes by 2030."

"Reforms like the Government's Missing Middle are urgently needed to help the ACT catch up," she said.

Master Builders ACT has consistently called for faster planning approvals, industrial relations reform, sensible tree and traffic policies, and streamlining of higher-density developments.

"Industry stands ready to work with the ACT Government to deliver the homes Canberra needs. That means partnering with industry to cut approval timelines, and boosting investment in construction apprenticeships so we can build more homes, sooner," Ms. Neelagama said.

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