



16 August 2016

Guy Barnett, Minister for Building and Construction

New building laws to encourage jobs growth

The Hodgman Liberal Government is backing our building and construction industries to create more jobs across the State – our number one priority.

Today, our Building Bill has successfully passed the Tasmanian Parliament.

This important legislation will make gaining approvals to build in Tasmania fairer, faster, simpler and cheaper, and will complement our planning reforms.

The Bill introduces a risk-based approach to building and plumbing approvals that will remove the need for building permits for many projects, up to and including two-storey houses.

By minimising the regulatory burden, we will help to reduce costs and delays, which can discourage investment in new construction.

Appropriate protections will be retained for consumers and the wider community.

The Building Bill is part of a package of legislative reform to the building industry and will come into effect only when all such legislation is passed and after appropriate communication and training with the industry.

Figures released by the ABS last week show that Tasmania's home loan commitments for June were running at the highest level for several years and leading other states. This is a positive sign of growth in the housing sector.

The Liberal Government is continuing to support the building industry with a doubling of the First Home Builders Grant to \$20,000 to encourage more Tasmanians to have the confidence to build a new home.

Through our Affordable Housing Action Plan, we are also building 941 new homes for vulnerable Tasmanian households.

Our long-term plan has Tasmania back on track, but there is still a long way to go and that's why we are working to drive growth and job creation in our critical building and construction industries.

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