

MEDIA RELEASE

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STATEMENT ON THE BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

The Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA) has welcomed the prospect of national consensus on solutions needed to tackle the crisis facing the building and construction industry.

UDIA National Executive Director Connie Kirk said the potential framework arising from today's meeting of the Building Ministers Forum would empower the Australian Building Codes Board.

"Building ministers have taken a sensible first step to calm the situation and avoid a reckoning in the residential construction market that had potential to dent confidence and economic activity," says Ms Kirk.

"We now have a platform in place that reduces the risk of a patchwork response and better allows consistent implementation of the Shergold-Weir recommendations.

"There is still a lot of work to do, and we'd encourage every tier of government to work to an accelerated timetable in pursuing these vital reforms.

"Resolution of issues clouding the regulatory environment will be critical to rebuilding the insurance market for building professionals that was on the verge of collapse."

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