

20 March 2026

The Honourable David Crisafulli MP
Premier of Queensland and Minister for Veterans
Email: premier@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Dear Premier,

Impact of rising fuel prices on building and construction in Queensland

I am writing regarding the rapidly escalating issue of increases in the cost of building materials driven by rising fuel prices, and the impact this is already having on Queensland's building and construction industry.

Master Builders offers the resources at our disposal to work with the Queensland Government in managing this unfolding crisis, helping to ensure our industry can continue to deliver the housing and infrastructure Queensland needs.

Alarming, our members have already reported that suppliers have notified them of immediate price increases ranging from five to 50 per cent for materials including PVC pipe, concrete, building equipment, and copper products.

While the initial impacts relate to the price of building materials; we anticipate that this will soon extend to the availability of critical materials and broader supply chain constraints.

Unfortunately, we know all too well the ramifications rapid price increases and supply chain delays will have on building and construction, because of our experience responding to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

During this time many construction projects were delayed and new projects failed to get underway. The years that followed saw insolvencies across Queensland's building and construction industry reach a historic high. There are many businesses and homeowners who are still yet to recover.

If history is allowed to repeat itself, the impacts will be felt across all sectors of our industry, exacerbated by the prevalence of fixed-price contracts.

This week, we have taken the following steps to support our members:

- alerted them of the potential impacts and provided practical advice that they can take immediately
- provided guidance material on dealing with price escalation in residential and commercial building contracts, and
- offered contract and legal advice to members.

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As you are well aware, our industry is already grappling with economic pressures, a workforce shortage, and the ever-growing pipeline of work. In our view, swift and decisive action is needed to minimise the impacts of the escalating price pressure to benefit not only industry, but the Queenslanders relying on us to build the homes, infrastructure and community projects our state needs.

We write to you at this early stage to request your urgent support. We reaffirm our commitment to working with government and industry stakeholders towards solutions.

I am available on redacted to discuss this matter further.

Regards,

Paul Bidwell
CEO

CC:

The Honourable Jarrod Bleijie MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations

The Honourable David Janetzki MP, Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership

The Honourable Sam O'Connor MP, Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Youth