



*the voice of the industry*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

26 June 2020

MEDIA RELEASE

## **Improvements to stimulus scheme will see more new homes built**

The passing of legislation by the State government, giving effect to the \$20,000 HomeBuilder Grant has been welcomed by industry and Tasmanians looking to enter the new home market.

This State grant complements the Federal government's HomeBuilder incentive of \$25,000.

"HIA had led the call for governments to provide support for the housing industry to limit the impact of COVID-19 and kick start the economy," said HIA Executive Director, Stuart Collins.

"The early signs are promising with a significant spike in enquiry and new build contracts" he further commented.

Since the announcement HIA has continued to consult with government on the detail of the scheme to ensure its workability and to maximise its economic effects. This has resulted in key changes to the eligibility requirements, most notably:

- The Commissioner of State Revenue will have discretion to extend the construction deadline by up to three months where commencement is delayed due to unforeseen factors (effectively a six month period for commencement where delays are experienced due to finance, approvals, legal requirements, etc.); and
- Confirmation that all new homes (including spec homes and off the plan) for an owner-occupier will be eligible provided a building contract or contract for sale is entered into between 4 June and 31 December 2020 and the work did not commence prior to 4 June 2020.

Other eligibility requirements closely mirror the Federal Government's HomeBuilder Grant.

"While not all of HIA's proposals have been adopted, these changes will ensure more Tasmanians can take advantage of the stimulus.

"HIA is also liaising with government on identifying barriers and inefficiencies that impede the delivery of housing with the removal of planning red tape a key priority," said Mr Collins.

An updated version of the HomeBuilder Grant Guidelines is available at:

[www.sro.tas.gov.au/about-us/covid-19](http://www.sro.tas.gov.au/about-us/covid-19)

For further information please contact:  
Stuart Collins, Executive Director - Tasmania

0418 507 377

