

MEDIA RELEASE



21 July 2021

Home building critical for South Australia

“Yesterday’s snap announcement that all home building and renovation work must shut down for the next 7 days was extremely disappointing,” said Stephen Knight, HIA Executive Director SA.

“Home building is critical for the South Australian economy. Yet the industry was not given sufficient notice that sites would need to close immediately.

“Since the announcement HIA has been in constant communication with the Government. We have outlined the many concerns being raised by our members in the last 24 hours.

“While we recognise the importance of remaining COVID safe, it simply is not possible for a builder to just walk away from a partial building site and we needed sufficient time to properly make safe and secure building work across South Australia.

“It was extremely pleasing to see that this morning, the final emergency directions clearly recognise the need for builders to make building sites and home renovation work safe. This is important recognition that you can’t simply close a home building site down in a few hours.

“It was also pleasing to see that the directions will permit factories to continue operating to avoid damage or loss to plant and equipment. Similarly factories that provide materials to authorised activities can also remain operational. South Australia’s manufacturers supply a range of essential building materials not just to the South Australian industry, but also interstate.

“Recent updates this afternoon that timber mills can also continue to operate is very welcome. Allowing these industries to remain operational is a great relief.

“HIA will spend the next few days helping our members understand what can be done over the lockdown period. We have provided members with guidance [today](#) and have a range of [other resources](#) already available to help them take the necessary steps.

“It will be extremely challenging but we are confident that as our industry has operated in a COVID safe way for the last 15 months, they will continue to do so for the next 7 days.”

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