

Executive Summary

The Queensland Building and Construction Commission and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (Bill) proposes amendments to the *Queensland Building and Construction Commission Act 1991* (QBCC Act), *Building Act 1975* and *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2017* with the objective of:

- modernising the regulatory framework for the Queensland Building and Construction Commission (QBCC)
- supporting the QBCC to deliver more services digitally, and
- streamlining workplace safety in Queensland's building and construction industry through amending how industry reports serious safety matters.

The committee has recommended that the Bill be passed.

Implementing digital services within the QBCC

Amendments in the Bill seek to support the implementation of digitisation initiatives within the QBCC and relate to the introduction of digital licensing, related investigator powers, the digital serving of documents and the introduction of penalties for licensees who do not update their contact details within specified timeframes.

Inquiry stakeholders generally welcomed the proposed amendments. However, several sought clarity and assurance that traditional forms of licensing and communication would not be removed and that changes would be accompanied by clear communication with industry. One stakeholder submitted that the mandatory timeframes provided to licensees to update their contact information be extended.

Reporting serious safety incidents on building sites

The Bill also proposes to simplify the process for reporting safety matters under the QBCC Act without changing the intent or outcomes of the existing legislative framework. The Bill retains the two types of safety matters that must be reported under section 54A of the QBCC Act. However, instead of licensees having to notify two different regulators about a relevant matter, the Bill provides that the licensee must only notify the Office of Industrial Relations, which will then share the information with the QBCC on a daily basis by way of an automated report.

Inquiry stakeholders were generally supportive of the amendments. However, one stakeholder raised concerns that the change in legislation could have the effect of weakening existing reporting arrangements. Issues examined during the inquiry also included achievement of efficiencies and cost savings, evaluation and monitoring arrangements, and the need for clear industry communication.

Legislative compliance

The committee concluded that the Bill is compatible with the *Legislative Standards Act 1992* and the *Human Rights Act 2019*.