

MEDIA STATEMENT

29 March, 2016

Commission targets unlicensed building work on Coast

Targetted compliance audits on Gold Coast building sites during the past two months have uncovered 26 people engaging in illegal building activity.

Queensland Building and Construction Commission (QBCC) audits found 22 people allegedly performing unlicensed building work and four instances of builders allegedly engaging unlicensed workers.

QBCC Acting Commissioner Kellie Lowe said compliance officers from the QBCC conducted 589 interviews at 153 Gold Coast construction sites on five days in February and on three days earlier this month.

She said the results should serve as a warning to home and property owners to ensure they only ever engaged licensed contractors to perform building work and to ensure an appropriate contract was in place.

“For their peace of mind, home and building owners can conduct a free online licence search on the QBCC website to see if a person is licensed, and to check the full history of the licence.

“They can also speak with a QBCC staff member 24/7 to check if a person is licensed or to ask questions about any aspect of the building process.”

Ms Lowe said the audits reflected the QBCC’s determination to ensure proper building standards were maintained and that licensees were not disadvantaged by the work of unqualified and uninsured individuals.

Unlicensed individuals face fines of \$2,356 each, and builders who engage an unlicensed worker could be fined \$942.

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