



# Building Services Authority

## ***MEDIA STATEMENT***

31 January, 2011

### **Consumers warned not to waive repair and rebuilding cooling-off period**

The Building Services Authority has reminded home owners about the importance of following correct procedure when entering into a repair or rebuilding contract, including the retention of the five-day cooling-off period.

General Manager of the BSA, Ian Jennings, said home owners should not sign waivers on building or repair contracts that would remove the five-day cooling-off period.

“The cooling-off period gives home owners breathing space to ensure they are happy with their quote and it allows them time to obtain additional quotes to check that the original quote is a competitive one.”

Mr Jennings urged home owners to obtain at least two quotes before signing a contract, to use only licensed contractors and to check their licence numbers with the BSA's free online licence search.

He also warned consumers about paying money in advance.

“I cannot emphasise too strongly the importance of not paying money upfront and not paying for incomplete work,” he said.

“I understand people want to get repairs and reconstruction started as soon as possible but taking your time now when engaging a contractor could save time and expense later.”

ENDS

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