

MEDIA STATEMENT

29 April 2015

Crackdown on Rockhampton building sites and pools

Rockhampton builders and pool owners were visited by the building regulator last week during a three-day compliance crackdown in the wake of Tropical Cyclone Marcia.

The Queensland Building and Construction Commission (QBCC) conducted 468 interviews on 148 construction sites from Rockhampton to Yeppoon, resulting in seven on-the-spot fines for unlicensed workers.

QBCC Commissioner, Steve Griffin, said it was encouraging that only a small number of unlicensed individuals were found after such a thorough audit but there was no excuse for unlicensed work on any Queensland building sites.

“The QBCC owes it to the locals affected by Tropical Cyclone Marcia to take a tough stance on anyone carrying out unlicensed work, as they give the many hard-working people in the building industry who do the right thing a bad name,” he said.

Twenty-six shared pools at short-term accommodation premises were also visited during the audit period, with only 10 found to be compliant with the pool safety standard.

“Pool safety is of paramount concern to the community with too many drowning tragedies in our backyard pools and, as of 30 November, a single safety standard for swimming pool barriers will be enforced,” Mr Griffin said.

“If home owners are unsure whether the pool on their property is compliant, I urge them to contact a local pool safety inspector or visit the QBCC website for advice,” he said.

The QBCC will continue to conduct random audits of building sites and swimming pools to ensure compliance with the law is maintained.

More information is available at www.qbcc.qld.gov.au or by calling the QBCC 24/7 on 139 333.

ENDS

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