

## **Hon Steven Marshall MP**

Premier

## **Hon Vickie Chapman MP**

Deputy Premier

Attorney-General

Minister for Planning and Local Government

Sunday 7 March 2021

### **Confidence boost for HomeBuilder applicants**

The Marshall Liberal Government is introducing new regulations to streamline the planning approvals process for South Australians building homes using the HomeBuilder scheme.

The new regulations mean that HomeBuilder applications will continue to be assessed against existing policies, despite the state's new planning system coming into effect on March 19.

Premier Steven Marshall says this will give full confidence to those seeking the grants, ahead of the March 31 deadline.

"The HomeBuilder scheme has been incredibly successful - we've already received almost 9,500 applications from South Australians wanting to access it," Premier Marshall said.

"Our regulation changes will give applicants the confidence they need to go full steam ahead with planning and designing their dream home," he said.

"The HomeBuilder scheme is already creating local jobs and work for tradespeople, and we anticipate this will continue for the next 12 months as new houses are being built," he said.

Under the new regulations, successful HomeBuilder applicants will be able to access the existing Residential Code provisions until July 1, 2021.

Minister for Planning and Local Government Vickie Chapman says this will ensure South Australians don't miss out on the scheme.

"As we approach the HomeBuilder cut off, we are anticipating a flurry of last minute applications," Minister Chapman said.

"This will happen just as the Phase Three Planning and Design Code and ePlanning System 'goes live' on March 19.

“In order to provide continuity of applications and reduce the burden on the new system, the scheme will roll over the existing Residential Code policies for a short period, to make sure housing designs already subject to signed contracts will be assessed against the same rules as when those contracts were signed,” she said.

This transitional agreement applies to applications that are;

- Located in an area covered under the Residential Code (plus certain areas with high volumes of HomeBuilder applications such as Mount Barker and Angle Vale)
- Being assessed by RevenueSA for the HomeBuilder grant funding

“In South Australia, we build around 8,000 homes a year, so we want to encourage the use of this Federal grant and make it as easy as possible to access, to help create jobs and stimulate the economy,” Ms Chapman said.

“I encourage those looking to build to review the terms and conditions of this grant and see if it applies to you, before it runs out,” she said.

“You can have the full confidence that this Government is doing all it can to ensure your application goes through seamlessly and in time,” she said.