

Western Australian Building and Construction Consultative Committee (BCC Committee)

Key Outcomes of Meeting

16 September 2025



- The 16 September 2025 meeting of the BCC Committee was the first meeting Chaired by Mr Russell Barnett who commenced in the role in August 2025 following the resignation of Mr Reg Howard-Smith who served as Chair since the BCC Committee's inception in 2022.

Mr Barnett provided a summary of his business background in industry, including his positions on several Western Australian boards and committees.

- The BCC Committee reviewed the status of key items in the 2023-25 Strategic Plan, noting progress towards objectives. Mr Barnett opened discussions with members regarding the Strategic Plan review process and invited comments from members regarding any outstanding or new areas of focus for the refreshed document. The BCC Committee will convene out-of-session to undertake a 'refresh' of the Strategic Plan prior to their next meeting.
- A presentation was provided by UnionsWA on their WA Workplace Gender Equality Project. The focus of the project is the exploration of barriers for women working in male-dominated industries in WA, including transport, energy and construction and anticipates the launch of the outcomes of the project to coincide with International Women's Day in March 2026.

- An update on the former Department of Finance's draft Code of Conduct (Code) for procurement on government construction projects was provided by the Chair and the representative of the Department of Treasury and Finance. The Chair advised he will meet with key BCC Committee members out-of-session to endeavour to resolve outstanding issues.
- The BCC Committee endorsed the "Western Australian Building and Construction Consultative Committee – White Card System Review and Survey Results" Report, a key deliverable of the BCC Committee Strategic Plan, for submission to the Minister for Industrial Relations.
- The Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety's Secretariat (The Secretariat) briefed the BCC Committee on the progress of the State of Affairs report, which provides an overview of the current culture in the Western Australian commercial construction sector (and wider construction industry). Following the feedback on the preliminary draft report from the Minister for Industrial Relations and the Chair, the Secretariat will revise the report and circulate the draft report to members out-of-session for review.
- The Secretariat provided an update on the Licensing unlicensed trades project, recently meeting with the Air Conditioning and Mechanical Contractors Association of Australia (AMCA) to discuss their proposal for licensing trades within their industry. A further meeting is planned with other BCC Committee stakeholders in October 2025 to discuss other trades in the electrical, gas, plumbing and building industry that may benefit from licensing. Members advised the focus of selecting those trades for proposed licensing, in the first instance, should be ones that could impact community safety.
- The next BCC Committee meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 2 December 2025.