

Media Release

The Hon Nick Staikos MP
Minister for Housing and Building
Minister for the Suburban Rail Loop



Wednesday, 13 May 2026

BOOSTING CONSUMER PROTECTION AND CONFIDENCE TO BUILD AND BUY

Labor is strengthening consumer protection and confidence in the building sector with the most significant reforms in decades.

Minister Staikos today announced regulations have now been delivered for the First Resort Home Warranty Scheme.

These changes will enhance protections for homeowners and buyers and will come into effect on July 1.

Most builders get it right the first time, but when things go wrong, consumers are often faced with a difficult and confusing path to get things fixed.

That's why the Building and Plumbing Commission (BPC) is also being strengthened with new powers and the domestic building insurance system is being reformed.

Building or buying a home is the single biggest investment most working Victorians will make in their lives.

These reforms are the latest of several initiatives introduced in the past year to strengthen protections for buyers.

The Building and Plumbing Administration and Enforcement Bill 2026, passed last night, gives the Building and Plumbing Commission (BPC) more powers to ensure dodgy builders face consequences.

They can enforce higher civil penalties and hold directors personally liable for wrongdoing.

It also gives families more protections with a new public interest objective requiring health and safety to be at the centre of every build.

The Liberals opposed the Building and Plumbing Commission – and the new legislation that just passed.

They want to cut more than 7,000 public service jobs.

The BPC is on the list of agencies facing the Liberals' cuts commission.

Jess Wilson needs to come clean – will she support Victorian families making the biggest investment of their lives?

Quotes attributable to Minister for Housing and Building Nick Staikos

"Labor is making sure consumers get the safe, affordable and high-quality homes they pay for."

"The Liberals opposed the BPC's tough new powers, and we now know the BPC is on the chopping block under Jess Wilson's plan for \$40 billion in cuts – will they oppose these changes and leave Victorians on their own again?"