

From: LNP Media [LNP.Media@opposition.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 24 January 2011 11:58 AM
Subject: MEDIA RELEASE - BSA should recruit 'retired' builders and tradies

Andrew Cripps MP
Shadow Minister for North Queensland, Reef Protection and
Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Economic Development
Shadow Minister for Public Works
Member for Hinchinbrook

24 January 2011

BSA should recruit 'retired' builders and tradies

THE Building Services Authority should look at recruiting builders and tradespeople who had recently retired or left the industry to assist with the flood reconstruction effort by providing short term re-registration, the LNP said today.

Shadow Minister for Public Works Andrew Cripps said former builders and tradespeople who had allowed their registration to lapse because they had retired or left the industry could be invited to re-enter their former professions for up to two years to assist with the massive flood reconstruction effort.

Mr Cripps said he had written today to BSA general manager Ian Jennings urging him to consider fast-tracking re-registration of builders and tradespeople in these exceptional circumstances.

“I would only support the re-registration of builders and tradespeople who left the industry with clean track records and believe the temporary re-registration should only be for two years to address the immediate need caused by the widespread flooding,” Mr Cripps said.

Mr Cripps said in order to re-register, former builders and tradespeople currently needed to make application to the BSA and undertake a lengthy technical assessment training course with an RTO, a process that took months to complete and costs thousands of dollars.

“I think there are many former builders and tradespeople out there ready, willing and able to lend a hand with the reconstruction of communities across Queensland, but may be put-off by the costs and the red-tape.

“Furthermore, builders and tradespeople already in the industry may temporarily relocate to flood affected areas to undertake flood reconstruction projects. As such, their home communities may be left short of qualified professionals to undertake local work.”

Mr Cripps said in view of the likely shortage of qualified builders and tradespeople to undertake the huge task of rebuilding flood affected communities, the BSA should publicise the availability of short term re-registration, should it accept his proposal.

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