



As restrictions are significantly eased across Australia and Economic recovery plans start to take the headlines, Social Distancing remains key to minimize the risk of a second wave of outbreaks.

CCAA has summarised the latest news relevant to Construction & Markets, to share with our members.

## HEALTH & SAFETY

- **Stay COVID Free - Do The 3** – As we start to get back out there, [this TV ad](#) from the Federal Government reminds all Australians to be COVIDSafe by washing your hands, keeping your distance and having the COVIDSafe app.
- **Physical distancing measures are still in place across Australia.** However, some states are revising restrictions on public gatherings. [Check State and Territory websites](#) for the rules where you live.
- **The Government has launched a [mythbusting page](#)** to address the misinformation about cures and treatments for COVID-19 that has been circulating on social media.

## AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

- **\$1.8 billion boost for local government** - The Federal Government will deliver a \$1.8 billion boost for road and community projects through local governments across Australia. The package of support will help local councils support jobs and businesses by delivering priority projects focused on infrastructure upgrades and maintenance. [Read the release here.](#)
- As **children start to return to schools across Australia**, it's useful to review the Government's [official advice here](#) Coronavirus (COVID-19) schools – information for parents and students.
- A summary of **all forms of financial support for businesses** view [here](#).
- For **all forms of financial support for individuals and households** view [here](#).
- **Stay informed.** Download the official government "Coronavirus Australia" app in the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play](#), or join their **WhatsApp channel** on [iOS](#) or [Android](#).

## STATE NEWS

- **NSW** - The NSW Government has announced a second tranche of projects for fast tracking through the *Planning System Acceleration Program*, including a new retail centre, industrial precincts, three new schools and the relocated Sydney Fish Markets. The moves could inject more than \$5.37BN into the state's economy. Read [Government Release here](#).

- **VIC** - VIC State Government to Support Cashflow of Vital Quarry Businesses by deferring rent and annual fees. Read [Government Release here](#). Read [CCAA release here](#).
- **WA** - WA State Government brings forward Housing Funding to support jobs. Read [Government Release here](#). Read [CCAA release here](#).
- **QLD** - Queensland Government's Economic Recovery Strategy to Fast Track Projects and Create Jobs. Read [Government Strategy here](#). Read [CCAA release here](#).
- **VIC** - Launch of Victorian Government's \$2.7BN Building Works Package. Read [Government Release here](#). Read [CCAA release here](#).
- **TAS** - Tasmanian Government's Decision to Expedite \$3.7BN Infrastructure Program. Read [Government Release here](#). Read [CCAA release here](#).
- **WA** - WA Government to Freeze Mineral Royalty Rate for Building and Construction. Read [Government Release here](#). Read [CCAA release here](#).
- **SA** - Renovations and home upgrades for more than 1,400 public housing properties across SA will continue to be fast-tracked over the next few months as part of the Marshall Liberal Government's \$1BN economic stimulus package. Read [Government Release here](#).

## CONSTRUCTION

- The Master Builders Association (MBA) is calling for a \$13BN Stimulus Action Plan, which will stimulate over \$30BN in new economic activity and create more than 100,000 new jobs across the economy according to new economic modelling commissioned by MBA. [Read here](#).
- The Victorian Government has fast tracked more than \$1.2BN worth of building and development projects as part of its ongoing work to kickstart Victoria's economy and create thousands of jobs. Read [Government Release here](#).
- Housing Industry Association (HIA) have just released New Forecasts that say new home building will fall by almost 50 per cent, putting half a million jobs at risk over the next year unless urgent and deep stimulus packages are implemented. In 2018/19 the industry engaged over 1 million people to commence building almost 200,000 new homes. Next year HIA is forecasting just 112,000 new homes starts, leaving up to 500,000 jobs at risk. [Read here](#).

## MARKET - AUSTRALIA

- New [payroll data](#) shows that the rate of jobs being lost in the COVID-19-hit economy is slowing. And earlier estimates of job losses have also been revised down, indicating the JobKeeper scheme is working. *(Subscriber access)*
- **More bad news for the Retail Sector** - While panic hoarding in March supported an 8.5% lift in retail sales, it is a very different story for April, which experienced the worst ever monthly decline – close to 18 per cent, says the ABS. Read the [Reuters article here](#).
- Deloitte has released a report this morning which shows COVID-19 will hit blue collar workers twice as hard as their white-collar peers with a longer road to recovery for manual labourers. Jobs in hospitality and the arts could take years to recover, according to the research. See the sectors most impacted in [The Australian here](#). *(Subscriber access)*
- Company directors and executives will be relieved from continuous disclosure obligations for the next six months and further insulated from class action lawsuits, as the Federal Government seeks to protect business from the economic uncertainty fuelled by the coronavirus. Read more in [the AFR here](#). *(Subscriber access)*

## GLOBAL MARKET NEWS

- **Travel Bubbles** - As governments look to restore mobility, one idea gaining favour is the creation of travel “bubbles”, binding together countries that have fared well against the coronavirus. The first bubble came to life on May 15th between Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Read [The Economist’s full report here](#) to find out the other potential country groupings or “bubbles”.
- Rolls-Royce has announced job cuts of almost 9,000, nearly a fifth of its workforce, with reductions in its civil aerospace division as airlines cut capacity and Airbus and Boeing slash production over the next few years. The **BBC has more**.
- **Architecture Acceleration** - Just as Georgian terraces were a consequence of London’s Great Fire of 1666 (with fireproof brick buildings replacing wooden ones), some architects believe the pandemic has brought forward trends already in the making. These include ultraviolet light that kills virus particles, especially on handrails, summoning lifts using smartphones, and natural ventilations in office buildings. There is also a rise in “micromobility” with bike hire schemes becoming more common – and 650 kilometres of new bike lanes installed in Paris over the last few weeks. [Read more in The Times](#). (*Subscriber access*)