

## MEDIA RELEASE

### STRATA SECTOR WELCOMES LNP PLEDGE TO CYCLONE PROOF HOMES IN NORTH QLD

### BUT WANTS A MATCHING COMMITMENT FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$50M

**Thursday 15 October 2020:** Queensland's peak organisation for hundreds of thousands of people who own, live in, manage or supply goods and services to units, apartments, townhouses and other strata title property has welcomed a \$50m State election pledge from the Liberal National Party to help cyclone proof homes in North Queensland.

It wants the ALP to match the pledge and is calling on the Federal Government to provide a matching dollar for dollar \$50 million.

Strata Community Association (Qld) says it is important that the North Queensland insurance issue is now on the political radar.

"We have fought hard to warn the politicians that tens of thousands of North Queenslanders are either uninsured or under insured as we head into the cyclone season," SCA (Qld) President James Nickless said today.

"It is a disaster waiting to happen and just like flammable cladding, it must be fixed.

"We welcome the LNP pledge of \$50m which has the potential to reduce insurance premiums, but it does not go far enough.

"We want to see a matching \$50m from Canberra to help finish the job."

Over the last week the Katter Australian Party has also come out in support of fixing the North Queensland insurance issue which has been made critical by a 300% plus increase in insurance premiums in the North over the last five years.

The LNP announcement has quoted from a James Cook University report which found that homes that are made more resilient to cyclone damage are likely to attract reduced insurance premiums.

Mr Nickless said he was not aware of any specific policies from the State ALP to address the insurance issues in the North.

"We have reached out to the State Government to sit down and talk with us about this very critical issue in North Queensland and we are awaiting a response."

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About Strata Community Association (Qld)

SCA (Qld) is the peak association supporting the state's strata sector, with more than 1,200 individual and corporate members who help oversee, advise, and manage a collective sinking fund balance of \$1.02 billion.

The association brings together people who manage strata schemes, own units or live in strata communities, and those who provide products and services for schemes. We also provide education, advice, and advocacy to enable better understanding of the regulations, obligations and owner's rights.

Strata Community Association (Qld) members represent 312,000 of the 500,000 lots in Queensland. SCA (Qld) was founded in 1984 as the Body Corporate Manager's Institute Queensland (BCMIQ), subsequently joining the other leading state and territory strata institutes in creating a national organisation. Aligning branding since 2002 we now are known as Strata Community Association (Qld).

**Media inquiries: Contact SCA (Qld) Executive Officer Katrin Watson on 07 3839 3011.**