

NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION CODE — SEVEN-STAR EFFICIENCY RATING

783. Hon Dr BRAD PETTITT to the minister representing the Minister for Commerce:

I refer to the decision made by all Australian states last week to sign on to the new seven-star efficiency rating in the National Construction Code and adopt 21 May 2023 as the start date for the new seven-star requirement.

- (1) Why is WA the only state that has not announced a clear start date for the seven-star requirement to come into effect?
- (2) When will WA announce its start date to give the building industry certainty?
- (3) When will WA adopt the NCC's new minimum accessibility standards as a requirement, known as the liveability standards, noting it has already been adopted by all other Labor state governments in the country?

Hon DARREN WEST replied:

I answer on behalf of the minister representing the Minister for Commerce. I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. On behalf of the Minister for Commerce, I provide the following answer.

- (1)–(2) Not all jurisdictions have committed to an implementation date prior to October 2023. Building ministers agreed that the code will be available for voluntary use from 1 October 2022 and will commence on 1 May 2023. The building ministers' meeting communiqué indicates that building ministers recognised that individual jurisdictions may make modifications to the implementation time frame to address local circumstances. At this stage, the implementation time frame for Western Australia is still under consideration. I can advise that Western Australia has a 12-month transition prescribed in the Building Regulations 2012 for all new editions of the National Construction Code.
- (3) WA is not in a position to adopt the accessibility provisions at present. We will continue to monitor the situation in the industry and the housing market.