

2 April 2020

## AIQS Position Statement



The Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (AIQS) fully supports the stimulus initiatives being undertaken by the Commonwealth and State / Territory Governments to constrain the Coronavirus (COVID-19) while keeping as many sectors of the economy functioning as is possible.

AIQS, in conjunction with other professional bodies supporting the broader construction industry, is urging all levels of Government, developers, and private investors to continue the design and delivery of built environment projects throughout the COVID-19 crisis. Our industry is an essential service which underpins much of the Australian economy, accounting for over 12% of Australia's GDP.

It is critical that all governments not only continue with current health, education and transport related infrastructure initiatives, but also ensures a continuing pipeline of projects. It is concerning to note that we are receiving feedback that some government projects are being delayed or put on hold, and this is already impacting sectors of the construction industry.

Quantity surveyors are qualified and experienced to assist government agencies through the planning, development and delivery phases across all infrastructure projects including health, education housing and transport. Further, quantity surveyors provide independent, impartial and expert advice in establishing project budgets and minimising cost overruns. Quantity surveying professionals are well positioned to provide essential services to help project owners and builders achieve financial certainty.

These essential services include:

- establishing robust initial budgets and providing advice on ongoing and future operational costs
- advising on the best funding and delivery model
- ongoing cost planning advice during the design stage to ensure budget certainty
- providing advice on cost for each design component, as the design develops
- providing advice to assist with decision making on potential risks and opportunities arising from design variations, construction program planning, subcontracting competency, rise / fall of the cost of materials, procurement advice that best suits each project and identifying and minimising risks associated with time, cost, quality, environment and safety
- producing Bills of Quantities to provide increased cost certainty to project owners and builders
- value managing to ensure value for money is derived from design, construction and operation of the assets
- certifying progress payments in order to maintain cashflows
- providing lifecycle and whole of life costings
- delivery of tax depreciation reports post construction
- providing expert opinion on dispute resolution

If you would like to discuss, please contact Grant Warner on 02 8234 4001 or [gwarner@aiqs.com.au](mailto:gwarner@aiqs.com.au).

Kind Regards

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Mark Chappe  
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grant Warner', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Grant Warner  
Chief Executive Officer