

CONSUMERS URGED TO RESEARCH BEFORE ENGAGING TRADIES

The nearly 700 investigations by Consumer and Business Services of dangerous or shoddy work by tradespeople during 2016/17 highlights the need for consumers to do their research.

Recently released figures show that of the 689 complaints across trades such as plumbing and electrical work, 300 were for renovations and 28 were for roofing.

"Master Builders SA promotes high standards of behavior but unfortunately rogue operators, especially unlicensed rogue operators, give the entire industry a bad name," said Master Builders SA Chief Executive Officer Ian Markos.

"Consumers should do their research before engaging a building contractor. The first thing you should do is check the Consumer and Business Services website to ensure the builder is legally able to do the work you want them to do."

"Individuals and businesses that work in construction, trade, demolition, site preparation and restoration and repairs must be licensed as building contractors."

"It is also recommended to ask around and check social media for reviews. If the price is exceptionally cheap, usually that means it is too good to be true."

"You should also check they are a Master Builders member, because then you can be confident you are dealing with somebody who is appropriately licensed and qualified as a master builder."

"If they are certified by Master Builders as a Certified Construction Professional or a Certified Trade Professional, they have been recognised as the best in the industry."

"Consumers are always welcome to call Master Builders to verify details."

Ends

For further information

Will Frogley, 0422 052 728

Available for interviews

Ian Markos, 0458 062 404