Media Release

New online building tool helps consumers build with confidence

Victorians planning to build or renovate a home can now do so with more confidence through a new online domestic building tool.

The Victorian Government today launched building.vic.gov.au, a site that streamlines access to building and renovating information.

VBA CEO Prue Digby says: “Easier access to what can be a complex array of information, will help people make informed decisions, understand their legal rights and obligations, and resolve issues such as defects or delays.

The new online tool is the result of the close collaboration between Victorian Building Authority (VBA), Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV) and Victorian Managed Insurance Authority (VMIA), and is part of a drive by the Victorian Government to make the building process easier to understand.

When users log on to building.vic.gov.au they will answer questions about their building needs, which the tool will use to direct them to appropriate information on the VBA, CAV and VMIA websites.

“The VBA, CAV and VMIA worked closely to create the new online tool which will help consumers navigate insurance, dispute resolution and regulatory framework,” says Ms Digby.

“Consumers must have access to the information they need to give them confidence in their building projects.”

Topics include builder registration, contracts, insurance, plans and permits, information for owner-builders and advice on resolving problems.

Consumer Affairs Victoria Director Simon Cohen says: “Whether you’re not sure where to begin or you’ve hit a hurdle along the way, the building tool will make it easier and more straightforward to find all the information you need.

“Building a home or doing a renovation is likely to be one of the biggest projects you’ll ever embark on, and it is essential to be well informed.”