MINISTER FOR LANDS, PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

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Mr Russell Keith
Clerk and Chief Executive Officer
Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory

Via email: LA.Clerk@nt.gov.au

Dear Clerk

Thank you for your correspondence dated 20 November 2025, pursuant to Standing Order 201, I provide this report on Government action in relation to recommendations from the Inquiry into the Building Legislation Amendment (Fidelity Fund) Bill 2025, tabled on 20 November 2025.

The Legislative Scrutiny Committee report details the Committee's findings regarding its consideration of the Building Legislation Amendment (Fidelity Fund) Bill 2025 and made two recommendations:

> **Recommendation 1**
>
> The Committee recommends that the Legislative Assembly pass the Building Legislation Amendment Bill (Fidelity Fund) Bill 2025 without amendment.
>
> **Recommendation 2**
>
> The Committee recommends that the Government conduct a comprehensive review of the fidelity fund scheme as a whole, informed by consultation with relevant stakeholders.

With regard to Recommendation 1, the Building Legislation Amendment Bill (Fidelity Fund) Bill 2025 was passed by the Legislative Assembly on 25 November 2025.

With regard to Recommendation 2, this is not a matter pertaining to the current legislative changes and as such a review at this time would be premature given improvements in the oversight of Fidelity Fund NT and ability to monitor legislative compliance.

Following the commencement of legislative changes introduced through the *Building Legislation Amendment Bill (Fidelity Fund) Act 2025,* further amendments to improve the fidelity fund scheme and consumer protections were introduced through the *Building Legislation Amendment (Consumer Protection) Regulations 2026*, which commenced on 30 March 2026.

These changes relate to:

- the operation of fidelity fund schemes;
- cover under fidelity certificates to increase the timeframes for making a claim and effective periods for non-completion of work;
- increase the construction trigger value from $12,000 to $25,000;
- provide more clarity on options available to the Minister should trustees seek approval to wind up an approved scheme;
- and other minor amendments.

The Fidelity Fund NT continue to strengthen engagement with the building industry and are actively working to improve communication with builders regarding assessment of applications for cover.

Any further review of fidelity fund schemes would be more appropriately undertaken once the recent changes have had time to take effect.

Yours sincerely

JOSHUA BURGOYNE

20 MAY 2026

cc: LSC@nt.gov.au