

# Building Newsflash

## **Amendments to the Queensland Development Code (QDC), Mandatory Parts (MP) 2.1 – Fire Safety in Budget Accommodation Buildings and MP 2.2 – Fire Safety in Residential Care Buildings**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this Newsflash is to advise amendments to the QDC *MP 2.1 – Fire Safety in Budget Accommodation Buildings* and *MP 2.2 – Fire Safety in Residential Care Buildings*, take effect on 4 April 2008.

### **Background**

Newsflash 307 (5 March 2008) advised of proposed amendments to *MP 2.1* and *MP 2.2*. The amendment to *MP 2.1* proposed that owners of one storey supported budget accommodation buildings use fire safety measures other than 'self closing door' devices to meet minimum acceptable fire safety standards. The amendment to *MP 2.2* proposed to clarify that the standard does not apply to buildings with less than six residents and to align the small building fire safety provisions with the new part *MP 2.1* requirements.

### **Legislation**

*Building Act 1975*

*Building Regulation 2006*

Queensland Development Code

### **QDC Amendments**

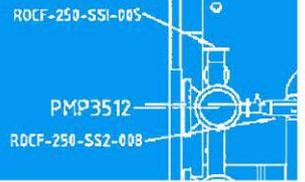
#### ***MP 2.1 – Schedule 3 Part (B)***

Schedule 3 Part (B), allows smaller (one storey) supported budget accommodation buildings which have a sprinkler system and a building wide interconnected smoke detection system, to maintain support ratios of 1:10. The minimum support ratio will apply either in the building or across 500m<sup>2</sup> smoke compartments. Owners of smaller supported budget accommodation buildings will now have the option of removing self closing door mechanisms. Also, the definition of minimum support ratio has been amended to state that responsible persons may be counted as providing evacuation support across more than one smoke compartment.

#### ***MP 2.2 – Residential Care Building definition***

The definition of a residential care building has been amended to specifically exclude buildings that accommodate five or less residents.





### ***MP 2.2 – Acceptable Solutions A2***

To align with the changes to *MP 2.1* for minimum support ratio requirements in small buildings, *MP 2.2* has been amended to allow owners or occupiers of small buildings to maintain a minimum support ratio of at least 1:10 across smoke compartments.

These amendments take effect on 4 April 2008. Copies of QDC *MP 2.1 – Fire Safety in Budget Accommodation Buildings* and *MP 2.2 – Fire Safety in Residential Care Buildings* can be found on the Building Codes Queensland website:

<http://www.dip.qld.gov.au/building/current-and-draft-parts.html>

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