

**MEDIA ADVISORY – INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITY AVAILABLE**

**Friday September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Attention Queensland Media**

**STRATA PROPERTY LEADERS CONCERNED BY CHERMSIDE APARTMENT FIRE**

**SPOTLIGHT SHONE ON THE IMPORTANCE OF FIRE SAFETY PLANS**

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A multi-storey apartment fire in Brisbane's north has concerned leaders of Queensland's \$120 billion strata property sector, who continue to observe fire safety threats in apartments around the state.

And they say the fact that 80 residents were quickly evacuated and kept out of harms way, shines a light on the need for communities to urgently review that their fire safety plans are compliant with legislation.

"This could have been a vastly different situation if the community in question didn't have the right fire safety measures in place, and we're urging all apartment owners to conduct an audit on their fire safety ASAP," Strata Community Australia (Qld) President Simon Barnard said today.

Mr Barnard is available for media interview today, on what bodies corporate can be doing to keep the 1.1 million Queenslanders living in apartments safe from fires like this.

Mr Barnard says having a schedule for replacing smoke alarm batteries, hardwiring smoke alarms into the future and ensuring evacuation plans are adequately visible in all common areas are just some of the 'low effort' actions bodies corporate should be on top of.

ENDS

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