

03 March 2026

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCAQ Supports Renewed Calls for Climate Resilience Investment

Strata Communities Must Be Central to National Mitigation Strategy

Strata Community Association Queensland supports renewed calls from the Insurance Council of Australia for significant investment in climate resilience infrastructure following the anniversary of Tropical Cyclone Alfred.

Queensland strata communities experienced firsthand the scale of destruction, with the majority of claims from Cyclone Alfred occurring in this state. For many bodies corporate, recovery is still ongoing.

SCAQ General Manager Laura Bos said the anniversary is a stark reminder that resilience can no longer be treated as a future aspiration.

"The next major weather event is not theoretical for Queensland communities. It is inevitable. The question is whether we continue to rebuild reactively, or whether we invest deliberately in resilience."

The data demonstrates a widening gap between recovery spending and mitigation investment. Across recent years, billions have been spent responding to extreme weather, while proactive funding has lagged behind.

"Every time a strata community floods, hundreds of residents are impacted at once. We are not talking about single dwellings. We are talking about vertical neighbourhoods, essential workers, retirees, families and vulnerable Queenslanders whose homes and financial security are tied to these buildings."

Strata properties represent a substantial and growing proportion of Queensland's housing stock. As density increases, so too does the importance of strengthening these communities against escalating climate risk.

Ms Bos said any national resilience strategy must explicitly include strata and community title schemes.

“Strata communities are critical housing infrastructure. If we fail to invest in mitigation for medium and high-density living, we undermine affordability, insurance access and long-term housing supply.”

SCAQ is calling for:

- Dedicated mitigation funding streams for strata and community title schemes
- Targeted flood and storm hardening programs for medium and high-density developments
- Support for retrofit works to strengthen existing buildings
- Clear, publicly available hazard mapping to guide responsible planning decisions
- Coordinated investment between federal, state and local governments

Insurance affordability remains one of the most pressing concerns for Queensland bodies corporate. Without meaningful mitigation, premiums will continue to reflect escalating risk and rebuilding costs.

“We cannot expect premiums to fall while risk continues to rise. The only sustainable pathway to affordability is risk reduction.”

Ms Bos said resilience funding is not just about infrastructure, it is about economic stability.

“Every dollar spent strengthening communities today reduces future recovery costs, protects housing supply and supports long-term economic productivity. Resilience is not a cost. It is an investment in stability.”

SCAQ stands ready to work with government, insurers and industry partners to ensure mitigation investment reaches the communities that need it most.

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About SCAQ

Strata Community Association (Qld) is the peak industry organisation for professional body corporate and community title management in Queensland.

SCAQ represents the interests of professional body corporate managers, support staff, and suppliers to the industry through advocacy and law reform, education and professional development, community building and engagement.

Our community supports the management of some \$250 Billion in property assets in Queensland and generates more than \$1.75 billion annually in economic activity, through professional services and maintenance, supporting more than 62,000 direct and indirect jobs for Queenslanders.