



## Small Business Round-up



# March 2025



A huge thank you to everyone who submitted examples of red tape challenges through our portal! In the last weeks, we've received over 80 examples—and more are coming in every day. Your feedback is helping us pinpoint where the government can step in to make life easier for small businesses. We hear you loud and clear—red tape is weighing businesses down. Some solutions might be as simple as better digital systems, while others may require changes to laws or regulations. Either way, your input is making a real difference. Keep those examples coming—we're listening!

Last month, the biggest causes of leasing disputes were maintenance and repairs,

followed by outgoings. We've also seen a rise in mediations around periodic tenancies and lockouts, with 76% of cases involving tenants in rental arrears. If you're dealing with any of these issues, check out our [factsheets](#). Prefer to watch instead? [The Bald Truth](#) breaks it all down for you.

This month, we've been on the road across Southeast and Central Queensland, hearing directly from small businesses. One major concern? Insurance—businesses are struggling with costs, accessibility, and disputes. We've also heard loud and clear that the rising cost of doing business is hitting hard—freight, energy, and talent attraction are just a few of the big pressure points. We're grateful to the industry bodies and chambers that shared insights with us—your feedback helps shape our advocacy efforts. Got something to add? We're always keen to hear from you!

With natural disasters on many business owners' minds this month, we encourage you to check out the [Small Business Disaster Hub](#) for tips on strengthening your business against future disruptions. If you've been impacted and need help, visit [natural disaster support for your business](#). And remember, if you ever need support, don't hesitate to [reach out to us](#) or call 13QGOV (13 74 68). We're here to help!

### Upcoming activities

- **1 April** - 2025 World Plumbing Day
- **10 April** - Queensland Leaders Connect Event
- **29 April** - South East Brisbane Chamber of Commerce Business Breakfast



**Dominique Lamb**

Queensland Small Business Commissioner

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## Stronger Together





With recovery efforts continuing, we are witnessing the power of community connection and collaboration, as businesses, industry, councils, and the broader public sector work together to restore operations, support one another, and rebuild local communities and economies.

If your business has participated in a local recovery initiative, we encourage you to share your story. Your experience can inspire others and showcase the invaluable contributions of small businesses in rebuilding stronger, together.

Let's keep lifting each other up—because together, we are stronger!

### **Access disaster support**

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## The Legend of Zoro



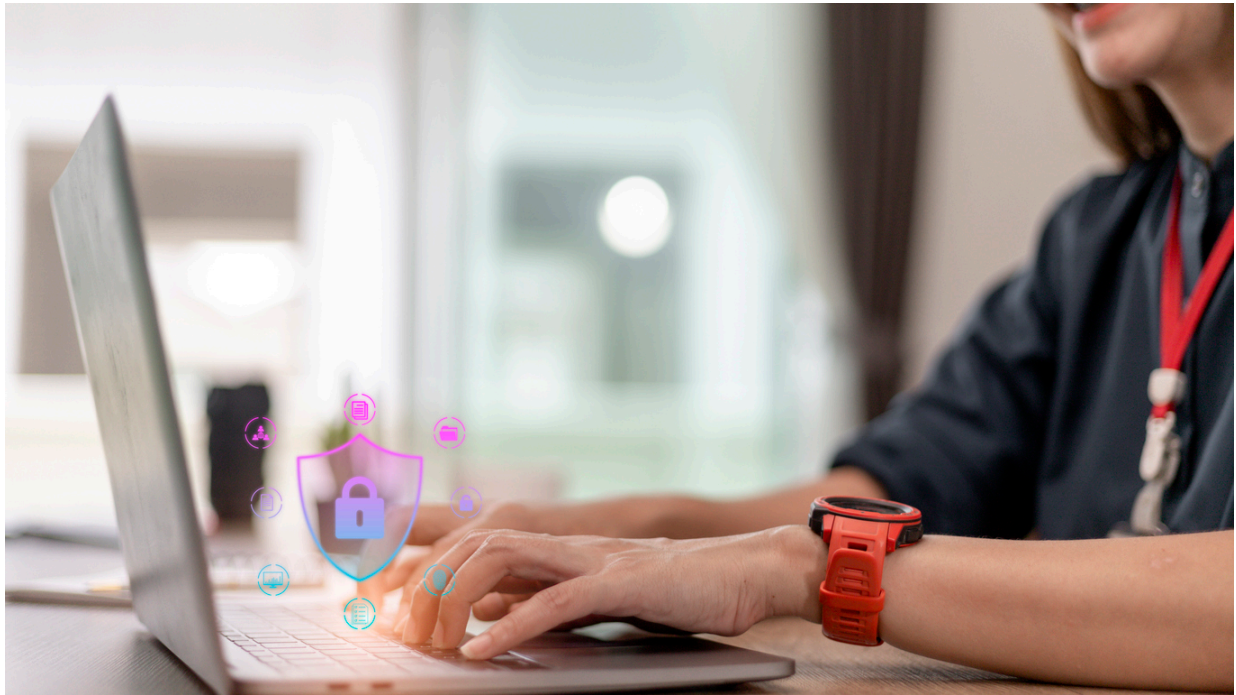
Running a small business in rural Queensland isn't for the faint-hearted—but Shaun "Zoro" Radnedge has done it for over 25 years. As owner of Dunnes Meats in Charleville and Mayor of Murweh Shire, he knows firsthand the challenges of staying resilient through droughts, floods, and workforce challenges.

In episode 9 of the QSBC podcast, Zoro shares his secrets of success with the Commissioner, Dominique Lamb—from how he built a thriving butcher shop, to the power of customer loyalty, and why community support is key for small business success in rural and remote Queensland.

Listen to his inspiring business and leadership journey on [\*\*Spotify\*\*](#), [\*\*Apple\*\*](#), or visit our [\*\*website\*\*](#).

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## Cyberattack on Small Business



A cyberattack occurs every 6 minutes with financial losses for small business averaging around \$49,000 but the potential for reputational risk and losing the trust of your customers is one of the biggest impacts we hear about from small business.

So, what should you do if you experience a cyberattack? Who do you tell? And how can you prevent one in the first place? The answer depends on the type of data the criminal has accessed, and expert advice is needed.

Read our full article [here](#).

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## Fairer Deals for Small Business

The Federal Government is extending Unfair Trading Practice protections to small businesses facing power imbalances with larger firms. Key benefits include:

- Stronger protections for retail, agriculture & construction
- Crackdown on unfair contract changes & commercial pressure
- Consultation on targeted protections

Treasury will consult this year on shaping new protections - [Read Full Details](#)



# Building Rules Made Easier

The Queensland Government's Building Reg Reno is cutting red tape, reducing costs, and streamlining regulations for small builders. Key changes include:

- Less paperwork for 97% of small builders
- Extended deadlines for licensing requirements
- Free occupational licences for some trades



More reforms are coming to simplify compliance and support growth.

**Learn more**

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## Boosting Productivity

The Queensland Government has re-established the Queensland Productivity Commission to find solutions to rising costs and economic challenges. It will provide independent advice on ways to improve business productivity, including a major review of the construction sector.



Cutting unnecessary red tape is key to helping businesses grow. Have you come across a state or local government rule, policy, or process that's hard to understand or follow? We want to hear about it! Tell us what the issue is, how it impacts your business, and any ideas you have for a solution. Your feedback can help make things easier for small businesses like yours

**Have your say**

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## Opportunities for you



The \$3M Local Skills Solutions program funds training projects to address regional skills gaps with up to \$250K per project. Applications open until funds exhausted.

**Apply today**

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Grants from \$20K to \$200K are available to help industries tackle unique place-based employment challenges. Applications close 5pm Wednesday 30 April 2025.

**[Find out more](#)**



Access grant funding of up to \$5K to help find HR solutions to support your workforce requirements.

**[Read more and apply](#)**

Stay connected via our social channels



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one conversation at a time*

