



Wollongong building company collapses, leaving homes unfinished and businesses out of pocket

ABC Illawarra By Emily Laurence

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Illawarra building company Trim Building Services Pty Ltd has collapsed, leaving at least 10 homes unfinished and local businesses out of pocket.

The company, based in Wollongong, went into liquidation on January 11.

Local tiling, roofing, window, plumbing and hardware businesses are included in a list of more than 100 unsecured creditors owed more than \$1.1 million.

Customers include Leah Morgan, whose new build at Coledale had no roof when work ceased, leaving the timber frame and the sub floor exposed to the weather.

She is now going through the Home Owners Warranty insurance process, which she has been told could take three months.

"Our house or our building site is further up the escarpment, so the change in the weather as we progress into winter is a real factor in terms of anything being able to dry out," Ms Morgan said.

"At the moment we've got significant mould and mildew on all of the wood elements of the structure."

Ms Morgan said she had been shocked when she was advised the building company was being voluntarily wound up.

"Things had not really progressed in the way we thought that they had ought to, but we kept on believing in the process," she said.

"The house was meant to have been completed in 200 days. We signed the contract in November 2014 so we were way over time."

The ABC understands Trim Building Services had a high turn over of staff and its director, William Francis Wiegerinck, suffered a heart attack late last year.

A statement provided to the ABC from forensic accountants Worrells said a meeting of the company's creditors on Monday at West Leagues Club, Unanderra, was attended by about 20 creditors.

"The liquidators' investigations into the affairs of the company are continuing," liquidator Nick Malanos from Worrells said.

"The director of the company has indicated that he intends to declare himself bankrupt. Should the director be made bankrupt, any claim against the director will be made to the Trustee in bankruptcy," he said.

"At this stage there is a strong likelihood that there may be a small distribution to unsecured creditors."

Mr Malanos said Home Owners Warranty insurers were continuing to assist customer creditors, and thanked parties for the efforts to date.

Topics: building-and-construction, wollongong-2500

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PHOTO: Trim Building Services Pty Ltd has collapsed, leaving at least 10 homes under construction unfinished and owing local businesses thousands of dollars.

MAP: Wollongong 2500

