



QLD News

# Third building company collapses since Christmas owing Gold Coast tradies millions of dollars

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GOLD Coast subbies have been rocked by another company collapse after liquidators were appointed to Bluestone Constructions Pty Ltd which owes at least \$6.8 million.

The Queensland Building and Construction Commission suspended the licence of the Coast builders on February 13 after receiving complaints from subbies.

Coast tradies are hurting financially following [the Cullen Group collapse](#) with debts likely to reach \$30 million after work stopped last December on its Boheme project at Robina.



Boheme Apartments at Robina. Photo: Steve Holland

Many suppliers in the New Year have faced further debt after Batir Ptd Ltd halted construction on several Coast public building sites after it owed \$2.1 million to creditors.

The Bulletin understands the QBCC was trying to work through the financial problems with Bluestone Constructions as it completed its 263-unit Watford apartments development on Racecourse Road at Bundall.

Acquire Trade Creditor business development manager Nathan Wrobel, who is working with insured subbies, told the Bulletin: “The Bluestone Constructions insolvency is likely a flow on effect from the recent major collapses of the Cullen Group, Bloomer Constructions and Batir and we will likely see more businesses go under in the coming months.”





📷 Batir company building sites after they went bust, 1864-1866 Gold Coast Highway, Burleigh. Picture: Mike Batterham

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Developer Larry Matthews on January 25 wrote to creditors saying the company was not able to pay its debts but hoped to resolve its financial crisis within three months.

“It is with a great deal of disappointment and remorse that I am writing to you today,” he wrote. “Currently the company finds itself with a serious cashflow shortage, however this situation will be resolved as soon as the financial settlements at Waterford North come through.”



 Developer Larry Matthews in 2006 outside the revamped building that was the old Mermaid Cinema. Picture: Glenn Hampson

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Subbies United leader John Goddard said his group had been keeping a watch on Bluestone Constructions for several weeks after alerts from several subbies in mid-February.

Jason Bettles, from Worrells Solvency, said Bluestone's company principals had indicated that the debt was due to cost overruns.

The company was only days from completing the Bundall project when it lost its licence and the Matthews Group, headed by veteran developer Larry Matthews, stepped in to complete the development.

Mr Matthews is the father of Richard Matthews, director, secretary and sole shareholder in Bluestone Constructions.