

NEWSLETTER

Brought to you by the
Hauraki District Council, Building
Consent Authority

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LICENSED BUILDING PRACTITIONERS

The following articles are taken from DBH publication "Codewords". It will be of particular interest to all builders and DIY renovators.

Proposed licence classes to be tested as system develops

The licensing system for building practitioners is continuing to develop with work now focusing on exploring costs and benefits of proposed licence classes, setting licence standards and developing assessment processes.

The framework of the licensing system was set out in the Building Act 2004, passed in August last year. The details of the system are being filled in over a five-year period, which will lead to the licensing system being fully implemented by 30 November 2009.

Proposed licence classes

The Department has proposed a set of licence classes which are still in the process of being tested. These have been well covered in the Newsletter Issues 9, 10, 11, and 12. If you require a copy of these don't hesitate to ring to gain a copy.

Impact on DIY work

DIY renovators would be able to carry out any work which falls outside the restricted building work category. This would cover the vast majority of work currently carried out by DIY renovators in New Zealand, including:

- Any work that does not require a building consent i.e. repairs and maintenance, construction of small detached buildings not for sleeping, low patios or decks.
- Work on buildings which are not primarily for human occupation or public use i.e. farm buildings, garages, sheds.
- Any work which is not restricted i.e. that is not critical to the strength and weather tightness of the building and the health and safety of occupants. For example, non-structural plasterboard work, ceilings, architraves, skirting, coving, internal doors, non structural walls, kitchen cabinetry and bathroom work (except plumbing and electrical work), painting and decorating.

DIY renovators would also be able to carry out restricted work as long as they are supervised by a licensed building practitioner. For DIY renovators this work might include;

- Removing a structural wall between a dining room and lounge
- Installing a new external window or door
- Designing and construction an additional room.

Licensing aims to ensure that critical design and building work is carried out by people who have demonstrated that they meet a national level of competence. This will encourage better practices in design and construction and improve consumer confidence in the quality of building processes and the capability of those involved.

QUIZ

- 1 What date do they hope to fully implement the licensing system by?
 - A. 30 November 2009
 - B. 30 November 2008
 - C. 30 November 2007

- 2 What documentation should all builders, and designers have to ensure the correct information is transferred onto building plans?
 - A Trucking World
 - B Fisherman's Journal
 - C NZS 3604:1999

- 3 Restricted building Work under the proposed licensing system is work that requires a building consent and is essential to the strength and weather tightness of the building and safety of occupants?
 - A True
 - B False

- 4 DIY renovators, under the proposed licensing system, could remove a structural wall between a dining room and lounge, unsupervised by a licensed building practitioner?
 - A True
 - B False

- 5 Which areas require regular manual washing comply with maintenance requirements as set out in NZ Building Code E2/AS1 Clause 2.5?
 - A Sheltered areas such as walls directly below eaves
 - B Window surrounds and other flashings
 - C Wall cavity flashings

Informative Websites

BRANZ	www.branz.co.nz	Building Controls	www.building.govt.nz
DBH	www.dbh.govt.nz	Consumer Building	www.consumerbuild.org.nz
NZ Standards	www.standards.co.nz		

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Quiz Answers

- 1 A
- 2 C
- 3 A
- 4 B
- 5 A