



Licensing of building work



WHAT IT MEANS FOR DESIGNERS, BUILDERS AND SPECIALIST TRADESPEOPLE

Licensing is on the way for designers, builders and specialist tradespeople. It will be voluntary from November 2007, with mandatory licensing being phased in from November 2009. All licence classes will be up and running by November 2011.

WHY LICENSING?

- To improve the competency and accountability of the design and construction workforce to ensure that building work is right the first time.

WHO CAN BE LICENSED?

- Designers, builders and specialist tradespeople such as carpenters, external plasterers, roofers, and brick and blocklayers, particularly at the supervisory level.
- If you don't get a licence, you will still be able to work in the industry, but under the supervision of a licensed building practitioner.

HOW DO YOU GET AND KEEP A LICENCE?

- You will need to produce evidence of skills and experience. You won't necessarily need formal qualifications. Experience and knowledge will count in the assessment process.
- There will be a reasonable initial assessment cost and an annual levy. The costs have yet to be set.
- The licence standards and assessment criteria for each class are being developed by the Department of Building and Housing in association with industry. They will be available later this year.
- Designers, builders and carpenters will be able to apply for a licence from November 2007. Other licence classes will be phased in from 2008.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

- Sets minimum standards for everyone in the industry.
- Improved consumer confidence in you and in your industry.

For more information, phone the Department of Building and Housing on 0800 60 60 50 or go to www.dbh.govt.nz