

## FACT SHEET

### *Occupational Licensing Amendment Bill 2016*

This legislation is designed to implement one part of the legislative package resulting from the Tasmanian Government's Building Regulation Framework Review that commenced in 2014.

It will address deficiencies in the licensing model for building practitioners who are currently accredited under the *Building Act 2000*.

Key features of this Bill include:

- Introducing the concept of a *building services provider* into the *Occupational Licensing Act 2005* to replace the term "building practitioner" used in the *Building Act 2000*. "Building services provider" includes builders, building designers, building surveyors, architects, engineers and any other associated building-related occupations that are required to hold a licence.
  - This allows accreditation of building practitioners under the *Building Act 2000* to be replaced with licensing of building service providers under the *Occupational Licensing Act 2005*.
- Providing access to a stronger audit and compliance regime for building service providers which can be used to drive increased professionalism in the industry.
- Provision for the Administrator of Occupational Licensing to issue a Determination regarding the qualifications and experience required for a particular class of licence.
- Provision for the Administrator of Occupational Licensing to issue a Determination regarding the Code of Conduct for licensees.
- Replacing registration of owner builders under the *Building Act 2000* with the introduction of a project-based permit for owner builders under the *Occupational Licensing Act 2005*.
- Restrictions on the number of projects an owner builder can undertake in a ten year period remains the same, ie two in ten years
- Owner builder permits will only available for detached residential dwellings, not commercial property.
- Introduction of a building services provider licence for corporations or partnerships contracting to perform building services.
- Maintaining the same quantum for penalties as under the current *Occupational Licensing Act 2005*, but replacing "Levels" with "penalty units".

Consequential amendments resulting from this Bill include:

- Repeal of provisions relating to builder accreditation and owner builder registration in the *Building Act 2000*, ensuring the Act focuses purely on the processes for obtaining building approval.