



5 October 2021

## Design and Build Practitioners Act (DBP)

As many members are aware the **Design and Build Practitioners (DBP) Act reforms came into effect July 1st 2021** and is already changing the way design professional, clients and builders operate. Under the reforms, building work on class 2 (apartment) buildings cannot commence construction until regulated designs and compliance declarations are lodged on the NSW Planning Portal. The new requirements require registered people under the new Compliance Declaration Scheme to declare:

- Designs comply with the Building Code of Australia and other relevant standards, in a design compliance declaration (made by a registered Design Practitioner)
- Building work is constructed in accordance with compliant designs and in compliance with the Building Code of Australia, in a building compliance declaration (made by a registered Building Practitioner).

Under the initial tranche, **the DBP Act is limited to Class 2 buildings within NSW and currently includes 18 registration classes for Design Practitioners of which landscape architects are not included.** Future tranches would see the application of the Act to additional building types, expansion of the design professions that are required to be registered and the potential for the Acts application beyond NSW.

**Whilst landscape architects are not currently required to be registered, under the Compliance Declaration Scheme, the Act will impact the way in which the profession works with many members already experiencing this first hand.**

AILA NSW Executive has been actively liaising with AILA National and members from the AIA to better understand the impact of the Act on the members and broader profession. The Executive is currently coordinating meetings with the AIA, IDA and is seeking an audience with the NSW Building Commissioner, David Chandler OAM, in the coming months. We will continue to communicate any updates from these discussion to the membership group and encourage all members to reach out to the Executive via the [NSW Chapter](#) with any questions or experiences on current class 2 projects.

For more information about the act please refer to the following links:

[NSW Fair Trading DBP Essentials](#)

[The Act](#)