

Building Bill 2023 – Licensing Proposals

Answer Sheet

June 2023



1.1 How to complete this Answer Sheet

This answer sheet should be read in conjunction with the Building Bill 2023 – Licensing Proposals – June 2023 paper.

Questions from the paper are reproduced here in a format that is simple to fill in. The item numbers above the questions indicate where you can find related content in the paper.

Please enter your responses into the spaces provided. You are welcome to provide attachments to accompany your responses.

Please return your completed answer sheet to the Department via email to hbareview@customerservice.nsw.gov.au by close of business, Friday 11 August 2023.

The Department is also seeking expressions of interest from industry stakeholders to participate in an industry reference group to develop the new iteration of mechanical services licensing. If you would like to join the industry reference group, please email hbareview@customerservice.nsw.gov.au

PLEASE NOTE:WE HAVE ONLY ANSWERED QUESTION9

1.2 Answer Sheet

Value threshold

2.5.1.4

Q1: Do you agree with the proposal to reduce the value threshold from \$5,000 to \$3,000? If not, what value would be suitable and why?

Endorsement approach to multiple licences

2.6.1.5

Q2: Should endorsements only be available for certain licence classes with related or overlapping qualifications? Why / why not?

Q3: Are there any specific circumstances where endorsements should not be made available? Why / why not?

Standards and Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

2.7.1.1 and 2.8.1.1

The following questions seek industry feedback specific to each licence class, and as such, it is acceptable to limit your response to your area of expertise or interest.

Please answer these questions by completing the table below and indicate the licence class(es) you are referring to in the table. Add additional rows to the table if required.

Q4: Please provide a list of Standards used to complete work .

Q5: Please indicate how many hours of CPD should be required to be completed per annum.

Licence class	Hours of CPD	Standards used to complete work

Work for deregulation

3.2.18

Q6: Do you support the proposals to deregulate certain work listed in Table 5? Why / why not?

Q7: Should any other types of work be considered for deregulation?

Newly proposed builder licences

3.3.1.5

Q8: Do you support the proposed approach to builder licence classes? Why / why not?

Q9: Do you support the indicative knowledge and experience requirements proposed for each builder licence class?

Pre-purchase building inspectors

3.3.3.3

Q10: Is an endorsement approach appropriate for licence holders who wish to become pre-purchase building inspectors? Why / why not?

Q11: Do you agree with the proposal to limit eligibility for this endorsement to persons licenced as builders, engineers, architects, and design building practitioners? If not, which other licence holders should be eligible for this endorsement?

Q12: Do you think it is necessary to separate pre-purchase building inspections into areas of inspectors' expertise such as electrical, plumbing, or pest inspection elements? Would this be burdensome for industry?

Pre-purchase pest inspectors

3.3.4.3

Q13: Do you support the proposal to register pre-purchase pest inspectors and establish minimum standards for pre-purchase pest inspections? Why / why not?

Waterproofing work

3.4.1.1

Q14: Do you support the proposal to make waterproofing a new class of specialist work? Why / why not?

Q15: Many tradespeople currently do waterproofing work as incidental to their primary vocation, e.g. tilers, bricklayers, bathroom renovators and swimming pool builders. How will this change affect those trades? Are any other trades impacted by this change?

Q16: Should any of the alternative options explored by the Department be considered instead of, or in addition to the proposal?

Gas fitting work

3.4.2.5

Q17: Do you support the Department's proposal to introduce a new licence class for Type B gas fitting work, and to merge the gas fitting and LP gas fitting licences into one? Why/ why not?

Plumbing work

3.4.4.1

Q18: Do you support the proposal to include electrical connection/disconnection work as mandatory training components of the licence? Why / why not?

Electrical work

3.4.5.1

Q19: Should the Department explore the creation of additional electrical licensing categories? Why / Why not?

Q20: What areas of work would benefit from additional electrical licence classes? Please provide examples and descriptions of the work performed.

Roof tiling and slating

3.5.2.2

Q21: Do you support the proposal to consolidate the Roof Slating and Roof Tiling licences into one Roof Tiling licence? Why / why not?

Fencing

3.5.4.3

Q22: Do you support the proposed changes to the fencing licence? Why / why not?

Q23: Do you support swimming pool barrier work continuing to be included in the swimming pool builder licence? Why / why not?

Q24: What qualification should be prescribed to support improved knowledge of swimming pool barrier installation and certification?

Painting

3.5.5.3

Q25: Should any other painting applications be included in this licence class? If yes, why?

No change or minimal change to existing licence classes

3.6.1.1

Q26: Do you support the proposal to retain several licence classes without changes or with only minimal changes? If not, please identify which licence class (es) should be amended and why.

Proposals for design work

3.7.1.7

Q27: Do you support the Department's proposal to introduce licencing requirements for building designers? Why / why not?

Q28: Do you recommend that the Department introduces licensing requirements for interior designers? Why / why not? If yes, please provide evidence of risks and harms caused by interior designers.

Q29: Do you recommend that the Department introduces licensing requirements for landscape architects? Why / why not? If yes, please provide evidence of risks and harms caused by landscape architects.

Following review and consideration of the Licensing Bill 2023, the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) does not support the introduction of licensing of landscape architects. It is understood that the introduction of licensing for landscape architects would result in a change in legislative requirements noting that whilst AILA has a registration process, that this is not linked to an industry award. The introduction of licensing would increase the burden of risk and liability on our membership and require a broader restructure of the AILA registration process.

AILA also notes that the current reform is limited to specific external structural items related to Class 2, 3 and 9C buildings. Whilst landscape architects are involved in the design of such elements it is best practice that these still be documented by other disciplines including architecture, hydraulic and/ or structural engineers. As such AILA does not believe landscape architects should be licensed.

AILA appreciates the in-depth analysis that the Department of Customer Service has undertaken with regards to the profession and practice of landscape architecture. Whilst we believe that licensing for landscape architects should not be introduced we do request that landscape architects be acknowledged on the relevant fair trading information pages/ website. AILA believes that a definition of landscape architecture and its exemption to licensing would assist with clarifying the profession relative to the Act.

Q30: Are there any other design roles that will be captured by the proposed definition of regulated work and general building design work?

Q31: Could a limited registration scheme for designers deliver sufficient regulatory benefits without the increased costs of a licencing scheme?

Other jobs on site such as project managers and estimators

3.8.2.2

Q32: What evidence should the Department consider in finalising a position statement on potential licencing requirements for project managers?

Q33: Should the Department consider co-regulation of quantity surveyors? If yes, please provide evidence of risks and harms caused by unregulated quantity surveyors.

Descriptions of work authorised by licence (see Attachment Paper)

Q34: Do you agree with the proposed revisions to the descriptions of work? Why / why not?

Q35: Do the descriptions of work accurately capture work in all building classes? Are there any other revisions required to the descriptions of work due to the expansion into all building classes?

Q36: Do the descriptions of work accurately capture relevant building materials currently used and likely to be used in the future? Are there any new materials or technologies which should be included in the descriptions of work?

Q37: The Department is considering the value of prescribing core capabilities and competencies for each licence class, in addition to other eligibility requirements. What other capabilities and competencies should the Department consider when determining the descriptions of work and CPD requirements for each licence class?

Further comments

Q38: If you have any further comments or general feedback on the Department's proposals for licencing, please provide them here.

