



Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2023–2024

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Ms Jo Clay MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water

Redirected to: Minister for Planning and Sustainable Development

Reference: EPSDD Annual Report p. 28

Hearing: 18 February 2025

In relation to: Trades Regulation

Question received: 18 February 2025

Answer Due: 25 February 2025

EPSDD Annual Report lists further trades regulation as a priority reform.

- (1) What future reform is currently being considered or developed?
- (2) What is the expected timeline and completion date for future reforms?

Chris Steel MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

- (1) At the election ACT Labor committed to extend occupational licensing to selected building trades including (but not limited to) waterproofing, painting and decorating, brick and block laying, carpentry, plastering, tiling, concreting, and glazing. These new licenses will be developed with reference to the Queensland reforms.

Builders, electricians and plumbers are already required to be licensed in the ACT. The ACT Government has commenced scoping work and is exploring higher-risk areas for initial consideration of extending licencing to other trades under the proposed reforms. Waterproofing is at the top of the list due to the risk of water penetration in causing building defects. At minimum, licensing additional trades would require completion of relevant qualifications boosting completion rates amongst trade apprentices.

The ACT Government progressing these reforms to the building regulatory system to improve compliance with building standards for health, safety, amenity and sustainability. These are intended to give greater choice and protection for the community, enhance community confidence in the building and construction industry, improve labour mobility through automatic mutual recognition with other states and support training completion rates in these trades.

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- (2) This work will be progressed this year, with legislation to support additional licensed occupations expected next year.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment, Planning, Transport and City Services

Signature:



Date:

26/2/25

By the Minister for Planning and Sustainable Development, Chris Steel MLA