
From: DTS Plasterboard
Sent: Friday, 24 August 2018 4:29 PM
To: Policy
Subject: Removing 13 categories of home building licences

To Whom it my concern,

RE: Removing 13 categories of home building licences

I have been in the construction industry for 28 years as a plasterer. I am now an owner of a plastering contractor business

I do not support the removal of the certain trades licences as I believe it will create:

- WHS hazard to the industry and working sites
- Any person will be able to work in the industry without any knowledge
- Will diminish the trades importance to other trades
- Tradesmen will have no control over requirements by other trades due to lack of recognition as a trade
- Tradesmen not keeping up with new technology
- Tradesmen not being compliant
- Many builders will treat non-regulated as builders' labours position using unskilled labour
- Will lead to a lower uptake of apprenticeships by people
- Even though the licensing scheme does cost and takes time but it does enforce standards
- There is no regulation of supervising roles within business
- More companies will not be set up for long term in the industry

Whilst you believe licensing is a barrier to starting a business there are greater barriers that could be addressed.

Regulated licensing also works for business as it protects operators from unsavoury competition. To remove

regulated licensing would not lead to innovation as it comes from businesses looking to create

new and better ways to reduce cost, improve profit in a competitive and sustainable way for the consumer and themselves without loss of

quality. If the removal of licenses goes ahead many companies will be set up to easily for the short-term profit.

The minister states that deregulation will reduce monopolies, but instead would more likely create them due to their ability to source

materials and labour cheaper therefore controlling the market.

This will lead to a greater exodus of experience and young qualified trades employed by or operating small businesses from the industry due to an inability to compete.

Many consumers will find the task of pursuing traders through other consumer protections costly and daunting

There will also be many who will treat unlicensed trades as builders' labourers, this will result in many unskilled workers

doing inadequate work.

You state that these trades work comes under \$5000 threshold which is far from reality in the building industry

You also state on page 18 "If done badly, are not likely to give rise to major safety risks or risks of significant

financial detriment this is far from the truth. Whilst I can not comment for the other trades I can comment on the

Dry Wall plastering.

Problems that can occur due to inadequately installed and finished plasterboard linings

- Refixing
- Resetting
- Repainting

Ceilings that fail and come away from the roof structure

- Damage to electrical fitting (light fittings etc)
- Strain on electrical cable due to weight pulling down on electrical fitting – which could lead to replacement
- Damage to duct work

Wall linings that are inadequately installed in wet areas

- Result in failure of water proofing
- Not support tiles resulting sheets coming away from wall frame

These are just a few examples that would be extremely costly to repair

The long-term outcome will be a higher cost to consumers and builders as a result of less regulation and supervision.

Regards

David Smith

Licence No: