



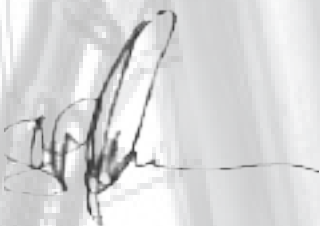
Infobrief

2017 | EDITION 5
INDUSTRY REPRESENTATION

QUALITY NOMINATIONS PUT FORWARD

Peter Jackson

CHAIRPERSON



I would like to thank all those who applied to be part of the new Stakeholder Liaison Group. The standard of applications were high, which made the final selection for this group difficult.

If you didn't make it through, I strongly encourage you to make yourself available for other specific consultation groups and vacancies as they become available. It is important that the wider industry has input.

The Board will hold its first meeting of the newly established Stakeholder Liaison Group on 12 September 2017. The forum will provide an opportunity to meet with the group for the purposes of discussing and receiving feedback on:

- new proposed initiatives
- initiatives that have been implemented
- issues/areas of concern to the Board and industry.

In late 2015 the Board launched the report a cowboy app (R.A.C).

We made a request to the industry that if anyone had information about people in their area who are working without authorisation to let us know.

This initiative has proven extremely successful. It has been pleasing to see the Board's investigations unit taking strong effect, and continuing to make provision to respond to the influx of reports coming in.

On that note, I would like welcome new investigator Lisa Williams to the team. An ex Intelligence Analyst for MBIE and experienced interviewer, I am sure her expertise will help ensure the continued success of the Board's current unauthorised work strategy (see page four).

Who made the cut?

2017 / 2018

STAKEHOLDER LIAISON GROUP

Beca

James Smith
(Snr Hydraulic Engineer)
- Plumber, Gasfitter, Drainlayer

F.B.Hall & Co Ltd

Mike Wilson (Estimator)
- Plumber, Gasfitter, Drainlayer

E.G.Glennie & Co (1980) Ltd

Mike Gooch
- Plumber, Gasfitter, Drainlayer

Invercargill City Council

Michael Hartstonge
Team Leader Building Services
- Plumber, Gasfitter, Drainlayer

Opotiki Plumbing and Gasfitting Limited

Richard Kemeny
- Plumber, Gasfitter

Climate & Plumbing

Sam Tyson
- Managing Director

Master Plumbers, Gasfitters & Drainlayers NZ Inc

Greg Wallace - CE
John Leen - Member

Plumbers, Gasfitters & Drainlayers Federation of NZ

Wal Gordon - Chair
Wayne Morris - Member

PGDB

Peter Jackson - Chair
Graham Hardie - Member
Colleen Upton - Member
Martin Sawyers - CE



Jayson Thomas, Investigations Manager

An ex police officer with 9 years of his career spent as an investigator in the Criminal Investigation Branch, Jayson has also worked previously as a regulatory investigator for the Civil Aviation Authority.

Meet Lisa



Lisa Williams, Investigator

An ex Intelligence Analyst for the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Lisa joins the PGDB investigations team effectively strengthening the Board's intelligence capabilities. She has worked previously as a Senior Emergency Communications Operator for the NZ Police, is a trained interviewer and holds a NZ Certificate in Regulatory Compliance.

INVESTIGATIONS REPORT

Tune in

WE'RE STEPPING UP OUR MONITORING

Keeping intelligence and supervision at the forefront



New Investigator, Lisa Williams, has recently joined the Board's investigations team. Lisa will be providing added focus on supervision breaches and the targeting of those engaging in unauthorised work across the country.

Poor supervision is a serious and concerning issue that continues to arise. Don't make supervision one of your mistakes in 2017. Ensure your understanding is clear. Supervision requirements formed the basis of topic one in your 2016 CPD handbook. Dig this up and refresh on your requirements. If you have misplaced your handbook you can still download a copy at www.pgdb.co.nz/trade/cpd.

Lisa's role will also involve monitoring of the RAC app reports and to deal with any complaints and information received through this channel. If you do have information with regard to unauthorised work - let Lisa know by making a report through the RAC app.

Lisa's knowledge of regulatory compliance and her intelligence analysis capabilities are set to effectively strengthen the Board's intelligence functions, and further the investigation team's capabilities in the planning and targeting of enforcement action.

IN THE NEWS

Media watch



Boom threatens different kind of boom

Many of the nation's baby boomers are selling their baches in exchange for a motor home or caravan - which prompted the Board to issue a consumer warning through the media this month.

The Board reported an upsurge in complaints about unauthorised gasfitting of motor homes, camper vans and caravans.

Complaints increased in the 2016/17 year, compared to the previous year - and the increase in people with motor homes has seen a corresponding rise in gasfitting problems.

For example, a man was fined \$5000 earlier this year; he did not hold a gasfitting licence when he installed a refrigerator and gas pipes, connected the pipes to the gas supply and installed a ventilation system for the gas appliance in a motorhome.

His work created a substantial risk that the fridge would overheat and fail - and it did so - and it created a risk of a gas leak, in turn creating a risk that a fire or explosion could result.

Another example concerned an illegal installation of an LPG refrigerator and a flue in a motor home. The work was reported by a registered gasfitter.

Bruce Lochore, chief executive of the New Zealand Motor Caravan Association (NZMCA), also says there is no doubt motor home, camper van and caravan numbers are increasing on New Zealand roads.

He says, over the last two years they have grown by 14,000 and by 10,000 for the two years before that.

That is effectively 50 per cent growth in four years; Lochore says it is being spurred by retired baby boomers selling up baches in exchange for a cheaper, more mobile holiday experience.

The best illustration of growth is the Covi Show, held every year at the ASB showgrounds. Last year, they sold \$18m-\$19m of motor homes and caravans. This year, it swelled to \$30m.

This upswell in motorhome numbers has brought with it a problem, especially for those who buy a used campervan or motorhome where gasfitting has already been done.

It is a dangerous risk, and the NZMCA says they always encourage their members to go to a licensed gasfitter and refer them to a website where they can find them.

Consumers have also been informed that if the gasfitting has not been done by a licensed professional, the danger level is that it could be a ticking time bomb if the work is defective. And, Gasfitting Certificates are needed for insurance purposes, and when the motor home is re-sold. The Board's message on this subject - the \$50,000 maximum fine is so heavy because gas is such a tricky thing to deal with and the dangers are real.

[SEE MORE @ PGDB.CO.NZ/CONSUMER](http://www.pgdb.co.nz/consumer)

Discover More



The law even politicians don't know

21 Jul, 2017 2:42pm
⌚ 4 minutes to read



Cowboy tradesmen being corralled

18 Jul, 2017 9:56am
⌚ 5 minutes to read



Sam Wood,
Trade Advisor/Investigator

A Certifying plumber and gasfitter with 13 years' experience, Sam also holds a BA majoring in political science and international relations and a minor in development studies. Sam has also owned his own plumbing/gasfitting business.

Tech tips

COMMON CONCERNS

9kg LPG cylinder installation



Recently I have been receiving calls around concerns over gas installations involving a 9kg LPG cylinder.

The main themes with the questions seem to be:

- Restricted gasfitting that under old legislation was exempt;
- A 9kg LPG cylinder located indoors; and
- A 9kg LPG cylinder used incorrectly to inadequately supply appliances.

This tech tip will briefly address the following concerns;

RESTRICTED GASFITTING

The Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 2006 defines gasfitting as restricted work. Which means only gasfitters authorised by the Board can do gasfitting.

Gasfitting in the Act is generally defined as any work involved in installing, altering or repairing gas appliances; including the fixing or unfixing of any gas pipes, ventilation or flue pipes, commissioning gas appliances and ensuring their safe operation. This includes the testing, setting, checking and adjusting of safety devices, combustion conditions and controls associated with the gas installation and ensuring there is adequate ventilation.

Restricted gasfitting includes work on appliances fitted to ships, boats, caravans, motorhomes, trains and any other vehicles. It also includes work on gas appliances fixed within buildings that are supplied by a gas cylinder of any size.

Work that is not defined as restricted gasfitting includes work on portable gas appliances which have the gas cylinder attached such as BBQ's, cabinet heaters and patio heaters. Although, the Board strongly recommends that a gasfitter is used when maintaining or servicing these items.

A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE FROM 2010 ONWARDS

When the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 2006 came into force in 2010 there was a significant change regarding gasfitting work involving 9kg LPG cylinders.

In the 1976 Act, gas installations that were supplied by 15kg LPG cylinders or less did not have to be installed by a gasfitter. This exclusion was removed from the definition of gasfitting under the 2006 Act. This means that now only authorised gasfitters can work on installations supplied with LPG gas cylinders of any size.

Note; It is not a legal requirement for old installations that were previously exempt under the old Act to be retrospectively certified.

However; when a gasfitter does any work on an old installation it is a requirement that they issue a gas certificate for the work they carry out.

If the existing installation does not meet the compliance standards that applied at the time it was installed but is not unsafe, it is advisable to inform the owner of the matter. It is their choice to have any remedial work carried out.

Informing the owner is best done in writing noting what the non-compliance matters are to the standard relevant at the time.

If the gasfitter carries out any gasfitting work and connects the gas supply they must issue a Gas Safety Certificate. Failure to certify may affect the owner's insurance. It is also a breach of the Gas (Safety and Measurement) Regulations 2010. This also includes work on appliances when the gas hasn't been disconnected.

INDOOR LOCATIONS

Gas cylinder location is an important part of compliance. It's highly recommended that gas cylinders are located outside. However, where cylinders cannot be located outdoors there are allowances for a 9kg LPG cylinder to be installed indoors for a gas cooker. AS/NZS 5601.1:2013 6.10.1.8 outlines some of the conditions for a gas cylinder to be installed indoors.

Areas which need to be taken into account include clearances from ignition sources, ventilation, connection types and length of hoses.

Ideally, the cylinders will be installed outdoors, in this case AS/NZS 5601.1:2013 appendix J outlines many of the requirements for location.

CORRECT USE

Some appliances will not run off a 9kg LPG cylinder properly. This is because the appliance may require a large vapourisation and flow of gas.

For example, a 9kg LPG cylinder will not sustainably supply the required vapourisation and flow of gas to a high demand appliance such as a continuous flow water heater. If a 9kg LPG cylinder was to supply the continuous flow water heater it will not work to its optimum capacity, may have incomplete combustion and; may cause the appliance to work intermittently, if at all. Part of the requirement of an installation being compliant is that the supply must be capable of meeting the demand. Appendix J8 in AS/NZS 5601.1: 2013 shows the vaporisation capacity for different size cylinders.

In summary, all gasfitting that is supplied by a 9kg LPG cylinder is restricted work. An authorised gasfitter must be used to ensure that the work is executed correctly.

**JOIN
OUR
TEAM!**

Opportunity knocks

BUILDING OFFICER - PLUMBING & DRAINAGE

Are you looking for an opportunity to help meet the high demands of development growth in Palmerston North and Feilding?

The Palmerston North City Council are looking for a Building Officer with plumbing and drainage expertise to undertake inspections, process consent applications and provide quality advice to customers. It's a big responsibility signing off building consent work, and one that they take very seriously.

As a member of the Building Services team, you'll be applying your knowledge of the Building Act and other relevant legislation to ensure that the building work done around the area is safe and to an acceptable standard.

Your good communication skills coupled with a customer focus will ensure that those you are working with, from developers to members of

the public, can understand their rights and obligations under building legislation. You'll also be comfortable relating to a wide range of people and in a large variety of environments.

Applications are being sought from those who have a strong background in plumbing and drainage. Previous experience working for a Building Consents Authority would be an advantage. You will need a good level of computer skills and the ability to learn with little difficulty. It's important that you have a reasonable level of fitness as you may be required to walk around building sites, climb ladders, and manoeuvre in small spaces when inspecting. Applications close 20 August 2017.

Please apply online today at:

www.pncc.govt.nz/yourcouncil/careersincouncil/jobs/

NZQA notice

- The New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) has recently changed the way in which it assesses the qualifications of overseas trained plumbers, gasfitters and drainlayers.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

- NZQA will no longer carry out the assessment to the equivalent of the NZ Certificate in plumbing, gasfitting, and drainlaying at level 4.
- Overseas qualified applicants now need to go through The Skills Organisation's Skills Recognition process in order to have qualifications assessed to progress to pre-registration.

WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION?

- Refer to the introduction guide for overseas-qualified people on the Board's website at:
www.pgdb.co.nz/trade/working-overseas
You can also give Skills a call:
0508 754 557

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

As the NZQA IQA is a requirement in the Gazette notice, the Board will need to change the Gazette notice. A consultation document will be available on the Board's website soon.

Keep an eye on future Info Brief newsletters for notification.

Get Involved

skills.

Your apprentices are the future of the plumbing, gasfitting, and drainlaying industry.

Do you want to have a direct say in how their training is developed?

Skills are giving employers across the country the opportunity to do just that. They are asking you to 'Get Involved' on their new website and tell them what you think plumbing, gasfitting, and drainlaying apprenticeships should look like.

You'll get to see what your industry peers think and join in a national discussion about the future of training.

DON'T MISS OUT ON THE CONVERSATION!

New apprenticeship programmes are on their way, and due to be launched in January next year. This is a great time to throw in your two cents.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO GET INVOLVED?

- Get chatting. Our new Get Involved website is designed to get you chatting with like-minded peers. Anyone can start a forum for people to discuss hot topics.
- Share your thoughts. Got a great idea you need to share with the industry? Just pop it up on the website and let the world know.
- Answer surveys. Share your input through our survey specifically on the new programmes, and let us know what you think.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Head on over to:
www.getinvolved.skills.org.nz

You can start sharing your ideas straight away.

With technology comes change

EXAMINATIONS ONLINE

From June 2018 the tradesman examinations will be offered on a more regular basis. Given the technology available to us today, the Board is making the transition into electronic examinations.

While still maintaining a robust examination moderation system, going electronic will allow people wanting to become registered as tradesman plumber, gasfitter or drainlayer the ability to progress through the pathway to registration quicker than ever before.

HOW WILL IT WORK? WHAT'S NEW?

Examinations will be held on a regular basis and offered through an online platform, held at specified venues with monitored sitting conditions.

* The online system and enrolments will be managed by Aspeq Limited, instead of through the Board's staff.

WHERE WILL THE EXAMINATIONS BE HELD?

Every week in; Auckland, Hamilton, Lower Hutt, Motueka and Christchurch

Twice a month in; Whangarei, North Shore, Tauranga, New Plymouth, Palmerston North, Havelock North, Blenheim, Dunedin, Wanaka and Invercargill

By arrangement in; Rotorua, Greymouth, Oamaru, Timaru and some overseas locations.

WHAT'S REMAINING THE SAME?

- Eligibility criteria, pass marks and fees.
- The option to be provided with extra time or reading/writing assistance when appropriate.



- The result appeal process.
- Certifying examinations will still be paper based and available twice a year.

WHAT'S GOING TO BE DIFFERENT?

- Examinations will be available during week-days instead of weekends.
- Examinations for any of the trades will be available at each sitting.
- There will be a maximum of 12 spots available at each sitting.
- The examination venues will change.
- Resources will be available in soft-copy only unless special conditions are approved.
- There will be no questions requiring long written answers.
- Examination results will be available within 24 hours (unless specified differently).
- An administration fee will be charged by Aspeq for transfer or cancellation requests (only available up to 5 working days prior to the examinations).

CAN I SIT THE EXAM AS MANY TIMES AS I NEED?

- Yes. But, only enrol to sit the exam if you have prepared for them and you are confident you have a fair chance of passing. Sometimes, however, it can take more than one attempt to pass. The electronic system will allow you to book your second attempt as fast as the next available sitting, but it will enforce a 3-month stand-down period after a second failed attempt.

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Go to www.pgdb.co.nz/trade



SEE THE TV COMMERCIAL ON THE BLOCK,
1 NEWS NOW, 3 NEWSHUB AND FAIRGO

SORT THE PROS FROM THE CONS



Jonathan Smith

- Certifying
- Tradesman
- Journeyman



Details of the
to carry out a



ASK TO SEE THEIR CARD

Find out more at www.pgdb.co.nz

New Zealand homes have a complex network of pipes and fittings that can be under high pressures, high temperatures, gas, electricity and other hazards. For all plumbing, gasfitting and drainlaying work, you need an authorised professional. But how do you make sure they really are one? Ask to see their card.

email comms@pgdb.co.nz for promotional material