

Building Regulation News Updates are issued as and when necessary, to keep the Tasmanian Building Industry informed of developments occurring in the industry, Building Code of Australia (BCA) and its referenced documents and legislation.

Purpose

This *News Update* is to inform building practitioners, councils, permit authorities, and building owners of the appointment of an Audit and Compliance Officer to investigate and enforce building legislation.

Appointment of Audit and Compliance Officer – Gail Dew

The Director of Building Control, Mark Smith, is pleased to announce that Mrs Gail Dew (pictured) has been appointed as Audit and Compliance Officer for the Building Control Division of Workplace Standards Tasmania. She took up her new position in April 2007.



Gail has provided these words of introduction about herself:

“My name is Gail Dew and I have just taken on the role as the Audit and Compliance Officer for Building Control. In this role I am answerable directly to the Director. I am looking forward to meeting those of you involved in the building industry within Tasmania whether it is through the actual industry, Councils, the education system or any other direct or indirect involvement in the industry. I look forward to meeting as many people as I can from all sectors of the building industry over the next few months”.

A large part of my role is to ensure that everybody, whether an owner-builder, an accredited building practitioner, a Permit Authority or a Council is following the regulatory processes as detailed in the relevant acts that affect the building industry. This will be achieved mainly through compliance checks, auditing and investigative processes. Over the last few weeks I have been attending meetings with the representatives from the builders organisations and councils. Furthermore, a survey was mailed out to over 70 accredited Building Surveyors and Assistant Building Surveyors. I have also started visiting building sites as part of my duties.

For most of my working life I have worked in regulatory roles in one way or another. Back in the late 80's to early 90's I was employed as a plain-clothes investigator with the Australian Federal Police and I was based in Sydney. I worked in the Major Crime Squad where I investigated fraud offences. In 1998/99, I completed the Certificate III in OH &S and Certificate IV in Management – Frontline and Human Resources modules.

I then commenced work for another Commonwealth Government Agency where I worked mostly in their Debt Management Services as a complex case officer. During this role, I followed investigative processes to manage difficult debt recovery. Recently I was employed with Burnie City Council as Compliance Officer dealing with a range of local government issues. I helped to set up procedures, processes for obtaining compliance for building, planning, environmental health, and by-laws. My role included carrying out investigations, and compiling briefs of evidence.”

L Mark Smith

Director of Building Control

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