VBA terminates contract with plumbing auditor

The Victorian Building Authority (VBA) has terminated its contract with the company engaged by the former Plumbing Industry Commission to provide plumbing audit and inspection services on its behalf.

The decisive action comes after the industry regulator identified serious irregularities in Casey Inspection Service’s paperwork. This follows two formal unrelated breaches of the contract.

“It is a serious matter to provide incorrect information about the completion of audits and rectification notices,” the VBA’s Chief Executive Officer, Prue Digby, said.

“The VBA gave Casey every opportunity to improve its service delivery and initiated an exhaustive audit monitoring program of Casey’s activities. However, the latest incident and two earlier unrelated breaches demonstrate that Casey did not satisfactorily perform the services it was required to on behalf of the VBA.”

The termination will see the contract end on 5 November 2014. Ms Digby said the action taken by the regulator demonstrates that anyone undertaking statutory functions on its behalf must meet agreed performance standards. Underperformance by a supplier acting on behalf of the VBA will not be tolerated.

Ms Digby said the VBA acted as soon as it identified the issue.

“Given the seriousness of the allegations of falsifying documents, the VBA took action to ensure that the matter was swiftly and decisively addressed,” Ms Digby said.

The VBA will continue to closely monitor the performance of Casey Inspection Services until the contract ends.

The VBA has referred the matter to the relevant authorities.

ENDS

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