Regional sheds under the spotlight

The Victorian Building Authority has visited more than 160 properties in the Bendigo area to investigate shed construction in regional Victoria.

VBA Chief Executive Officer Prue Digby said the VBA was carrying out the proactive compliance program to ensure that sheds are built in accordance with the Building Regulations 2006 and Building Act 1993.

“Domestic building work that costs more than $5000 must be carried out by a registered building practitioner. This includes sheds that have a floor space larger than 10m².”

The VBA identified several areas of concern during the inspections. These include:

- sheds that may not have been built by registered builders or owner-builders who have been issued with a certificate of consent
- practitioners allegedly advising consumers that they need to become owner-builders
- issues with building site signs.

All the sheds inspected were built between January 2012 and January 2014, and involved owner-builders.

The VBA is further investigating the issues identified as a result of the program.

“As the industry regulator, it is the VBA’s role to help ensure everyone involved in building work in Victoria complies with the relevant laws and regulations,” Ms Digby said.

ENDS

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