VBA operation focuses on Domestic Builder – Managers

The Victorian Building Authority (VBA) has inspected more than 140 sites operated by Domestic Builder – Managers (DB-Ms) in Melbourne’s western suburbs, to ensure that building works are being carried out in compliance with building legislation.

The VBA’s field-based compliance program identified several common issues, including sites without approved building plans or site signs, and instances of unregistered tradespeople carrying out work that must be done by registered building practitioners.

The VBA’s Director of Compliance and Performance, Murray Smith, reminded DB-Ms that they need to use registered practitioners on their projects.

“All building work costing more than $5000 must be carried out by a registered building practitioner, even if the work is being overseen by a DB-M,” Mr Smith said.

“Registered DB-Ms need to be aware of the restrictions associated with their registration, and ensure they employ registered building practitioners on their projects where required.”

“During the inspections, VBA Compliance Officers also identified some projects that didn’t have site signs or approved building plans on site. Practitioners of any class must make sure they display a compliant site sign and have a stamp-approved building plan on their site at all times, as this is a legal requirement for all building sites,” Mr Smith said.

Following the inspections, the VBA is following up with some of the DB-Ms visited to ensure they understand their obligations and the requirements of their registration.

As DB-Ms are responsible for the work they are contracted to do, and for the work completed by their employees, they need to ensure that their employees have the required knowledge, experience, qualifications and insurance to do the work properly.

For more information about Domestic Builder – Managers, visit Domestic Builder Overview and FAQ Booklet on the VBA website at www.vba.vic.gov.au

ENDS

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