Subordinate Legislation Act 1994

NOTICE OF DECISION

Building Act 1993

As Minister responsible for the Building Act 1993, I give notice under section 12 of the Subordinate Legislation Act 1994 that further to public consultation on a regulatory impact statement (RIS), I have decided to recommend that the Plumbing Regulations 2018 be made, replacing the Plumbing Regulations 2008, which expire on 18 November 2018.

Following feedback in the submissions to the RIS, I intend that the Plumbing Regulations 2018 will include amendments to the draft regulations released for public comment in June 2018. The amendments are in response to feedback as follows:

- Practitioners in all classes will be required to have two years of experience as a registered plumber before being eligible for licensing, rather than the proposal to set a period of one or two years depending on the risk profile and complexity of each class. This responds to feedback received during the public consultation period regarding the risks inherent in all plumbing work and the level of responsibility required of all licensed plumbers.

- The qualification requirements for registration in type B gasfitting work include a minimum Certificate III level qualification that provides underpinning knowledge in type B gasfitting work. This will ensure individuals have an acceptable level of knowledge and skills while providing the flexibility to assess individuals from a range of training backgrounds relevant to the type B sector.

- The proposed new class of refrigerated air conditioning (basic systems) work has been removed. This work will remain part of the scope of the class of mechanical services work. This decision was based on additional information about the risks posed by unsafe work on refrigeration systems to both practitioners and consumers.

- Practitioners licensed or registered in the class of mechanical services work will now only be permitted to install and commission basic refrigerated air conditioning systems. This better reflects the training that practitioners receive. The introduction of this change will be delayed until 18 November 2019 to allow time for practitioners to apply for appropriate licences or registration.

- Changes to hot water requirements outlined in Section 8.6 of the RIS have been removed from the regulations and will be the subject of further detailed consultations with manufacturers and other stakeholders.

After the proposed regulations are made, they will become available for download from www.legislation.vic.gov.au

HON. RICHARD WYNNE MP
Minister for Planning