1. In July 2008, the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) agreed to establish a national licensing system for specified occupations.
2. The system will see a national approach to the licensing of a range of economically important occupations aimed at reducing the regulatory burden on businesses and individuals and promoting greater workforce mobility. Once established, workers and contractors in specified occupations will be issued with a single national licence allowing them to work anywhere in Australia without additional compliance or fee obligations.
3. The national licensing system will initially be applied to seven broad occupational areas: air conditioning and refrigeration mechanics; building; electrical; land transport (dangerous goods and passenger vehicles); maritime; plumbing and gasfitting; and property agents.
4. The Commonwealth government released a Regulation Impact Statement on the proposed national licensing system in October 2008 and national consultation meetings were also undertaken with stakeholders in July and October 2008.
5. The Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for a National Licensing System gives effect to COAG’s 2008 decision to establish the national licensing system. The IGA sets out the high-level structural framework necessary to establish the national licensing system. The structural framework is premised on a national delegated agency model which preserves an ongoing administrative and service delivery role for state-based regulators.
6. The IGA does not contain information on specific occupational areas.
7. Cabinet approved the Intergovernmental Agreement for a National Licensing System to be signed.
8. Cabinet approved the Commonwealth Regulation Impact Statement accompanying the Intergovernmental Agreement as a basis for further development of the national licensing system.
9. Cabinet approved the Ministerial Council for Commonwealth-State Financial Relations being the responsible Ministerial Council to oversight the establishment of the national licensing system.
10. Cabinet noted that the Intergovernmental Agreement preserves Queensland’s existing home warranty insurance scheme.
11. Cabinet noted that the Intergovernmental Agreement protects Queensland’s budget and financial position during the development and implementation of the national licensing system.
12. *Attachments*
* [Intergovernmental Agreement for a National Licensing System for Specified Occupations.](Attachments/National%20Licensing%20IGA%2023March09.docx)
* [Commonwealth Regulation Impact Statement](Attachments/National%20Licensing%20Draft%20RIS.docx)