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HOUSING CODE GOES ONLINE

Processing of applications under the NSW Housing Code is set to become even more efficient and user-friendly after the signing of an agreement between two NSW Government agencies.

Minister for Planning, Tony Kelly, said the agreement between the Departments of Planning and Services, Technology and Administration, will see the trial of an online system for complying development applications on lots more than 450 square metres.

“Twelve councils and 10 private certifiers will be involved in the trial,” the Minister said.

Councils
- Bankstown;
- Blacktown;
- Gosford;
- Hills;
- Lake Macquarie;
- Liverpool;
- Rockdale;
- Port Macquarie-Hastings;
- Shellharbour;
- Sutherland,
- Tamworth;
- Tweed.

Private Certifiers
- Andson Building Certifiers;
- Building Code Certifications;
- Coastline Building Certification;
- Express Approvals;
- Local Certification Services (two representatives);
- MOHare Pty Ltd;
- P&D Pty Ltd;
- Private Certifiers Australia; and
- Urban City Consulting.

Mr Kelly said the Electronic Housing Code will use the NSW Government Licensing Service (GLS) which currently manages the online licensing systems for a number of NSW Government departments.

“GLS processes more than 100,000 online applications, renewals and amendments every month across 75 different licence types such as liquor, recreational fishing and home building,” the Minister said.

“The NSW Housing Code is already delivering streamlined, 10-day approvals for people wanting to undertake routine developments that meet relevant criteria and the introduction of an electronic system is the next step in furthering these efficiencies.

“This is a great example of State and local governments working together to deliver improved services for the public.”

The project is to be implemented in conjunction with the Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW and funded by the Federal Government’s Housing Affordability Fund.

The project is expected to be launched in February next year and will be expanded into other NSW local government areas once the initial pilot is complete.

Electronic Housing Code can be found at http://www.ehc.nsw.gov.au