

Noal Mullins  
Chairman  
Master Painters Australia Limited  
PO Box 1355  
Camberwell Vic 3124  
Mobile 0428842999

The Hon Matthew Mason-Cox MLC  
Minister for Fair Trading  
GPO Box 5341  
Sydney NSW 2001

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2015

Dear Minister

Re: Changes to the NSW Licensing Laws

The recent changes to the NSW Licensing laws are a backward step for the painting trade in NSW.

With the pretext of simplifying paper work, a painter will not need to have a licence or a contract for work undertaken under \$5000.00 for inside painting.

There are many technical reasons why a tradesman should be trained for the work they undertake.

For example, many houses were painted with lead paint and contain asbestos.

If unlicensed people are allowed to work on these houses, there will be no control over the training and skill level of these people.

Lead dust and asbestos fibres can easily be left contaminating a work site. The occupiers of the house may not realise the health risks from this exposure.

These changes devalue the painting trade.

The Master Painters Australia Ltd would like to see National Laws or unified State Laws for the painting trade so that consumers can have the same protection across Australia.

With this change to the Licensing Laws there will be a large increase in complaints from the public to the Office of Fair Trading.

The MPAL is keen to discuss these changes with the Office of Fair Trading.

Yours faithfully



Noal Mullins

Chairman - Master Painters Australia Ltd