

National Occupational Licensing System



**National Plumbing Regulators Forum
Towards a national market**





National Legislation

The *Occupational Licensing National Law 2010* now passed in Victoria, NSW, Queensland and South Australia

- Amendments passed in Victoria will apply nationally
- The National Law is before the parliaments or about to be introduced in other jurisdictions

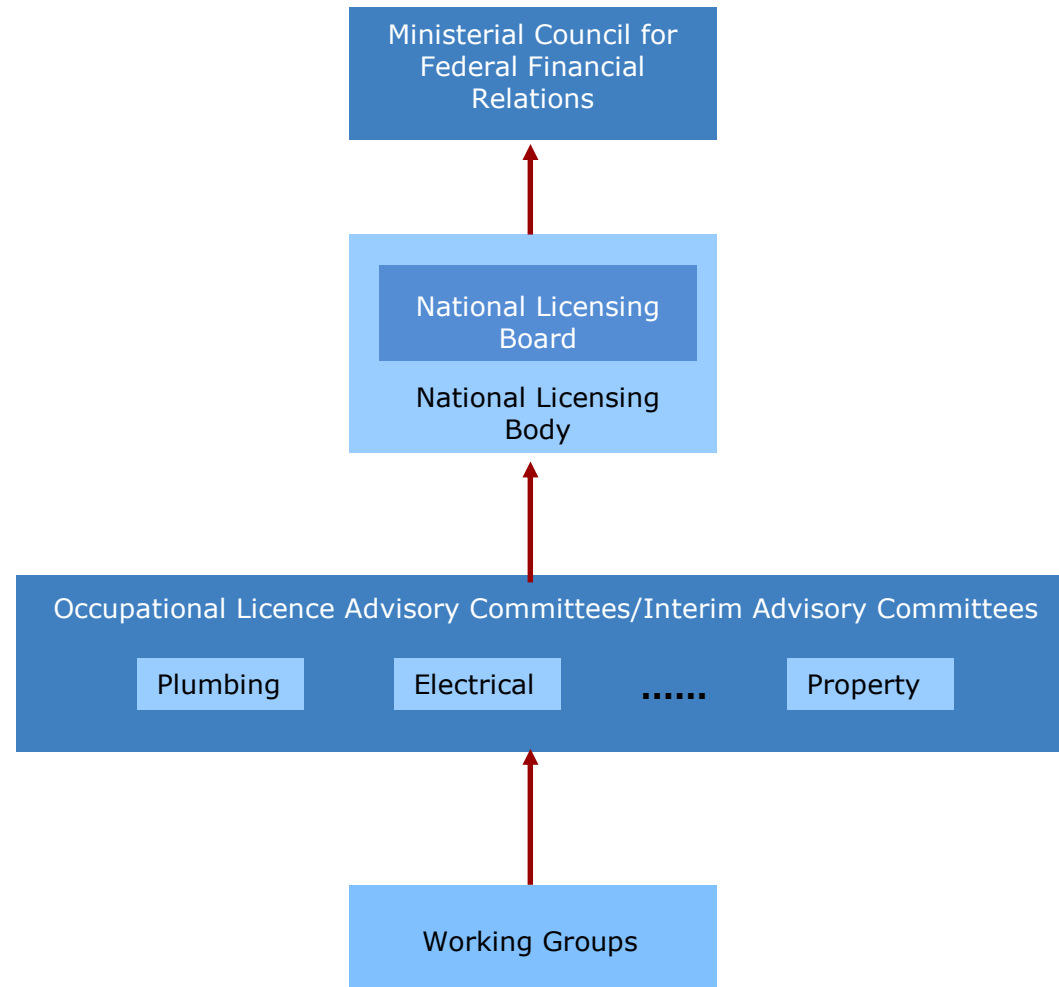


NOLS Occupational Areas

- First wave – by July 2012
 - Refrigeration mechanics and air conditioning
 - Electrical
 - **Plumbing and gasfitting**
 - Property Agents (excluding conveyancers & valuers)
- Second Wave – after July 2013
 - Building and building related occupations
 - Conveyancers & valuers



Governance Arrangement (development of licensing policy)





Objectives and Principles

- Give an equivalent focus on
 - consumer protection
 - public and worker safety
- Skill eligibility requirements for a licence will be based on national Training Packages –
 - NOLS will have input into TP development – no duplication of effort

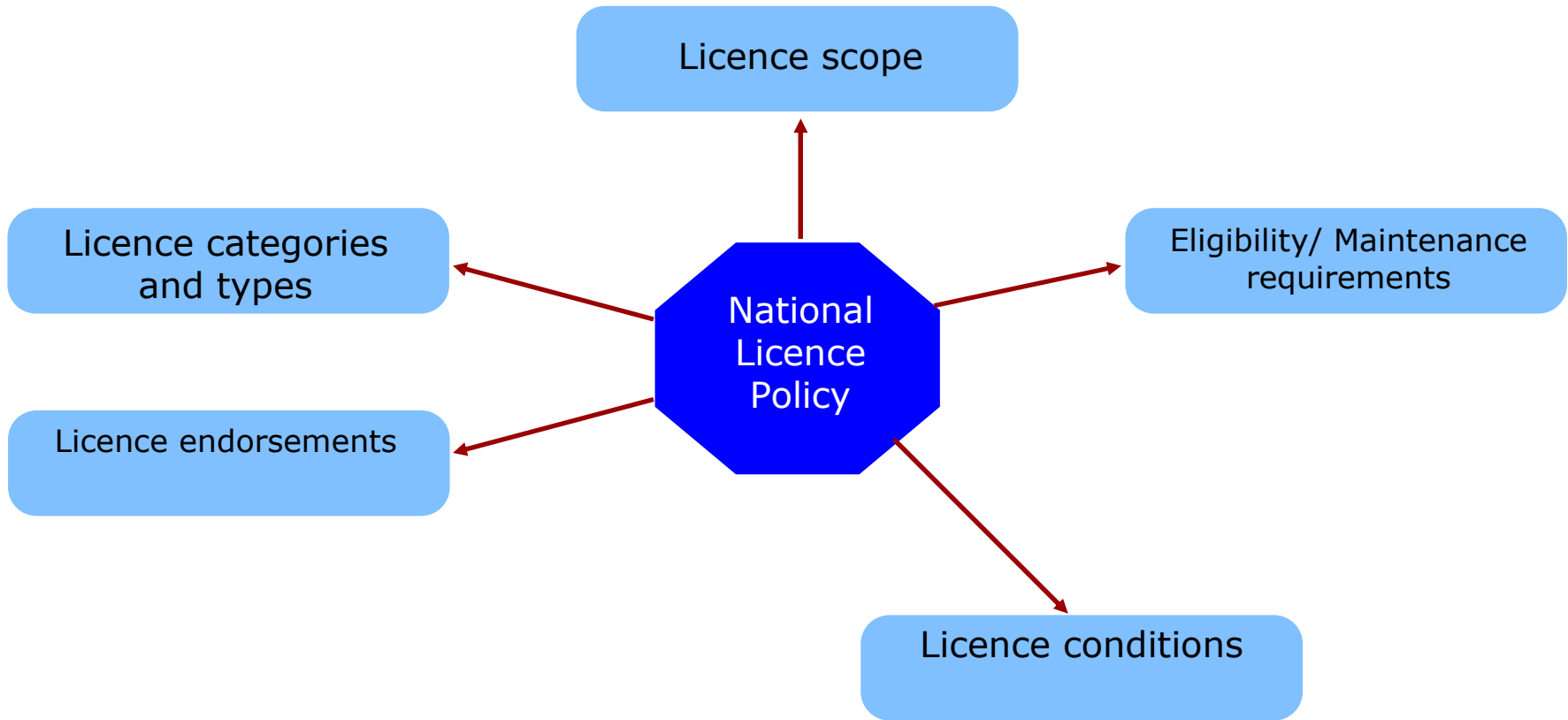


Stakeholder Involvement – Interim Advisory Committees (IACs)

- IACs are the primary source of advice for licence policy – established for plumbing & gas fitting; electrical; refrigeration & air-conditioning; and property occupations
 - Membership balances regulation, employer and employee perspectives, safety, consumer, advocacy, insurance (where relevant) and training
 - They have developed licence types and categories for each occupational area (to be finalised in 2010-11)
 - They are supported by a Regulator Working Group



Licence Policy Development





IAC advice for plumbing and gasfitting licences

- Three types of licences
 - Licence (supervised) – certificate III qualification
 - Certifier licence – certificate III qualification plus specified certificate IV competencies
 - Contractor licence – no skill based eligibility but financial and personal probity requirements

in the following work categories:

Water plumbing	Sanitary plumbing
Drainage	Roof plumbing
Gasfitting general	Gas type B appliance
Mechanical services	Fire protection



Licensing follows training

- Certificate III packaging rules require a minimum of four work streams (two of which must be water and sanitary)
 - So new applicants will be eligible for a licence for at least 4 work categories
- Eg: Joe's Cert III is in water, sanitary, mechanical services, fire protection and drainage
 - Joe would be licensed for all five work categories.
- Ed's Cert III is in water, sanitary, drainage and roof plumbing – Ed would be licensed in these four work categories.



What does all this mean for existing licence holders?

- We have a **no disadvantage** principle
 - All current licence holders will be automatically transitioned into the new licensing structures, with conditions if necessary, to ensure that they can continue their current work.
- Details of transitional arrangements still being developed



National Licensing Register

- National register will record all licences issued under the NLS and will be available to all jurisdictions
 - Sharing compliance & enforcement information is an essential element for the national system
 - Differences in compliance and enforcement approaches can be accommodated in the national system
- A subset of this information will be publicly accessible
 - Privacy arrangements for publicly accessible information were a key concern for stakeholders



Where we are going

- Jan 2011- National Licensing Body established
- July 2011 –National Licensing Board & CEO appointed
- Second half 2011 – Draft regulations and Consultation Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) released for public comment
- End 2011 – Ministerial Council considers finalised regulations and Decision RIS
- Early – Mid 2012 – Regulations made
- Jul 2012 – NOLS commences with first wave occupations
- By Jul 2013 - Second wave occupations included in NOLS



More information?

Look for more information and updates on the National Licensing website:



www.nola.gov.au