

**INQUIRY INTO FURTHER INQUIRY INTO THE
REGULATION OF BUILDING STANDARDS**

Name: Mrs Ash Guven
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I am writing this submission to address the current Design and Building Practitioners Act and the implication this act has on the Interior Design industry.

I'm a Student and doing a Diploma in Interior Design and planning to continue with my Advanced Diploma in Interior Design. My Study is not a joke, it is a very technical skill based program. My Diploma is counted for the first 2 years of Interior ARCHITECTURE and if I wish I can complete my study in UNSW Interior Architecture Bachelor with Honours, with 2 extra years and do a major in Architecture.

My Diploma in Interior Design makes me eligible for membership with the [Design Institute of Australia \(DIA\)](#) and [International Federation of Interior Architects/Designers](#) (IFI)

My biggest challenge as an Interior Designer, is to be underestimated all the time and even with a Bachelor in Interior Architecture not to be able to call myself Interior Architect. An Interior Designer is not a DECORATOR or STYLIST.

Given the professions 'similar names and the varying levels of industry registration and regulation, interior designer scope of professional services is often unknown and confusing and subsequently has seen the interior design industry overlooked in the act.

A Bachelor in Interior Architecture and Advanced Diploma in Interior Design is in Europe recognised as Interior Architecture and the regulations are much more clear.

Interior Designer is included as an occupation under the Australian & New Zealand Statistical Classification of Occupations (ANZCO) 23 Design, Engineering, Science and Transport Professionals | 232 Architects, Designers, Planners and Surveyors | 2325 Interior Designers | 232511 Interior Designer.

Including a category for Design Practitioners (interiors) in the Design and Building Practitioners Act and having a clear system of industry registration and regulation (**as currently exists in Victoria**) is the first step to educating Australian consumers on whether they will need input from an Architect, building designer, interior designer, or decorator for their project and ensuring compliance in their projects execution, which is my understanding on the act's aim.

My Study and future work includes detailed training in Australian Design Construction Building Standards and technical drafting's for

Class 5 An office building used for professional or commercial purposes

Class 6 A shop or other building for the sale of goods by retail or the supply of services direct to the public. Example: café, restaurant, kiosk, hairdressers, showroom or service station.

CLASS 2: Multi-unit residential building, or apartments where people live above or below each other or may also be single storey attached residential with a common space below (residential above common car park).

CLASS 1: Houses, single dwellings of a domestic or residential nature, terrace houses, row houses, or townhouses.

I'm highly trained in this order of work

- Establish scope of work required, program, budget and brief
- Develop functional needs and space requirements brief
- Inspection and analysis of site, its locality and surrounds
- Identify Safety Issues and code requirements

- Perform a site audit and investigation to determine current state of site and existing services
- Verifying key site dimensions and draft CAD building plans as necessary
- Integrate the development of secondary consultant design work into the planning and design of the project through meeting with consultants, suppliers, and contractors
- Preparation and co-ordination of plans and specifications for alterations to building interiors that affect the structure of the building, required to obtain costs, and construct the project
- Submitting plans and specifications for Authority approval including Development Applications and Complying Developments
- Liaise with the builder and other consultants on behalf of the property owner/tenant to ensure construction decisions are consistent with design intentions
- Evaluate and sign-off prototypes and samples to set standards of materials and workmanship for the project
- Periodic site visits during the construction period

Under the new Design and Building practitioners act "Interior Designers" who provide services involving building work for a Class 2 Building or buildings with a Class 2 part, (all other parts of the building including other Class 6 or Class 5 parts of a building) **will now be required to register designs and need to be a registered Design Practitioner to make compliance declarations.** Even if the design is only in relation to a part of a Class 2 building, such as one unit, or is a commercial space (retail store, restaurant/café, or office) within a mixed-use building, if it involves any Building Work or a Performance Solution, a Design Compliance Declaration is required

Qualifications in Interior Design (not Building Design) render me unable to declare my designs as compliant as I do not hold the relevant qualifications for registration, and currently there are no pathways to recognise interior designers' expertise to become registered.

Without the recognition of interior designers in NSW in the act it will restrict mine and many other small businesses from performing work that **we are skilled, qualified and experience to do.**

The new framework needs to be immediately reassessed to address the exclusion of interior designers in the Design and Building Practitioners Act.

Kind Regards

Ash Guven