

The Changing Role of the Fire Safety
Assessor

Leigh Gesthuizen (FPA Australia)

Alex Hoyle

Bill Lea

Mark Wilson (Philip Chun)



The Changing Role of the Fire Safety Assessor

Sub-heading text can go here



Welcome to our panel

- Leigh Gesthuizen (FPA Australia)
- Alex Hoyle
 - Guardian Mechanical and Building Services (GMBS)
 - Chair of FPA Australia's Accreditation Reference Group
- Bill Lea
 - · Ex President of FPA Australia
 - Infrastructure Maintenance and Engineering Australia (IMEA Group)
- Mark Wilson
 - Essential Services Consultant at Philip Chun Group

Audience

- Who is an APFS
- Who is from NSW

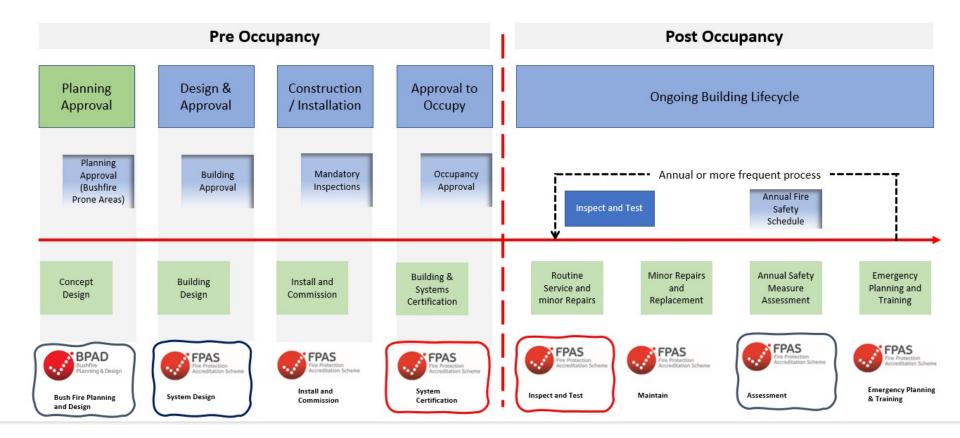


Why the Fire Protection Accreditation Scheme (FPAS)

- FPA Australia's mission to promote a world class fire protection industry
- Deliver education and direction on industry best practice
- Develop, maintain and recognize professional competence and conduct
- Create and deliver career pathways
- Advocate to government and other stakeholders for continuous improvement of policy, legislation, codes and standards
- Invest in research and advocacy to develop and implement improved fire protection



FPAS Program and the Building Timeline

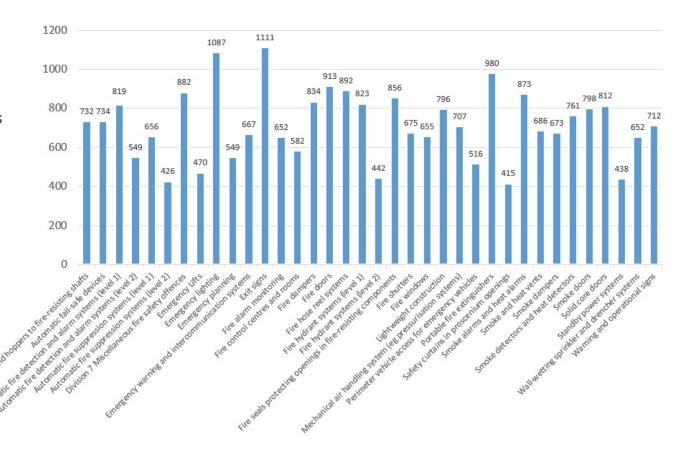


FSA Category has 36 Separate Measures

- 1630 accredited practitioners
- Most are accredited in multiple measures
- Some are accredited in all measures

Since Qualified Pathway commencing

67 Applications for FSA



Role of the Fire Safety Assessor

Environmental Planning and Assessment (Development Certification and Fire Safety) Regulation 2021

- 88 Annual fire safety statements
- (1) An annual fire safety statement is a statement issued by or on behalf of the owner of a building to the effect that—
- (a) each essential fire safety measure specified in the statement has been assessed by an accredited practitioner (fire safety) as capable of performing—
- (i) for an essential fire safety measure specified in the fire safety schedule—to a standard no less than that specified in the schedule, or
- (ii) for an original measure within the meaning of section 81—to a standard no less than that to which the measure was originally designed and implemented, and
- (b) the building has been inspected by an accredited practitioner (fire safety) and was found, when it was inspected, to be in a condition that did not disclose grounds for a prosecution under Part 15.
- (2) A person must not issue an annual fire safety statement unless the assessment and inspection have been carried out within the previous 3 months.
- (3) The owner of the building may choose a person to carry out the assessment or inspection.
- (4) The person who carries out the assessment referred to in subsection (1)(a) must inspect and verify the performance of each essential fire safety measure being assessed.

Question 1 (BL)

Since the introduction of the accreditation for practitioners, what effect has this had on the quality of Annual Fire Safety Statements?



Question 2 (AH)

When assessed, the essential safety measure was capable of performing to a standards no less than that specified in the schedule

What does performance actually mean? Is it compliance?

How should a practitioner deal with a measure where it does not comply?



Question 3 (MW)

Given the impact responded to in the previous question, what problems have been identified since the introduction of the accredited pathway?

Confusion?

Strata managers?

Training?

How is either industry or the DCS dealing with those problems?



Question 4 (All)

We have seen the Industry Report on reforms to improve fire safety in new and existing buildings. What does this mean and what reforms are still to come?

Will this change the way AFSS's are conducted now?

How will this apply to existing buildings?





Question 5 (All)

Knowing what we now know, what would you recommend to FPA Australia as the key focus areas for the next 1 to 3 years

One or two points per panellist.





Questions on notice?



Thank you to our panelists and audience

