Building Standards Approved Certifier

The Scottish Government

HOW DO I FIND AN APPROVED CERTIFIER OF DESIGN?

The Building Standards Division (BSD) of the Scottish Government operates the online Certification Register. The Register can be accessed from www.certificationregister.co.uk. This is the official source of information on all approved certifiers. You can also go to the RIAS Scheme website www.rias-regs.co.uk/design-certifiers/.

The Register is designed to help you identify individuals offering certification services in your area. Local authority Building Standards Verifiers also use the Register to check the validity of certificates submitted to them.

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RIAS

MEET THE GOVERNMENT'S HOUSING ENERGY STANDARDS:
USE AN RIAS ENERGY DESIGN CERTIFIER

WHY USE AN RIAS CERTIFIER?

All work on projects that require a building warrant, such as new build projects, extensios or refurbishments, must meet the requirement of the Section 6 (Energy) Scottish Technical Standards. However, calculating energy use is complex and is becoming more specialised. RIAS Approved Certifiers of Design are recognised by the Scottish Government andcan help building owners and developers meet these energy standards and they can issue *Certificates of Design* which provide assurance of compliance.

Approved Certifiers of Design can certify as part of a wider design service or certify the design of others as part of a multi-disciplinary team. They can guide you through the process of demonstrating compliance. A Section 6 Certificate of Design will:

- speed the warrant application process,
- give confidence that the project in question fully complies with the regulations,
- deliver particular benefits for historic or traditional buildings.

It can also save you money:

- Certification of Design reduces the warrant application fee by 10%,
- certifiers can advise on changes to the building specification as the work progresses without having to wait for the local authority's comments,
- certifiers can also generally provide Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) for new buildings which are compliant with the Energy Performance of Buildings (Scotland) Regulations. Failure to provide a compliant EPC on completion is an offence.

WHO ARE THE RIAS CERTIFIERS?

Membership is open to construction professionals who have demonstrated that they have the required qualifications, skills and experience in the energy performance of dwellings. ARB registered Architects, Chartered Technologists and CIBSE Corporate Members and Low Carbon Consultants all pre-qualify. Approved Certifiers of Design are subject to regular quality assurance audits to ensure that they are working to a consistently high standard.

THE PROCESS

Certificates of Design are produced through a secure online system. Applicants for building warrants using the certification process indicate on their warrant application that certification services are being used and include the relevant design certificate or the registration numbers of the Approved Certifier of Design (Section 6 – Energy), if the certificate is to be provided later in the process.

The Building warrant fee can be reduced by 10%, in addition to any other discounts available from providing Certificates of Design (Section 1 – Structures) and Certificates of Construction.

A Certificate of Design will cover the design of the building, part of a building, services or fittings or equipment certifying compliance against the requirements of the Building (Scotland) Regulations 2004 applicable to the application.