

# Plumbing newsflash number 427

## New penalty infringement notices for plumbing and drainage offences

### Purpose

To advise that new Penalty Infringement Notices (PINs) for plumbing and drainage offences have been included in the State Penalties Enforcement Regulation 2000.

### Background

The *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002* (PDA) and the Standard Plumbing and Drainage Regulation 2003 (SPDR) have 76 offence provisions. Departmental officers appointed as investigators to the Plumbing Industry Council can issue PINs for four of these offences. Local government officers can issue PINs for 11 offences.

PINs are a cost effective way of dealing with noncompliance to protect public health, safety and the environment. PINs also enable matters to be dealt with quickly without burdening the court system. Offences range from 1 penalty unit to 1665 units. One penalty unit is currently \$100.

### Legislation

*Plumbing and Drainage Act 2002*

Standard Plumbing and Drainage Regulation 2003

Plumbing and Drainage Regulation 2003

State Penalties Enforcement Regulation 2000

State Penalties Enforcement Amendment Regulation (No. 5) 2010

### Interpretation

On 20 May 2010, the State Penalties Enforcement Regulation 2000 was amended to:

- provide Plumbing Industry Council investigators and local government officers with the power to issue PINs for 59 offences under the PDA and SPDR; and
- increase the value of the existing PINs to align penalties with the severity of the offence.

The attached table lists the existing and new penalties, including the penalty values.

The powers of the authorised officers have been extended to 59 offences because the alternative to issuing PINs is to prosecute the matter in court, which can be a lengthy and costly process.

More serious offences may be prosecuted through the court at the discretion of local government or the Plumbing Industry Council.



## Contact for further information

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