



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.scotland.gov.uk/certificationregister. This is the official source of information on all approved certifiers. You can also go to the RIAS website www.rias.org.uk.

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.



THE ROYAL INCORPORATION OF ARCHITECTS IN SCOTLAND
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FRONT COVER:
MODEL 'D' HOUSE, GOKAY DEVECI CHARTERED ARCHITECT
(STUART JOHNSTONE PHOTOGRAPHY)

INSIDE:
TIGH NA CLADACH, GOKAY DEVECI CHARTERED ARCHITECT
(ANDREW LEE); MODEL 'D' HOUSE, GOKAY DEVECI CHARTERED
ARCHITECT (STUART JOHNSTONE PHOTOGRAPHY); WESTER
COATES HOUSE, ZONE ARCHITECTS (PAUL ZANRE)



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



WHY USE AN RIAS CERTIFIER?

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

The RIAS Energy Design Certifiers are highly qualified professionals and members of a scheme approved by the Scottish Government. They 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 (supplied by an RIAS Energy Design Certifier) will:

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

It can also save you money:

- lodging a Certificate with the warrant gives a 10% saving on the warrant application fee,
- 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 provide Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) for new dwellings 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 registered Architects, Chartered Members of the Chartered Institute of Architectural Technicians and other construction professionals who have demonstrated that they have the required qualifications, skills and experience in the energy performance of dwellings. Certifiers of Design are subject to regular quality assurance audits to ensure that they are working to a consistently high standard.

THE PROCESS

All RIAS-EDC Section 6 Certificates and EPCs 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. Submission of a certificate with the application guarantees the 10% discount on the warrant. A certificate may be submitted to the verifier at any stage of the building warrant process.

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.