

PUBLIC WARNING

27 June, 2014

Public Warning- Richard Kiely and various aliases, the latest being Darren O'Donoghue

This is a warning by the Commissioner of the QBCC to the public under section 20J(1)(h) of the *Queensland Building and Construction Commission Act 1991*

It is an updated version of warnings issued by the QBCC on 12 February and 7 April 2014.

The Queensland Building and Construction Commission (QBCC) is urging consumers, contractors and suppliers to be cautious in their dealings with Richard Kiely, also known as Darren O'Donoghue, Joseph Kiely, John Kiely, Cody Kiely, Darren Kiely, Shane Murphy and Richard Murphy.

Mr Kiely does not hold QBCC licences and is therefore not able to carry out, or enter into contracts to carry out, building work, (including roof restorations such as ridge pointing, tiling and painting), concreting, boulder walls, pergola construction, paving and retaining walls, in Queensland at a value of more than \$3,300.

Mr Kiely has been carrying out unlawful building work in the Kallangur, Albany Creek, Aspley and Chermside suburbs of Brisbane.

The QBCC has received complaints that Mr Kiely is taking up-front deposits and then not returning to complete the work. The QBCC has also received several complaints made against Mr Kiely for unlicensed contracting, no written contracts, excess deposits, incomplete work and defective work.

Mr Kiely is described as being of Irish descent with red hair and about 1.89m tall. Mr Kiely uses local signs and pamphlets dropped in letter boxes to advertise to carry out building work. He has more recently been using a business card which includes a trading name of 'First Choice Roofing' which does not belong to him. A copy of the card is included below.

Mr Kiely changes his mobile phone number on a regular basis so customers are unable to contact him about their complaints of defective and incomplete work.

The QBCC warns all persons dealing with Mr Kiely to exercise extreme caution and seek legal advice before making any payments, to protect their interests. The QBCC warns that the Queensland Home Warranty Insurance Scheme may not be available to all consumers if unlicensed contractors are engaged.

The QBCC urges homeowners to conduct research before engaging contractors, and recommends engaging a licensed contractor even for small jobs.

If you are in doubt as to whether the entity you are contracting with is licensed or holds the correct licence to do the work, please conduct an online licence search at www.qbcc.qld.gov.au or contact the QBCC on 1300 272 272.

Steve Griffin
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ENDS

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