CPD reminder – Agent fined for failing licensing requirements

The Department recently released a media release about a Spearwood real estate agent who has been fined for not meeting the mandatory CPD requirements.

Mark Alan Henderson was fined $5,000 for failing to fully complete the compulsory professional development (CPD) program, which was a condition of the renewal of his triennial certificate.

Apart from the fine, the agent was also ordered to pay costs of $600 by the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT) after a mediation agreement was reached on 17 January 2014.

In August 2012, Mr Henderson’s triennial certificate was renewed on the condition that he completed outstanding requirements of the CPD program from previous years (2007-2012) by the end of February 2013. Consumer Protection began disciplinary action against him when he failed to fully satisfy this condition by the deadline date.

The SAT also ordered that the agent’s licence and triennial certificate will be suspended for six months if he does not comply with the condition by 30 April 2014.

Commissioner for Consumer Protection Anne Driscoll said that the CPD program was essential to ensure the knowledge and skills of those working in the industry are current and relevant.

“The CPD program is designed to increase the professionalism of those working in the real estate and business broking industries, so it is imperative that licence and certificate holders comply completely with this very important licensing requirement,” Ms Driscoll said.

“Failure to complete the required training will leave industry participants open to disciplinary action and may jeopardise the renewal of their licence or certificate of registration.”

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Don’t put your licence or registration at risk in 2014!

The CPD program is mandatory for all licensed real estate agents and business brokers, as well as registered real estate sales representatives and property managers, and is designed to increase your knowledge, skill and professionalism in the real estate industry.

Licensees and registrants must accrue a minimum of ten CPD points over a 12 month period: three by attending prescribed mandatory activities and the remaining seven from approved elective CPD activities.

A comprehensive list of the mandatory and elective activities approved by the Department is available on its website.

A note to agents

Under the Code of Conduct for Agents and Sales Representatives, agents are responsible for ensuring all employees comply with the legislation, rules and regulations governing the industry. This includes the requirement for licensed or registered employees to meet their CPD obligations. Consumer Protection encourages agents to regularly check with employees that their CPD compliance is up-to-date. For privacy reasons, Consumer Protection is not able to provide employee CPD records to agents.

If you have any specific queries relating to your CPD obligations, please contact the CPD team directly on (08) 6364 3120 or email cpd@commerce.wa.gov.au

Training providers

The four approved training providers who offer mandatory activities are listed on the next page and are to be contacted directly for CPD bookings. Please note that mandatory CPD sessions are available in venues across the Perth metropolitan area and in selected regional locations. Under the terms of their contracts, training providers are not able to deliver mandatory CPD outside of Western Australia.

Distance Learning Packages are also available for those in remote locations who are unable to attend face-to-face CPD activities.
Please do not contact Consumer Protection to make bookings.

Central Institute of Training
Telephone (08) 6211 2349, www.central.wa.edu.au

LIVEPM
Telephone 1300 302 634, www.livepm.com.au

REIWA Learning
Telephone (08) 9388 8155, www.reiwalearning.com.au

West Coast Property Training
Telephone (08) 9300 0000, www.wcpt.com.au