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RICS approved to regulate Home Inspectors

The DCLG (Department for Communities and Local Government) has today approved RICS to regulate those members who wish to carry out home condition reports as part of the government's proposed Home Information Packs (HIPs).

Commenting on the approval Steven Gould, RICS Director of Professional Regulation and Consumer Protection, said:

"We are delighted to be able to provide this new, not-for-profit regulatory service to our members. RICS has an extensive regulatory regime in place for its members which is already in line with the Government's better regulation principles and we are pleased that this has been acknowledged by DCLG. RICS will be able to set a subscription rate for its members substantially below that of other prospective schemes, since it is already monitoring these members for key regulatory requirements such as lifelong learning, professional indemnity insurance, and complaints handling.

As everyone knows, we have had our differences in the past with DCLG over the details of the implementation regime adopted to deliver this aspect of the Housing Act, but we are committed to working with the Department and our members to improve the home buying and selling process for the benefit of consumers".

Ends.

About RICS

RICS is the mark of property professionalism worldwide. It covers all aspects of land, property, construction and associated environmental issues. RICS has 120,000 members globally and represents, regulates and promotes the work of these property professionals throughout 120 countries. RICS is governed by a Royal Charter approved by Parliament which requires it to act in the public interest. It is also a professional regulatory body approved by Government (HM Treasury).

Notes to Editors

RICS regulation is provided on a not-for-profit basis. RICS is inviting its members to register their interest in its scheme now and will announce further details shortly.

Energy Performance Certificates

An Energy Performance Certificate will provide buyers and sellers with A-G ratings on their homes, similar to fridge ratings, as well as a list of practical measures to cut their fuel bills and carbon emissions.

Home Inspectors

The only qualification that currently exists that will enable the holders to carry out Energy Performance Certificates for Home Information Packs is the Home Inspector qualification.

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