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Having spent almost every Saturday for the last year on the heartbreaking trail around the Sydney Inner West auction scene I see this as one solvable problem. Problem: Most houses near the city of Sydney are sold by auction, so numerous people need a pest and building report which can cost hundreds of dollars and which they will not use if they miss out on the house.

Solution: A government run inspection system run by people interested in having a permanent job. Maybe even some form of guarantee provided with the certificate as to its accuracy. Corruption is a real problem with this type of certification, this would have to be considered. I note car owners have the pink slip which only licenced mechanics sign..