Better buildings for NZ

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Thursday 27 May
Discussion for today

- Introduction to Building System Performance
- Building System Legislation Reform Programme
- Construction Sector Accord
- Building for Climate Change
- Effectiveness in consenting
- Questions
Building System Performance

Hīkina Whakatutuki “lifting to make successful”

Lifting performance of the sector to ensure safe, healthy, durable homes and buildings, supporting MBIE's goal to grow New Zealand for all.
Our strategic priorities

- Working alongside industry to lift up the sector
- Improving and simplifying the Building Code, whilst enabling innovation
- Improving efficiency in the Building system and providing fairer outcomes when things go wrong
Opportunities for innovation

• Limitations on quality – building defects, slow adoption of technology and high noise, waste and environmental impacts

• We’re working with a system designed for traditional construction with delays, inefficiency and duplication in the consenting process

• Lack of confidence and choice, including uncertainty about the quality of offsite construction and barriers to new and innovative manufacturers

• Demand for quality housing is not being met
Understanding performance

We’ve got a four-part framework for thinking about our performance

**People:** an available, accountable workforce with the right skills for the industry, and protection for consumers

**Processes:** make regulatory and commercial processes risk-based, balanced and efficient

**Products:** building products are reliable, fit-for-purpose and used appropriately. They contribute to safe and durable buildings

**Performance:** building system performance standards are clear and reasonable, and look to the future
Our annual Building Code update

• Consultation closes tomorrow!
• We’re proposing updates to encourage energy efficiency and more efficient HVAC systems
• We’re also proposing changes to improve natural light
• Changes are published in November
• mbie.govt.nz/have-your-say
We have proposed changes to building laws to:

- support a more efficient building system, with a manufacturer certification scheme for offsite manufacturing and prefabrication
- lift the quality of building work through minimum information requirements on building product
- strengthen the CodeMark scheme to build confidence and ensure innovative building products and methods comply with the Building Code.
Where are we now?

• The Bill has been reinstated by the new Parliament, and is now up to the third reading

• Regulations are the real engine room of the MCM scheme

• We’re currently consulting on the regs – see our flyer for more information! Closes at 5pm on Friday 11 June.
Construction sector accord

• Improve health and safety
• Ensure continuity of work and a long-term sustainable workforce
• Improve procurement practices
• Drive profitability and productivity
• Raise standards of leadership
• Ensure clear and efficient regulation
• Improve environmental sustainability
The Accord is going to be consulting soon on the key issues that the sector thinks should be addressed through the workstream.

We know one of the key issues – climate change.

MBIE’s Building for Climate Change programme really gearing up.

Will be working alongside the Construction Sector Accord Environment workstream.

Improving environmental sustainability
Building for climate change

The construction sector is major contributor to carbon emissions
• Need to change the way we build

We’ve been consulting on two frameworks:
• Operational efficiency of buildings
• Whole of life embodied carbon

We’re also starting to think about adaptation requirements – making our buildings resilient to the effects of climate change
Feedback so far

• 92% agreed the sector needs to take action to reduce emissions
• 95% agreed measures should be included to improve operational efficiency
• 87% agree initiatives to reduce whole of life embodied carbon in buildings should be included

Key barriers identified by architects and designers include a lack of an agreed methodology, inadequate data quality and availability, lack of appropriate tools or software, and administrative burden on businesses.
Building for climate change

Not a task that will be completed overnight
  • We’ll think about how we build in a completely different way

Building owners will be empowered
  • They’ll know their options and what to ask for to get an efficient build

We’re keen to collaborate on these opportunities
  • MBIE are already working with the sector, key stakeholders, iwi, local government and communities
  • We’ve signed up to a joint statement with Australia, Canada and the United States
A quick update on consenting

• The building sector working group has already met twice
• Huge amount of enthusiasm from across the sector about participation in the group
• Group has canvassed a range of issues that are potential areas of focus – the group sees multiple opportunities to make improvements in consistency and quality across the system without legislative or regulatory change

One idea we are exploring is around creating a template for a standardised operating environment – from the consent application and processing stage, through to the inspection and CCC issuing stage.
Better consenting

• The working group will also be an important testing ground for the work that is coming out of the wider policy review of the consenting system.

• We hope to be in a position to communicate more to the wider BCA community as we make progress on our initiatives.

• My door is always open for suggestions about how the sector identify or drive initiatives to create efficiencies across the system.
Questions

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