



MEMO

DATE 13 March 2019

TO Building Advisory Panel

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SUBJECT **BUILDING ADVISORY PANEL KEY POINTS**

To support your discussions with industry and member organisations, below are the headlines and more detailed points that relate to the items discussed at your 8 March 2019 BAP meeting.

HEADLINES

Government is supporting improvements to the building system so New Zealand has safe, healthy and durable buildings, and the right people with the right skills.

They want to partner with industry to improve the building system and boost performance. As a sector, we need to get involved and do our part to lift quality.

In April look out for the public consultation on some big changes to building law – find out what it means for you and have your say. Also in April, a joint agreement between government and industry on how to transform the industry is expected to be launched by the Minister.

BSP WORK PROGRAMME KEY POINTS

1. As a steward and the central regulator of New Zealand's building system, BSP has a role to play in promoting safe, healthy and durable buildings.
2. Government's plan for New Zealand is for an economy that is growing and working for us all; and to improve the wellbeing of New Zealanders and their families.
3. BSP has a busy work programme this year with five priority projects, and other emerging and system priorities.
4. The priority projects will enable and support the sector to respond to challenges, define a long-term measurable strategy for the building system, and promote partnership with industry.
5. Together these projects support improvements to the building system and the Government's plan for New Zealand. They focus on:
 - having clear roles and responsibilities so people know what they have to do



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- making sure people have the right information to make good decisions and do their jobs well
 - holding the right people accountable if things go wrong.
6. Over 700 people across the sector met with BSP last year helping them to understand the regulatory opportunities to lift performance.
 7. The priority projects are:
 - Construction Sector Accord
 - Building System Strategy
 - Building System Reform Programme
 - Skills Strategy
 - Building Code Delivery Framework.

SKILLS ACTION PLAN

8. Government and the building and construction sector are working together to improve skills and ensure skilled people are available now and into the future.
9. As a result of discussions and feedback from the sector, a cross-agency Construction Skills Action Plan was launched last October. It has six components covering:
 - Government procurement requirements around training for large construction projects;
 - The promotion of construction-related careers and qualifications through creating Job and Skills hubs, partnering with industry, supporting employer recruitment through Mana-in-Mahi (Strength in Work), and expanding the Skills for Industry partnerships;
 - Helping the sector with short-term work force needs through the review of Immigration Construction and Infrastructure skill shortage list.
10. It's expected this work will see an additional 4000 people in construction-related careers and qualifications over the next three years (2018-2021).

CONSTRUCTION SECTOR ACCORD

11. The Construction Industry Accord establishes a mutual commitment between government and the construction sector to work together to transform the industry for the success of New Zealand.
12. An Industry Development Group of building and construction sector leaders is developing the Accord to agree on a joint commitment to transform the industry. The Accord will outline industry challenges, key priorities for change (government and industry), and industry's contribution.
13. The Accord is expected to be launched in April 2019.



LEGISLATIVE REFORM PROGRAMME

14. Major building law changes are proposed for building products and methods, occupational regulation, risk and liability, the building levy, and offences and penalties.
15. It focuses on improving regulation and information for building products and methods (including off-site manufacturing). Occupational regulation looks at improvements to the Licensed Building Practitioner, engineers, and plumbers, gasfitters and drainlayers scheme. And rebalancing risk and liability, how it is allocated and customers are protected is also a focus. Risk and liability aims for fairer outcomes when things go wrong, complimenting work in building products and occupational regulation to lift quality so things go right in the first place.
16. It will also include reducing the rate of the Building Levy, and updating offences and penalties.
17. Feedback will be sought on the proposed changes in public consultation in April 2019. Legislation is planned to be introduced in 2020.