

# Department of Building and Housing

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Department of  
Building and Housing  
*Te Tari Kaupapa Whare*



# Our overall outcome

The people of New Zealand have access to quality homes and buildings that meet their needs, reflect our environment and contribute to a sustainable New Zealand



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# About the Department

- Established November 2004
- Brings together building and housing sector policy and related regulatory functions, and dispute resolution services from across a range of government agencies.



# Department's responsibilities include:

- Ensuring an effective regulatory environment for the building and housing sector
- Delivering effective information, advice and dispute resolution services
- Providing policy advice to the Government on the building sector and residential tenancy market
- Analysing the housing environment
- Administering legislation such as the Building Act 2004, Residential Tenancies Act 1986, Weathertight Homes Resolution Services Act 2006, and Retirement Villages Act 2003.



# Department – key facts and figures

- Employs 350 staff across New Zealand
- Annual budget of around \$70 million
- Answer around 500,000 calls each year about building, housing and tenancy issues via our 0800 freephones
- Provide information, advice and dispute resolution services in 85 communities around New Zealand



# Legislation administered

The Department administers over 20 pieces of legislation, including:

- Building Act 2004 and regulations
- Residential Tenancies Act 1986
- Weathertight Homes Resolution Service Act 2006
- Construction Contracts Act 2002
- Retirement Villages Act 2003.



# CEO Katrina Bach

- Sector capability – Nigel Bickle
- Service Delivery – Vacant
- Building Quality – David Kelly
- Policy Suzanne Townsend
- Strategy – Maria Robertson
- Corporate – Anne Clark
- Sector monitoring - vacant





# Sector Strategy and Research Agenda



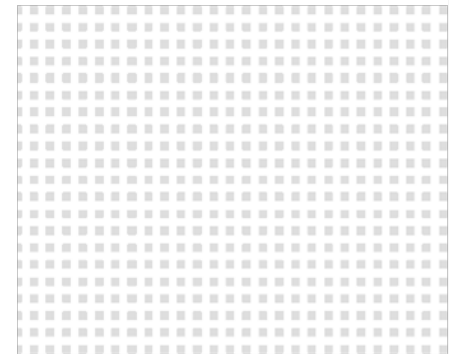
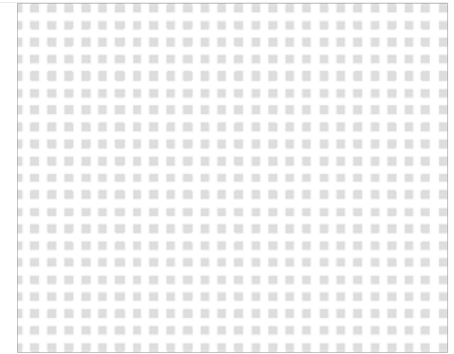
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# Background

- The sector is fragmented
- Difficult to present a sector view to Government
- Difficult for Govt funding agencies to interface with industry
- Sector needs to recognise and to deal with challenges ahead
- Interest from industry in a coherent sector strategy and program looking forward



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# A Sector Strategy

- Recognises the challenges ahead
- Identifies what needs to happen for the Sector to manage these challenges
- Covers both short term and medium/long term issues
- Identifies actions that need to happen
- Leads to a Sector Research Agenda



# Sector Research Agenda

- Identifies research that is needed
- Allows priorities to be set on research
- Allows engagement with FRST and MoRST
  - Influence funds available for research
  - Influence areas funds are applied to
- Potentially enable a stable funding platform for sector research through FRST



# Way forward

- DBH role?
- Needs industry support and endorsement from industry leaders
- CIC have a role
- BRANZ are committed to support



# How could it happen?

- Establish a high level industry sponsor group
- Establish a steering group to develop a process
- Communicate the Strategy/Research Agenda process to the Sector
- Develop the strategy/agenda as agreed
- Consult with the industry on the findings
- Finalise the Strategy/Agenda



# Alternative process

- Establish a high level industry sponsor group
- Establish a steering group to develop a draft Strategy/Agenda
- Consult with industry on the draft



# Building and Construction Industry Taskforces



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# Two industry led taskforces

## Sector productivity

- Also looking at procurement practice
- Chair Peter Fehl, Director Property Services, Auckland University

## Urban Intensification

- Chaired by Richard Harris, President NZIA



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- Taskforces supported by DBH
  - Sector performance role
  - Sector leadership role on behalf of Government including interest in the quality of the wider built environment
- Taskforces reporting to Industry Forum in mid-2009



# What will the Taskforces focus on?

- Sector Productivity
  - Improving NZ's skill development system for this sector
  - Specific skill development needs – eg: specific trades, general management development
  - Making the sector a more attractive place to work – eg: better career paths within and across trades
  - Better procurement models to reduce whole-of-life costs and potential cost-overruns
- Urban Intensification
  - What would make intensified housing more desirable for consumers – especially families
  - Smoother process to facilitate intensification developments



## Sector Productivity

Peter Fehl (Chair)

- Peter Neven (Fletchers)
- Peter Gomm (Mainzeal)
- Brett Mettrick (Master Builders)
- Richard Merrifield (CBA)
- Trevor Kempton (Naylor Love)
- Richard Michael (Contractors Fed)
- Ruma Karaitiana (BC ITO)
- Peter Mersi (Treasury)
- Nigel Bickle (DBH)
- + MED representative

## Urban Intensification

- Richard Harris (Chair)
- Martin Dale (McConnell)
- Ian Castles (Wellington Co)
- John Coop (Warren & Mahoney)
- Peter Winder (ARC)
- David Rankin (ACC)
- Leigh Auton (Manukau CC)
- Ernst Zollner (NZTA)
- Anne Carter (DIA)
- Lesley McTurk (HNZC)
- Suzanne Townsend (DBH)
- + MfE representative



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