

Department of Building and Housing

November 2008

Adrian Bennett
Manager, Building Science and Research



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



Department of
Building and Housing
Te Tari Kaupapa Whare



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

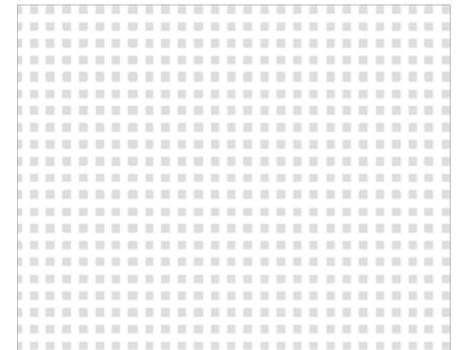
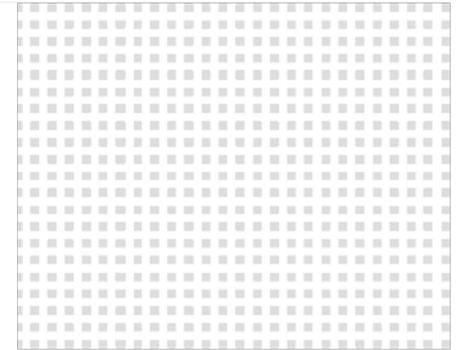


Department of
Building and Housing
Te Tari Kaupapa Whare



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



Department of
Building and Housing
Te Tari Kaupapa Whare



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



Department of
Building and Housing
Te Tari Kaupapa Whare



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



Department of
Building and Housing
Te Tari Kaupapa Whare



- 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



Department of
Building and Housing
Te Tari Kaupapa Whare

