



**MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,  
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT**  
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI

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# What next for Building and Construction?

NZGBC – Housing Summit

22 May 2024



The Building and Construction sector and regulatory system is key to housing growth, economic prosperity and wellbeing.

Key focus areas for MBIE:

- Increase competition for building products to drive down costs
- Reform the building consent system to improve efficiencies
- Ensure seismic system is fit for purpose
- Climate Change – mitigation and adaptation
- Improve Fire Safety



**Strengthening competition**  
Removing barriers to using building products from overseas and making it easier to substitute building products

## 1 Entire standard systems

Recognise international standard organisations and certification schemes from certain countries



Reduce uncertainty and make it easier for overseas standards from certain countries to be accepted



Increase competition for building products

Amount of products

Most

Certainty of acceptance

Possible

## 2 Key individual standards

streamlining the citation of international standards through building product equivalency specifications



Make design and consenting more efficient



Shift liabilities away from councils



Cut red tape by streamlining processes in the Building Act



Make the regulatory system more agile for new products

Amount of products

Less

Certainty of acceptance

Probable

## 3 Products and certification schemes

Specifying certain Product Certification Schemes appropriately certified products



Increase the number of certified building products



Lower costs of building products and construction

Amount of products

Least

Certainty of acceptance

Almost Certain

## 4 Remove barriers for making minor changes to an existing building consent and approved 'MultiProof'

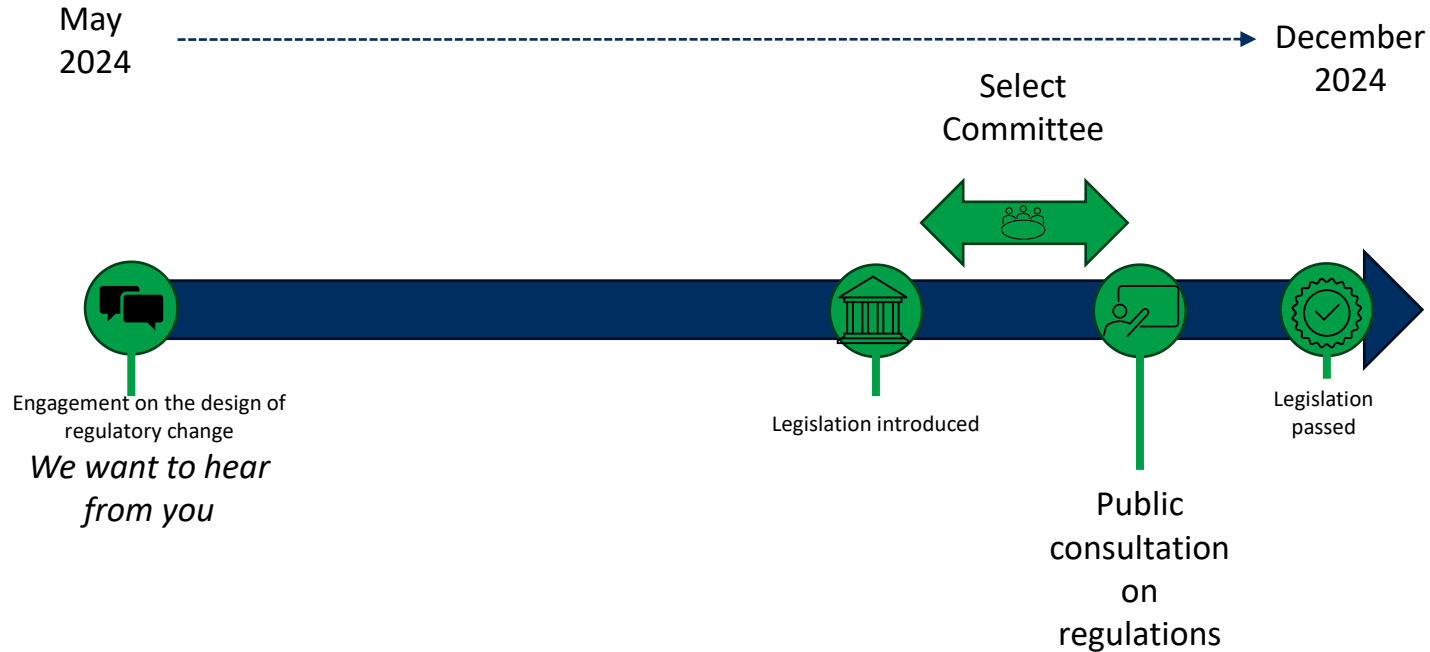


Reduce delays and speed up construction



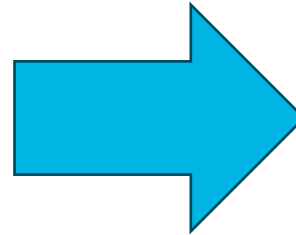
Allow for innovation and changes

# Timeline and opportunities for consultation



# Streamlined consenting system

- Options to make consenting more consistent, simpler and faster:
  - Video and photo evidence
  - More standardised approach to deliver a seamless experience across councils
  - explore self-certification for some groups
  - streamlining Code Compliance Certificates by requiring them to be issued within five working days
- Increasing transparency of information to
  - Quarterly reporting by BCAs on consenting times
  - Identify good practice and areas to improve
- Occupational regulation and consumer protection sit alongside changes



Innovation to drive better building outcomes and reduce time delays that can add cost to the overall build

- Amend the Building Act and resource consent system to make it easier to build ‘granny flats’ and other small structures up to 60sqm
  - Make it easier to build small, self-contained homes without building consent
  - Criteria to ensure building safety and support system
- MBIE and MfE developing policy proposals to be consulted upon later this year for RMA and Building Act amendments
- Legislation to be introduced before the end of 2024

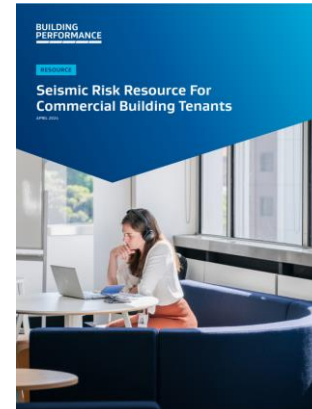


The Government has also announced several changes to the building consent system, including:

- Defining 'minor variation' and 'minor customisation' – to make changes to building consent and Multiproof easier
- Changes to the Building (Accreditation of Building Consent Authorities) Regulations 2006
- Adjustment to the building levy threshold to \$65,000, no change to levy rate



- Goals is effective stewardship of the system to manage seismic risk to buildings.
- Review of Earthquake Prone Building System
  - Ensure settings are workable, effective, proportionate
  - Extend remediation deadlines while Review underway
- National Seismic Hazard Model (NSHM)
  - Review released by GNS Science in October 2022. T
  - Helped to inform a Standards New Zealand draft Technical Specification for Structural Design document for voluntary use by engineers and designers.
- MBIE recently published the *Seismic Risk Resource for Commercial Building Tenants*

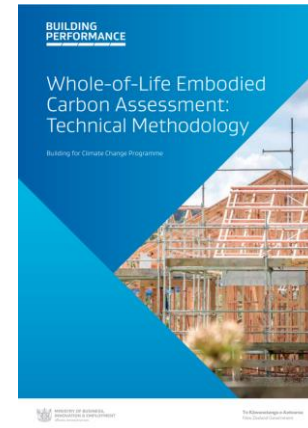
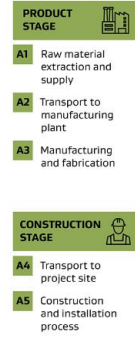
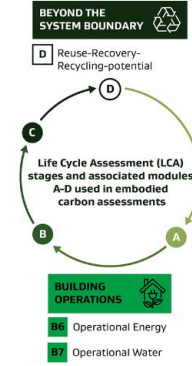
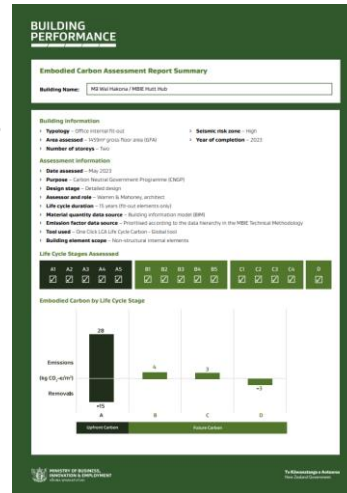


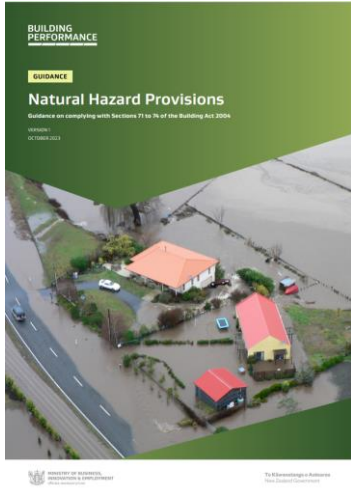


- The Government has agreed to a review of the Building Code fire safety provisions.
- In 2024, officials are collecting feedback and consulting on issues in the Fire Safety provisions.
- Once consultation is complete, changes will be made to the Building Code to reflect an updated definition and understanding of fire safety regulation in NZ buildings. Solutions and policy options will be proposed in 2025 or later.
- A timeline for the review is set out below. These timeframes are subject to review.



- Next steps for Building for Climate Change
- Developing work programme to progress in line with Government goals
- MBIE resources and tools available:
  - Technical methodologies for Embodied Carbon and Operational Efficiency
  - Embodied Carbon assessment examples
  - Smart steps to lowering emissions
- Wider sector changes
  - Low interest loans
  - Tools and data
  - Benefits of modelling





- National Climate Change Risk Assessment (2020)
  - Built Environment “*Risk to building due to extreme weather events, drought, increased fire, weather & ongoing sea-level rise*”
- National Adaptation Plan (2022)
  - Actions for Built Environment
- National Adaptation Framework (2024)
  - Approach to sharing costs & investment
  - Select Committee inquiry

## Adaptation: building climate resilience >

Measures are being developed to increase the climate resilience of buildings in New Zealand.



Ngā mihi  
Thank you



Visit the Building for Climate website at:  
[Building.govt.nz](https://www.building.govt.nz)

Reach out to us at:  
[BuildingForClimateChange@mbie.govt.nz](mailto:BuildingForClimateChange@mbie.govt.nz)