

BSP General Manager update — Codewords 90

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Welcome to Issue 90 of Codewords.

On 16 April we opened consultation on proposals to change New Zealand's building law. We're now halfway through the submission period and the response so far has been great. These are major changes that aim to address longstanding issues in the building and construction sector and lift performance. You've got until Sunday 16 June 2019, 5pm to have your say – the success of our building laws relies on the feedback we receive. I encourage you to review the proposals and [make a submission. \(https://www.mbie.govt.nz/have-your-say/building-system-legislative-reform-programme-public-consultation/\)](https://www.mbie.govt.nz/have-your-say/building-system-legislative-reform-programme-public-consultation/)

The building law reform is just one of a number of initiatives government is taking to support the sector to transform. On 14 April, the Construction Sector Accord was signed by both Government and construction industry leaders. This partnership sets out an agreed vision and targets key priorities needed to strengthen the sector. These include expanding workforce capability, rebalancing risk, improving health and safety and boosting the supply of affordable and durable housing. The Accord Development Group will soon be consulting widely across the sector, and an action plan will be published by the end of 2019. [Keep your eyes peeled. \(https://www.constructionaccord.nz/\)](https://www.constructionaccord.nz/)

Another exciting development is the new Skills in Construction website. This was launched on 16 May as a cross-agency platform outlining the skills strategy and action plan – a six-point initiative focusing on construction sector recruitment, training, and school leavers gaining employment. [Check out the new website. \(https://www.skillsinconstruction.govt.nz/\)](https://www.skillsinconstruction.govt.nz/)

Enjoy this issue of Codewords, which includes articles about two relationships MBIE is fostering to deliver a better Building Code framework – one with [Engineering New Zealand \(ENZ\) \(https://www.building.govt.nz/about-building-performance/news-and-updates/codewords/codewords-issue-90/collaboration-with-engineering-nz-leads-to-partnership/\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/about-building-performance/news-and-updates/codewords/codewords-issue-90/collaboration-with-engineering-nz-leads-to-partnership/) and the second with [Standards New Zealand \(SNZ\) \(https://www.building.govt.nz/about-building-performance/news-and-updates/codewords/codewords-issue-90/mbie-commissioning-review-of-seven-key-new-zealand-standards-in-the-next-year/\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/about-building-performance/news-and-updates/codewords/codewords-issue-90/mbie-commissioning-review-of-seven-key-new-zealand-standards-in-the-next-year/).

Until next time,
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