

BSP General Manager update – Codewords 92

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Welcome to Issue 92 of Codewords

Last Friday, the Minister for Building and Construction announced the Government's first decisions on the proposed building reforms. You can find out more by visiting the [Building Performance website \(https://www.building.govt.nz/getting-started/building-law-reforms/\)](https://www.building.govt.nz/getting-started/building-law-reforms/).

The announcement is the result of a huge amount of collaborative work over the last 18 months. Thank you to all the individuals and organisations who have helped identify the issues facing the sector and develop practical proposals to address them.

The reforms will speed up consenting, simplify choosing the right products and installing them in the way intended, and make it cheaper and faster to use innovative building methods, such as prefabrication. Subsequently, people will save time and money from consenting delays and have confidence that the right products are being used. Roles and responsibilities for manufacturers, suppliers and builders will also be made more clear so the right person can be held to account if things go wrong.

We are now working on the details for each proposal so a draft Bill can be introduced to Parliament in the first half of 2020. We are also continuing to develop options for strengthening occupational regulation and working through issues to address risk and liability. Announcements on these are expected in 2020.

The changes proposed through the reforms will be phased to come into effect over time. This will allow us to work with the sector to get the details right and ensure the changes are applied effectively.

Another big piece of work is the Building Code improvements being published at the end of November. We've considered all the feedback we received from the public consultation in September, and made the appropriate changes to selected Acceptable Solutions and Verification Methods – [find out more on the MBIE website \(https://www.mbie.govt.nz/have-your-say/building-code-update-consultation-november-2019/\)](https://www.mbie.govt.nz/have-your-say/building-code-update-consultation-november-2019/).

Until next time,

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