

Product information requirements

Learn what changes are proposed to product information building laws, and what that means for you.



Current state

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Building products are central to safe and durable buildings, yet information about products is not required and they are only regulated through the consenting process by how they are specified and used in building work. This has created significant gaps and inconsistencies in information about building products.

Building Consent Authorities (BCAs) frequently need to request additional information about specified products to ensure compliance with building code requirements. This creates costly delays for building owners.

There is also an increasing range and complexity of building products and methods, and cheaper alternatives available, increasing the risk of not meeting building code requirements from using an unsafe product.

Building law reforms fact sheet 2 - Product information

[PDF 244 KB]

<https://www.building.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/getting-started/building-law-reforms-factsheet-2-product-information.pdf>

What's changing?

The Bill introduces the power to prescribe minimum requirements for information about building products that are available to the New Zealand market. This will need to be provided by product manufacturers and suppliers. It will give people the information they need to make good decisions about products, use them as intended, and will provide clarity on who can be held accountable if something goes wrong.

The information required will be set by regulations which are still to be developed. It is proposed that they include:

- a description of the product;
- details of the supplier, including contact information;
- information on the scope and limitations of use for the product;
- design and installation requirements, and maintenance requirements;
- a declaration of whether the product is subject to a warning or ban.

What this means for you?

Manufacturers and suppliers will be required to make a minimum level of information publicly available about the building products they sell.

Benefits:

- Designers and builders have access to minimum building product information to help choose the right products and use them as intended.
- Homeowners will understand maintenance requirements to ensure durability of products, and will benefit from higher quality building work, and time and cost savings from reduced rework to repair building defects.
- More efficient consenting as Building Consent Authorities have the information they need to assess compliance with the Building Code.
- More clarity on who can be held to account when something goes wrong with a building product.
- Increased confidence in building products.



New Zealand Government

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