



KiwiBuild, Housing, and Urban Development & Transport

KiwiBuild

NZIA programmes and processes can assist the Government engage with the public and industry and professional audiences about KiwiBuild and other issues covered in the Housing and Urban Development and Transport portfolios.

1. Competitions

Design competitions are effective means of producing high-quality results, finding new solutions and uncovering talent. They can generate exemplar projects that raise the bar of design proficiency and building performance.

The NZIA has developed effective procedures for the conduct of design competitions. NZIA competition guidelines provide a fair, rigorous and transparent process that encourages successful outcomes. The NZIA competition process recently has been used on multi-unit housing projects (e.g., Akepiro in Auckland and Breathe in Christchurch), institutional buildings (e.g., Bishop Selwyn Chapel in Auckland and Te Awamutu Heritage and Cultural Centre), and national monuments (e.g., French Memorial at Pukeahu National War Memorial Park, Wellington, and Christchurch Earthquake National Memorial.)

2. Exhibitions

Exhibitions are an accessible way to transmit ideas, visualise outcomes and build support for projects.

The NZIA is experienced in staging events and collaborating with organisations to present architecture projects and proposals to the public. Recent NZIA exhibitions include the Akepiro design competition and other multi-unit schemes displayed during the nationwide Festival of Architecture. In 2014 and 2016 the NZIA produced the New Zealand exhibition at the Venice Architecture Biennale; the

2016 exhibition is currently on a five-centre New Zealand tour.

3. Festival of Architecture

The Festival of Architecture is an NZIA initiative that aims to meet the public's appetite for information about architecture and urban design.

The NZIA is developing the annual Festival of Architecture into a nationwide programme of events running for a fortnight in September. The programme includes exhibitions, presentations, debates and site visits, and draws on contributions from the design and construction industries, academics, critics – and politicians. In 2017, Festival of Architecture events were staged in Whangarei, Auckland, Hamilton, Tauranga, Cambridge, New Plymouth, Wellington, Nelson and Christchurch.

4. Continuing Professional Development

The NZIA's Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programme maintains the currency of practitioner knowledge, raises awareness of industry issues and examines solutions to current problems.

The programme is aimed at architects but is also available to the wider construction industry. The annual programme, which covers a wide range of technical and design issues and takes expert presenters around the country and is supported by a webinar programme, is a valuable means of strengthening links between the profession and the wider construction sector.

5. The NZIA & Ngā Aho

The NZIA's relationship with Ngā Aho promotes a deeper understanding of Māori design principles and their integration into projects, especially those with a significant Māori constituency.

In 2017 the NZIA and Ngā Aho, which represents Māori architects and designers, signed a kawenata or covenant that recognises Māori knowledge and aspirations. An immediate effect of the kawenata is Ngā Aho representation on the board of the NZIA. The kawenata is an acknowledgment that Māori needs and ambitions are part of the shaping of this country's built environment. The relationship between the NZIA and Ngā Aho is potentially helpful to a Government committed to such far-reaching programmes such as KiwiBuild.

About the New Zealand Institute of Architects

The New Zealand Institute of Architects is the leading organisation for New Zealand architects; it represents more than 90 percent of New Zealand's registered architects.

NZIA

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|---------------------------------|-------|
| Registered Architects | 1,800 |
| Number of NZIA Practices | 700 |
| Graduates | 700 |
| Students | 1,100 |

President

Christina van Bohemen (until May 2018)

Tim Melville (from May 2018)

Chief Executive

Teena Hale Pennington



Five proposals for the built environment

The NZIA supports a new connectedness between government departments, institutions, agencies, professions and the public, and wants to support KiwiBuild by taking a leadership role on issues of architecture, design excellence and the built environment.

1. Built Environment and Infrastructure Panel

Design is not an optional extra but is actually a cost-effective imperative. Good design brings resilience, safety and security, investment longevity, reduced operating costs and increased land value.

All government decision-making panels for major infrastructure and KiwiBuild should include design professionals. We recommend the establishment of a Built Environment and Infrastructure Panel.

This advisory body would provide the government with independent expert advice on the design of major infrastructure and urban planning projects. The panel would enable agencies, and potentially local government, to obtain advice about good practice design and place-making.

The panel would advise on urban design, urban planning, engineering, commercial assessment, development economics, architecture and other built environment aspects in relation to major development and urban infrastructure projects.

2. Government Architect

Across government there are a range of positions such as Chief Scientist and the new Chief Technology Officer. The built environment and infrastructure deserves a similar role.

The Government Architect would support the Government in delivering quality, managing risk and encouraging innovation. The role would have a broad mandate to advise the Government.

The Government Architect would be accountable to the Prime Minister and to the Minister for Urban Development and Transport, work collaboratively across Government, and provide independent expert advice to Ministers and senior officials.

The Government Architect would have the ability to influence Government, industry and the wider society, and to advocate strongly for sustainable and resilient communities and infrastructure, and for positive change in the construction industry.

3. Improving risk & procurement responses

Greater returns on Government investment and to New Zealand communities can be achieved if risk is managed for the greater good, rather than within individual agencies and departments. Risk is often misunderstood, inappropriately transferred and priced, and the subject of lengthy contractual and expensive negotiations. The NZIA encourages the Minister and Government to shift public sector procurement practices from short-term, lowest cost procurement to a longer-term, value-based approach. The common or standard industry contract and procurement approach has seen the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA), for example, identified as a high performer.

4. Policy priorities for the Built Environment and Infrastructure

We urge the Government to develop and adopt a National Policy Statement – Built Environment & Infrastructure to provide a clear regulatory position for decision-makers, industry and communities on the Government's agenda and expectations. This approach would ensure timely, collaborative and consistent responses.

The Statement should take a design-led approach and should be the guiding framework for the Built Environment and Infrastructure Panel and Chief Built Environment and Infrastructure Officer.

A design-led approach recognises that design is both a process and an outcome. The creative benefits offered by design are realised through its inclusion in projects from their inception.

5. Investing in our built environment and infrastructure

More choice and innovation are required in the financing arrangements available to projects. The financial hurdles are high and can block affordable solutions. For example, prefabricated housing solutions have often been unnecessarily delayed or subjected to additional costs because they differ from the traditional way of delivering housing.

The NZIA encourages the Minister to convene an urgent meeting of stakeholders from the finance, community, housing, developer and government sectors to discuss products and packages that could be developed or modified to support KiwiBuild and/or other infrastructure investment. We note the Australian Government has committed to establishing the National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation which will operate an affordable housing bond aggregator to encourage greater private and institutional investment and provide cheaper and longer-term finance to registered providers of affordable housing.

One success story from the Christchurch rebuild was the publishing of the public sector *Rebuild Programme of Work* which set out estimated project costs, timing, sequencing and responsibilities across all large public sector service providers in the region. The NZIA encourages the Minister to publish a public sector Programme of Work for all of New Zealand.

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