

3. SELECT COMMITTEE SUBMISSION ON THE BUILDING BILL



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The purpose of this report is for the Regulatory and Consents Committee to consider a draft submission on the Building Bill.

BACKGROUND

On 6 October 2003 the Committee considered a report that outlined the objectives of the new Building Bill and the changes that were proposed to it. Submissions on the draft Bill are to be sent to the Government Administration Select Committee by 31 October 2003.

It is worth noting that this Council has previously made submissions to the Select Committee on Weathertightness issues. In its submission the Council supported the following:

- The development of enforceable standards for the minimum level of detail to be provided with building consent applications.
- A clearer definition of responsibilities between private certifiers and territorial authorities.
- The introduction of qualifications and standards for those involved in the building industry.
- The development of a registration system for participants in the building industry.

The issues outlined above have generally been included in the Building Bill.

From a regulatory perspective, Council Officers are in general support of the Bill. However, it should be noted that whilst this Committee's primary focus will be a regulatory one, there may be other perspectives within the Council relating to strategic objectives such as heritage and central city revitalisation that need to be considered.

It is proposed that these additional issues be further discussed at the 17 October 2003 meeting of the Regulatory and Consents Committee.

A copy of the draft submission on the Building Bill will be circulated separately to Councillors prior to the meeting. Unfortunately, there is a tight timeframe in preparing the submission and there is insufficient time to complete the draft for inclusion in the agenda.

A summary of proposed changes to the Building Act, the Building Bills Explanatory Note and Regulatory Impact and Compliance Cost Statement are attached for consideration.

Chairman's

Recommendation: For discussion.