

CONSTRUCTION  
INDUSTRY COUNCIL



Canterbury Earthquakes Royal Commission

***Obtaining regulatory  
approval – capability & QA***

**12 September 2012**

# Opening comments

- System **not** 'broken'
- **Can** be improved on:
  - Better/smarter oversight
  - Improved stewardship
  - Improved funding
- Industry seeking better access to the right up-to-date consistent and credible information sources

# Quality regulatory framework

- CIC considers there is sufficient capability to ensure the regulatory framework – Code, Standards, standards, and guidance documents – are of high quality and timely
- But, requires key parties:
  - MBIE
  - Standards
  - Researchers
  - Industryto work as an integrated whole

# Quality regulatory framework

- That integration has not worked perfectly to date, but the CIC is hopeful changes from DBH to MBIE will allow for more cooperative and integrated approach
- Does require resolution of the fundamental issue between:
  - the detail of the Code
  - the funding of supporting Standards

# BCA capability

- Industry looks for certainty and consistency from consenting framework
- Better systems in and collaboration amongst BCAs would help provide that

## **BUT**

- In the absence of these, the CIC has promoted a single national consenting authority to achieve that certainty and consistency
  - Would also ensure capability

# BCA capability

- Have been some conversations around compulsory peer review
- If done on risk-triaged basis, and if helped ensure certainty and consistency, would be welcomed by industry

# Producer statements

- 1991 Act had producer statements (PSs) within it
  - 2004 Act dropped them
    - But they still pervade the industry today
  - While other mechanisms ostensibly have taken their place
    - LBP licensing/professional registration
    - plus*
    - Work completion memoranda
- BCAs still use PSs as risk mitigation tool

# Producer statements

- Key issue for industry is again certainty and consistency
  - Mixed implementation across 60+ BCAs
- DBH/MBIE has issued guidance, but still too much variability
  - = uncertainty
  - = inefficiency/expense
- Was meant to be policy work done in 2010, but overtaken by earthquakes response

# Building warrants of fitness

- Supported by the CIC
- Maintenance is also a key issue requiring improved focus
- Quakestar concept should also assist

# Innovation

- Performance-based system should, in principle, foster and encourage innovation
- Leaky building saga “back to basics” retreat
  - Not the regulatory framework’s fault
  - Should hopefully see easing over time
- Counter-risk in area of product assurance
  - No compulsion to have products tested/checked
  - Left for each BCA to resolve to its own satisfaction
  - Better product assurance framework required

# Proactively finding other CTVs

- Support nation-wide programme of properly assessing building risk
  - Age
  - Design
  - Construction
- Then clear programme of work over set period to bring sub-Code buildings up to agreed level
- Publicly available information as to the status of the building

# THANK YOU

- Thank you for the opportunity to present to the Commission
- The CIC is committed to working with its members to implement findings of the Commission so that we continue to lift and improve the quality of the built environment for the benefit of all New Zealanders