



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Chris Penk	Portfolio	Building and Construction
Title of Cabinet paper	Making it easier to build granny flats – Building Act changes	Date to be published	10 April 2025

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
March 2025	Making it easier to build granny flats – Building Act changes	Office of the Minister for Building and Construction
11 March 2025	Making it easier to build granny flats – Building Act changes EXP-25-MIN-0011 Minute	Cabinet Office
3 December 2024	Regulatory Impact Statement: Proposed changes to the Building Act 2004 to allow simple standalone dwellings up to 60 square metres to be built without a building consent	MBIE
4 March 2025	Supplementary Analysis: Proposed changes to the Building Act 2004 to allow simple standalone dwellings up to 70 square metres to be built without a building consent	MBIE

Information redacted

YES

Any information redacted in this document is redacted in accordance with MBIE's policy on Proactive Release and is labelled with the reason for redaction. This may include information that would be redacted if this information was requested under Official Information Act 1982. Where this is the case, the reasons for withholding information are listed below. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Some information has been withheld for the reasons of:

- Confidential advice to government
- Protect legal professional privilege



Cabinet Expenditure and Regulatory Review Committee

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

Building Act 2004: Making it Easier to Build Granny Flats

Portfolio **Building and Construction**

On 11 March 2025, the Cabinet Expenditure and Regulatory Review Committee:

- 1 **noted** that the decisions below support the National-NZ First Coalition Agreement to amend the Building Act and Resource Consent system to make it easier to build granny flats or other small structures up to 60 square metres only requiring an engineer's report;
- 2 **agreed** that building work in connection with a standalone dwelling of up to 70 square metres does not require a building consent, subject to meeting the description of building work and other conditions set out in Appendix One of the paper under EXP-25-SUB-0011;
- 3 **agreed** that a territorial authority must issue a Project Information Memorandum within 10 working days after receiving an application relating to a granny flat, and advise whether a granny flat is likely to meet the description of exempt work;
- 4 **agreed** that the description of building work (Condition One, Appendix One) can be amended by Order in Council;
- 5 **agreed** to update an existing power in the Building Act 2004 to enable building work or classes of building work to be removed from Schedule 1 of the Act by Order in Council;
- 6 **agreed** to amend the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 2006 to require plumbers and drainlayers to produce records of work for exempt granny flats, and provide for disciplinary powers when failing to provide a record of work;
- 7 **agreed** to make amendments to the Local Government Act 2002 so that development contributions can be charged by territorial authorities when issuing a Project Information Memorandum;
- 8 **agreed** to amend the Building Act 2004, Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 2006 and Electricity Act 1992 to establish codes of ethics and improve disciplinary and complaints procedures (as set out in Appendix One);
- 9 **authorised** the Minister for Building and Construction to issue drafting instructions to the Parliamentary Counsel Office to give effect to the above decisions;
- 10 **authorised** the Minister for Building and Construction to make further decisions consistent with the proposals in the paper under EXP-25-SUB-0011;

11 **noted** that the Building Levy and Building Research Levy will forego revenue from the above decisions, and that the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment will adjust its revenue forecasts after enactment.

Sam Moffett
Committee Secretary

Present:

Rt Hon Winston Peters
Hon David Seymour (Chair)
Hon Nicola Willis
Hon Chris Bishop
Hon Paul Goldsmith
Hon Louise Upston
Hon Judith Collins KC
Hon Mark Mitchell
Hon Simon Watts
Hon Brooke van Velden
Hon Shane Jones
Hon Casey Costello
Hon Chris Penk
Hon Andrew Hoggard

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Office of the Minister of Transport
Officials Committee for EXP
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment