



Accessible Housing Project Overview

What's the project?

The project is undertaking Regulation Impact Assessment (RIA) of options for potential minimum accessibility standards for housing, to be applied through the National Construction Code (NCC). Accessible housing is any housing that includes features to enable use by people either with a disability or through their life stages.

The RIA will consider the Livable Housing Design Guidelines Silver and Gold level specifications as possible options for a minimum accessibility standard, and additional options identified through consultation.

Why are we doing this project?

This project was initiated through the Building Ministers' Forum with the support of Council of Australian Governments (COAG) in 2017 and is part of the ABCB's 2018-19 Work Program.

How will the project be carried out?

The RIA will be carried out in two stages: Early Consultation informed by an Options Paper, followed by a formal Regulation Impact Statement (RIS). The Options Paper will be used as a way to refine the details of the options, objectives and terminology that will be considered in the RIS.

The RIS will be conducted in accordance with the COAG Principles for Best Practice Regulation, as required under the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) Inter-governmental Agreement.

How can I be involved?

You can be involved in one or more of the following ways:

- Attend the ABCB's Accessible Housing National Consultation Forum in your capital city in October and November 2018.
- Watch the recording the Consultation Forum (available in late 2018).
- Submit a written response to the ABCB Accessible Housing Options Paper.
- Submit a response to the Accessible Housing Consultation RIS, which will be released in 2019.

What will be the end result?

A RIS will be produced, providing Governments with analysis of the impacts of proceeding with regulation of housing accessibility through the NCC. The information will be used to inform the nature and extent of the issue and possible options for a minimum accessibility standard.

Timelines?

A project timeline has been developed to outline key milestones during this project. You can find it on the ABCB website.

Questions?

If you have a question about this project, please email it to nccawareness@abcb.gov.au.

This publication is intended to be used as guidance material only, and is in no way a substitute for the NCC and related State and Territory legislation. The CEO of the ABCB Office, as agent for the Commonwealth of Australia and States and Territories of Australia, does not accept any liability howsoever arising from or connected to the use or reliance on any information in this publication to the maximum extent permitted by law. The information in this publication is provided on the basis that all persons accessing the information undertake responsibility for assessing the relevance and accuracy of the information to their particular circumstances.

© 2018 Commonwealth of Australia and States and Territories of Australia