

## **BIM: better building process – building better performance**

### **Purpose of this report**

This report provides a short summary of the achievements of the BIM Acceleration Committee for the past three months. It is provided to the two major funders, BRANZ and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE). It will also be published the BIMinNZ site so our wider stakeholders are informed of our progress.

The Acceleration Committee is currently tracking behind its programme and planned expenditure and is now forecasting an underspend. The committee appears to have lost some of its moments through a combination of the:

- work demands on committee members' time with the current level of construction activity,
- delays in confirming the continuity of the BRANZ's funding, and
- uncertainty over the nature and level of MBIE's commitment to the committee.

The Acceleration Committee is exploring adjustments to how the members implement the strategy with the changes in resources available to support the industry members.

### **July to September 2017**

The major achievements over the past three months have been

- Establishing a collaborative working relationship with the Scottish Futures Trust [BIM Delivery Group]
- Confirming a strong demand for BIM 201 training, with signals received for the preferred cost and time commitment
- Undertaking market research and getting underway qualitative research for greater use of BIM across the value chain
- Maintaining and building relationships and connections across industry and government
- Piloting a draft procurement schedule for government clients

This quarter projects focused on government client space paused as the Acceleration Committee seeks to understand any potential impacts of the Building System Performance restructure, particularly for the resource and support provided by MBIE.

### **Collaboratively working with the Scottish Futures Trust**

The Scottish Futures Trust [BIM Delivery Group] and New Zealand BIM Acceleration Committee share the objectives of encouraging the implementation of BIM. Both support the need to drive a process of accurately creating and managing digital information and exchanging data within the built environment (BIM).

An MOU has been developed to:

- Foster bilateral cooperation to share knowledge on the respective BIM programmes to increase the use of BIM.
- Help mutually accelerate the journeys towards a digitised built environment.
- Identify and share instances of best practice to benefit the greater good of both BIM [acceleration / adoption] programmes.
- Identify and share opportunities for collaborative working.

With the Scottish Futures Trust's support, the Acceleration Committee will consider whether a NZ version of the Trust's BIM guidance portal could support government clients and public sector organisations to better identify and specify the level and focus of BIM requirements in construction projects. The Trust's portal provides guidance in the implementation of BIM within public sector procurement within Scotland to derive greater value from their built assets through a collaborative and digitised way of working.

### Understanding the BIM 101 attendees training preferences

The Acceleration Committee, with the NZ Institute of Building (NZIOB), undertook market research on the BIM 101 attendee database to confirm demand for BIM 201 and identify a suitable price structure and time commitment preferences. 75% of the respondents wanted some form of additional BIM training. (All of the survey participants had attended previous Acceleration Committee training).

The training group is considering two potential BIM 201 options:

- Virtual Project 2-3 day workshops, brought into NZ through the tertiary education sector. The NZ trainers<sup>1</sup> recently assessed that a modified UK BIM Academy's 'virtual Project' course would provide a good basis for a BIM 201 training. 40% of the survey respondents were interested in this training format.
- Half day lectures. As the respondents preferred option the training group will identify how this might be achieved, and possible timing. 63% of survey respondents were interested in this training format.

In addition, the training group plans to rerun the BIM 101 courses. They have discussed with the NZ Institute of Architects (NZIA) whether their existing webinar might be a channel for roll out of the re-run of BIM 101.

### Understanding BIM use across the value chain

One of the key stepping stones for the Acceleration Committee this year is to understand the BIM adoption journey for different groups across the value chain. We need to understand how to support those smaller / further down the value chain to achieve greater use of BIM. Work is

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<sup>1</sup> The NZ BIM trainers group who attended the 2015 BRE train-the-trainers course  
[BIMinNZ](#)

underway to identify which group(s) should be the next target audience for focus, and to understand their barriers for BIM use.

The building blocks to achieve this are in place. There are currently three research work streams being implemented within the project:

- Comparison of the market research survey of BIM use with a wider group of BIM users (via the NZIOB BIM 101 attendees survey, as outlined in the section above)
- The annual EBOSS survey of BIM use for the control group and clients
- Qualitative research / focus group discussions on specialist trade and product use of BIM, and the barriers / enablers of their using BIM more

The findings from the NZIOB market research survey are being analysed by EBOSS and will be compared to the annual EBOSS control group survey to see if there is any material difference between the control group and a wider group's use of BIM.

The annual EBOSS survey is a key indicator of changes in the use of BIM, and a key performance indicator for the Acceleration Committee and its efficacy. Comparing the two will provide a richer picture for undertaking and revising the Acceleration Committee's strategy. The additional client survey is being undertaken again in 2017 alongside the control group survey. The surveys are in the field at the time of writing, with the publication of findings expected in November.

The first focus group with specialist trades and product suppliers was held in Auckland in early September and a second is scheduled for Wellington or Christchurch later in the month. Results are expected to be reported shortly after that.

Research underway by three Victoria University Masters students focuses on collaboration, workflow and skills within the BIM supply chain. The research is progressing well: recent presentations by the three students identified areas for improvements in terms of the research methodology and scope of work. Preliminary research results are likely to be reported during the next round of presentations scheduled for November 2017.

In addition to the above research, the Acceleration Committee and EBOSS are supporting a Master research project on increasing the use of BIM in New Zealand by providing the raw data for the previous BIM use surveys for more detailed analysis. This is likely to include a more detailed understanding of the different BIM uses by professions and firm sizes. It is also likely to directly compare the effectiveness of the British approach of mandating BIM use on Government projects with the New Zealand approach being adopted by the BIM Acceleration Committee.

### Cross industry-government relationships are strengthening

The Acceleration Committee is building stronger relationships with the professional bodies to build on the mutual interests between the Committee and the NZIOB, NZIA and IPENZ (Institute of Professional Engineers NZ).

The Acceleration Committee's work is complementary to BRANZ's [transformation agenda](#). BIM has an important role to play in the industry transformation highlighted at the recent Registered Master Builders 'Constructive' conference. There may be strong complementarity in the audience the Acceleration Committee has been reaching in comparison with BRANZ / Master Builders. The Acceleration Committee has a shared interest with BRANZ in seeing their transformation agenda shifting the discussion on the role of BIM in NZ, in the residential and non-residential building sectors as well as infrastructure.

### Better building procurement of BIM by government clients

The recently developed Procurement Schedule, a simple-to-follow document that outlines BIM requirements, is going to be trialled by New Zealand Defence Force on a small-scale project in Auckland. Both the client and the consultant involved have a focus on a longer-term use of BIM data which the Procurement Schedule is going to help deliver.

### Committee membership to deliver the strategy

The Acceleration Committee welcomed David Darwin, NZ Transport Agency (NZTA), as a new member. David has been involved with the development of the NZ metadata standards, and brings NZTA's enthusiasm for BIM, as outlined in their draft plan for adopting building information management.

### Financial information

The Acceleration Committee is currently tracking behind its programme and planned expenditure and is now forecasting an underspend. The Acceleration Committee is exploring adjustments to how the members implement the strategy with the changes in resources available to support the industry members. This may result in a re-budget for the rest of the financial year. The Chair of the Acceleration Committee will advise BRANZ of any projected underspend following the November meeting to ensure any underspend is signalled to BRANZ in sufficient time to enable its reallocation.