



Legal Advisory Group

SUBJECT	Meeting Minutes – 08 December 2020
PRESENT	Miriam Dean (Chair), Helen Davidson (General Manager, Legal & Policy, Engineering NZ), John Hardie (Advisor, Internal Disputes Resolution), Hugh Matthews (Independent Lawyer)
IN ATTENDANCE	Darren Wright (Director, GCCRS), Aidan Prebble (Community Law), Elsa Marshall (Administrator, GCCRS), Edward Butler (Solicitor, MBIE)
APOLOGIES	Nicola Wills (Lawyer, Crown Law)

1. Meeting Administration

1. Conflicts of Interest

1. No new conflicts of interest arose.

2. Minutes and Actions Arising

1. It was noted that previous minutes of the Legal Advisory Group of 08 September 2020 were circulated to members for electronic confirmation and that publication on the GCCRS website had been completed within 20 working days of the meeting date.
2. Actions from the previous meeting were reviewed and acknowledged.

2. Updates

2.1 GCCRS Operational

1. The GCCRS Directors August 2020 Report was discussed with the members.
2. It was noted demand for the service remains very strong; September saw 172 new cases into the service. Closures rates remain steady.
3. The exit survey remains positive; a slight decrease in the improvement in homeowner wellbeing was recorded. This may be due to other factors such as Covid-19 and will continue to be monitored closely.
4. There has been an increase in Engineering New Zealand initial appraisals.
5. It was noted recent policy changes in EQC will require discussion with GCCRS so processes for homeowners remain easy for them to navigate.

2.2 IDRS Updates

1. A case update was provided; a total of 42 facilitations and 27 determinations have closed to date. There are currently open 9 facilitation and 8 determinations.
2. The GCCRS is continuing to ensure oversight of all disputed cases open longer than 6 months with regular case reviews with John Hardie.
3. The Group raised concern about the decisions produced during determination being not being able to be viewed by the IDRS Advisor, John Hardie, as there is no process to ensure oversight and quality assurance. Changes to the confidentiality agreement will be considered to allow John Hardie to have access to these decision on the basis they are strictly confidential to him alone in his IDRS Advisory Role.

2.3 Engineering New Zealand (ENZ) Update

1. A staff update was provided by Engineering New Zealand. It was noted a new Panel Advisor has been appointed.
2. The GCCRS Engineering Advisory Group has extended a permanent invite to the GCCRS Homeowners Advisory Group to send representatives to their bi-monthly meeting.
3. Engineering New Zealand are continuing to support the Canterbury Earthquake Insurance Tribunal (CEIT) and are working on clarity of the engagements from Members.
4. It was noted ENZ are considering adding a new schedule to their engagement template; they are currently working on the consultation process.

3. Review of Agenda

3.1 Any other items

1. The next Legal Advisory Group meeting date was discussed and confirmed for **Tuesday 02 March 2021.**

Meeting closed: 11.40pm