Status quo	The current minimum requirements were set in 2008. These levels are lower than other parts of the world with similar climates. There are ongoing operational costs to heat and cool homes with the current requirements. Inefficient use of energy puts unnecessary demand on the national grid and does not align with the current direction of the Government's Building for Climate Change objectives.
Option 1: Halfway to international standards	This represents the smallest level of change proposed versus the current minimum requirements and would still have a considerable lag behind other countries. With this option, there is no change proposed for Climate zone 1.
	For a typical single-storey 4 bedroom home, this option would reduce the heating and cooling energy use by 12% to 27% in Climate zones 2 to 6 over the life of the building with an upfront investment of 0.4% to 3.7% ($$1,800$ to $$16,000$) ⁽¹⁾ .
	The design and construction requirements are achievable with existing building products and construction methods that are well established in New Zealand. A long transition period would not typically be necessary to adopt this option.
Option 2 Comparable to international standards	This option proposes to lift insulation levels to comparable international minimum requirements. This option achieves greater reductions in energy use than Option 1 and provides improvements for occupant comfort and health outcomes across the country. For a typical single-storey 4 bedroom home, this option would reduce the heating and cooling energy use by 36% to 58% in Climate zones 1 to 6 over the life of the building with an upfront investment of 3.2% to 5.8% (\$15,000 to \$25,000) ⁽¹⁾ .
	The increase in required performance impacts the design and construction in the coldest parts of the country primarily for windows and walls. A longer transition period would be expected to adapt to the changes.
Option 3 Going further	This option introduces the greatest increase of minimum insulation levels and would exceed the insulation requirements of some other countries with comparable climates. This would achieve the greatest reduction in energy use of each of the options, along with the best improvements in occupant comfort.
	For a typical single-storey 4 bedroom home, this option would reduce the heating and cooling energy use by 46% to 68% in Climate zones 1 to 6 over the life of the building with an upfront investment of 4.1% to 12% ($$19,000$ to $$50,000$) ⁽¹⁾ .
	Achieving the highest insulation requirements would require a change in direction from the current ways of designing and constructing buildings in New Zealand. Other methods of construction used overseas would be required. Other methods would also be required to achieve compliance with B1 Structure, E2 External moisture, E3 Internal moisture, and G4 Ventilation. A longer transition period and a phased approach to implement these changes would be expected so that MBIE could develop new acceptable solutions for these parts of the Building Code and for the building and construction sector in New Zealand to adapt to the changes.