Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board

Our Strategic Plan 2025-2028

Our vision, regulatory role, and purpose

Vision

A safe and competent plumbing, gasfitting, and drainlaying industry that inspires public trust and confidence.

Purpose

We protect public health and safety by ensuring plumbers, gasfitters, and drainlayers are competent and fit to practice their trade. We regulate self-contained motor vehicles to manage the adverse effects of vehicle-based freedom camping on the natural environment.

Regulatory role

We have been protecting the health and safety of the public by regulating people who carry out sanitary plumbing, gasfitting, and drainlaying since 1913. Since 2023, we are responsible for regulating the certification of self-contained vehicles.

We are a statutory body operating under the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 2006 (Act). The Act sets out our functions, responsibilities and determines how we operate.

Our strategic directions

01 To have a skilled, competent, and professional workforce

02 To be an effective regulator

03 To have the trust and confidence of the public and practitioners

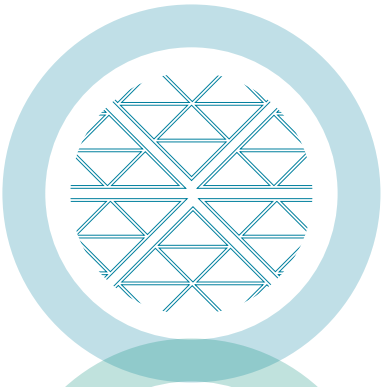
This strategy helps to provide

- Clarity on the outcomes we are working to achieve
- A clear focus for our priorities so we can target our effort for the greatest impact and to where the potential harm to the public is greatest
- A shared understanding of our purpose and the way we work, which provides the foundation for our regulatory approach.

Our values

Our values outline what is important to us and support how we operate.

They inform how we work with the public, the people we regulate, and other organisations. Our kaimahi apply our values consistently and demonstrate these behaviours.



Mahi tahi

We work better together within and outside our organisation to achieve and succeed.



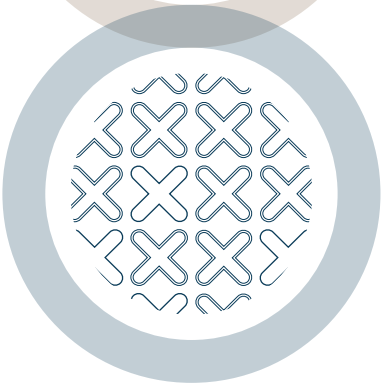
Manaakitanga

We protect and look after the public and each other.



Kia Māia

We have the courage to make the right decisions.



Whakapono

Lead with integrity, we do the right thing.

Direction 1: To have a skilled, competent, and professional workforce



Our workforce is skilled, competent, and professional when:

- practitioners remain competent throughout their careers through continuing professional development
- training gives apprentices the skills and knowledge they need to become competent practitioners
- registration classes support a skilled and competent workforce
- self-containment certification authorities have the knowledge and skills to carry out their core functions.

To ensure practitioners remain competent throughout their careers, we provide:

- effective and relevant continuing professional development with clearly defined success measures
- continuing professional development in different formats, so that all licensed practitioners can participate
- up to date continuing professional development that improves industry compliance and takes emerging regulatory risks into account
- technical support for competent and safe work practices.

To ensure apprentices are trained to become competent practitioners, we:

- monitor industry training and make recommendations about training for plumbers, gasfitters, and drainlayers
- set registration exams that ensure practitioners are competent and can practice safely when they enter the industry.

To ensure that registration classes support a skilled and competent workforce, we set:

- core competencies for registration classes that are current, comprehensive, and appropriate
- registration classes that are suitable for everyone in the industry
- criteria for registration classes that accurately reflect the skills and capabilities required for each class level.

To ensure that self-containment certification authorities have the knowledge and skills to carry out their core functions, we provide:

- guidance and support on becoming and operating as a certification authority
- technical advice to support vehicle inspections.

Direction 2: To be an effective regulator



We are an effective regulator when we:

- take an informed/evidence-based approach in our decision making
- optimise our performance to become a modern regulator
- continue to embed the self-contained vehicles certification system to protect the natural environment from the adverse effects of vehicle-based freedom camping.

To ensure we take an informed/ evidence-based approach in our decision making we:

- continue to improve our collection of data and its critical evaluation
- use the best available data, clear criteria, and rigorous analysis to make informed choices, including around education and enforcement
- explore using new tools and systems to support data collection, analysis and sharing
- regularly review and update practices.

To optimise our performance, we ensure:

- our regulatory processes are efficient, cost effective and reflect best practice
- our information and communications technology systems and equipment are modern, secure, effective, and reliable
- our corporate functions are modern, efficient and effective
- we remain flexible to adapt to changing needs and technologies
- we engage in culturally inclusive ways with everyone
- we seek to influence externally where the decisions or actions of others impact the Board
- continually monitor the environment we operate in and consider its impact on the Board.

To continue to embed the self-contained vehicles certification system, we:

- seek to influence externally where decisions impact the regime
- continue to maintain a national register for certified self-contained vehicles, and provide information and support to people wishing to have their vehicles certified as self-contained
- continue to ensure self-containment certification authorities are carrying out their responsibilities properly through complaints, investigations, and auditing.

Direction 3:
To have the trust and confidence of the public and practitioners



We have the trust and confidence of the public and practitioners when:

- we keep them informed about our role and what we are doing
- our regulation is consistent, proportionate, fair and equitable
- we target compliance and enforcement activities based on where harm to the public is the greatest.

To keep the public and practitioners informed about our role and what we are doing, we:

- actively engage with the public, industry, and stakeholders;
- seek input on how we carry out our functions and how we can improve;
- regularly and transparently report on what we are doing and our role.

To ensure our regulation is consistent, proportionate, fair, and equitable, we:

- consider risks to public health and safety at all times;
- consider risks to the natural environment from the adverse effects of vehicle-based freedom camping and potential risks to public trust and confidence in the self-contained vehicle regulatory system;
- take a structured principled approach to our work which balances wider and individual interests.

To target compliance and enforcement activities based on where harm is the greatest, we:

- adopt risk-based compliance and enforcement procedures;
- prioritise our compliance and enforcement activities to where potential harm is the greatest;
- take a data and intelligence-led approach to help focus our compliance and enforcement activities.