



2 December 2021

Ed Grove  
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Tēnā koe Ed

Thank you for your FYI request of 28 October 2021 and subsequent clarification of 4 November 2020 to the Ministry of Education requesting the following information:

1. *a copy of the BRANZ report/opinion dated on or about 7 June 2011 provided by BRANZ to the Ministry of Education, in response to the Ministry of Education's query as to whether walls with top and bottom vented wall cavities are more able to manage water leaks than walls with bottom only vented cavities.*
2. *Documentation from 7 June 2011 through end of 2014 either:*
  - a. *addressing the specific topic of the risks/benefits and science of top-vented cavity construction as compared to solely bottom vented cavity construction; or*
  - b. *[has] made reference to the 7 June 2011 [BRANZ] report*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

We have identified two documents in scope of your request. I am providing you with the 2011 BRANZ Report DC2095 *Top Vented Water Managed Cavities* as **Document One**.

I am also providing you with guidance document *Weather-tightness and Durability Requirements for School Property* as **Document Two**, which was issued by the Ministry in 2014. This guidance was originally issued in April 2011 and was subsequently updated in August 2014 following the advice provided in the BRANZ Report. This document was further revised in September 2020. I recognise that these iterations of this guidance may also be of interest to you, and therefore I am also providing you with these versions as **Documents Three and Four**.

Please note, the Ministry now proactively publishes OIA responses on our website. As such, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Nāku noa, nā



Scotty Evans  
**Hautū | Deputy Secretary**  
**Te Puna Hanganga, Matihiko | Infrastructure and Digital**