



Welcome to From the Quarry Face

Welcome to this first edition of **From the Quarry Face**.

Both Jared and I have committed to more regular communications with you as your new Chair and Chief Executive Officer. Currently you get Aggregate News every two months, but that's a long gap in today's business environment. So this newsletter will appear in alternate months.

We've much to report. In the last month we've produced a briefing document for Government, had encouraging meetings with a couple of Cabinet Ministers, made submissions on National Planning Standards and two district plans.

AQA has also put out a media release giving the thumbs up to Government for abandoning further regional fuel taxes and we've commented on other quarrying issues.



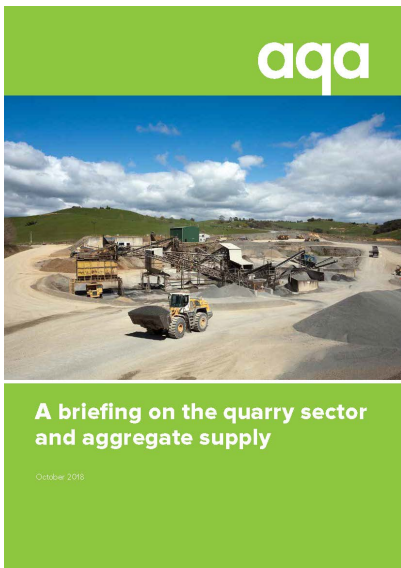
As our industry organisation, AQA is ramping up its efforts to do all it can to promote the interests of the quarry sector. But nothing works in isolation. So follow our lead in standing up for quarrying in your patch – and feed back to us with your local intel and insights. We've turned a corner as an organisation; now we need to work together to get the results.

This newsletter should help ensure we are all doing that.

Regards,
Wayne

Briefing the beehive

It's ten years since AQA produced a briefing document on issues affecting our sector for the Government and MPs of all parties. [Foundations for our Future](#) still reads well but it was well overdue for an update. With secured meetings with two Cabinet Ministers approaching, we produced [this briefing document](#).



We have already been able to share it with Housing/Transport/Urban Development Minister Phil Twyford and Infrastructure & Regional Development Minister Shane Jones. We received a good hearing from both Ministers. We will be following up with a letter outlining specifics around a need to identify and protect key quarry resources across the country. We are seeking Government direction to Councils to protect key quarry resources from encroachment of non-compatible land uses and reverse sensitivity.

If you would like a printed copy of the briefing document to distribute to decision-makers - Mayors, MPs, councillors, council and Government officials, please let us know. We need to have sustained contact across our industry with those who can determine our fate.

Planning to prosper

Supporting such engagement, we have made submissions to the Waikato and Selwyn District Plans on behalf of AQA. We have also made submissions to the National Planning Standards (NPS) being developed by Government.

The NPS and Waikato submissions were joint submissions with Straterra but had specific quarry submissions included.

If you would like a copy of any of our submissions please contact me. My new email is wayne@aqa.org.nz.

We will continue to track the progress of these and other planning consultation documents and keep members informed. We propose to load all of these submissions on to the AQA website.

Invercargill here we come

As announced at July's QuarryNZ conference, we will next year meet in

Invercargill.

Otago/Southland members of AQA and IOQNZ are already well engaged in the planning and we will hold our last AQA Board meeting of the year in our southernmost city on November 27. That allows Board members to view facilities and hear some early details of the intended programme.



And if you haven't already done so, put the date in your Calendar – **July 17-19**. Given limited direct air connections to Invercargill it might not be a bad idea to make some early bookings. Mind you neither Queenstown nor Dunedin are too far away.

Advertising approaches

AQA is regularly approached by publishing companies who offer to promote us with editorial copy in return for our sending them the AQA database. We consistently decline to do that.

The most recent approach was from the Builders & Contractors publication. Should you have any wish to advertise directly in this publication you could contact Phill Kelly at atbandc@markat.co.nz / 03 3765120

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