

Latest building consent news from Selwyn

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Happy Chinese New Year

Lunar New Year or Spring Festival is one of the most important traditional holidays in China and among Chinese communities worldwide. It marks the beginning of the lunar new year, typically falling between January 21 and February 20, based on the lunisolar calendar.

Here at council we are celebrating Chinese New Year, decorating the office and running a number of activities for staff to participate in and learn more about the culture.

We hope you all take time out to enjoy celebrations with your family and friends.



Update on our workload

Inspection timeframes

Our inspections are generally 48 hours from booking.

Please consider your scheduling of work and inspection requirements during periods of school and public holidays as this effects our capacity and may impact our booking timeframe.

Processing timeframes

At the end of January:

- The average working days for building consents being issued was 6 days (note this is an average)
- 99% of applications were processed within 20 working days.
- New commercial consents are generally being processed within approx 15 working days.

Note that timeframes depend on the quality of your application.

Professional Partnership Programme (PPP) review update

At the end of last year our team began a review of the PPP, starting with visiting our partners to hear their views on what's working well, what could be improved and discuss the value and benefits of the programme.

Thanks again to those who shared your feedback, thoughts and ideas. We appreciate you taking the time to meet with us.

Where to from here?

We are currently working on improvements and enhancements to the programme, taking the collated feedback into consideration. Our intent is to launch improvements to the programme by the end of April 2025.

The improvements include:

- Providing a discount to bronze members,
- Incorporating remote inspections,
- Allowing consents pre 224 dependent on a pre–application meeting, and
- Establishing a Gold status.

Fire Engineering Brief (FEB) email address

Many of the commercial applications we receive choose to use either verification method C/VM2, or alternative solutions for establishing compliance with the NZ Building Code. The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) guidance Commentary for Verification Method C/VM2 references the FEB process, which has been well accepted by the industry as best practice.

To support the industry in connecting with Council as a stakeholder in the FEB process we have recently updated our website information and set up a new contact email address to ensure documentation throughout the FEB process is sent to a central location for our commercial team to manage.

Refer to our website for further information - Selwyn District Council - Fire Engineering Brief

Code Compliance Certificate (CCC) applications – are you ready to apply for CCC?

All building work must be completed, and the final inspection carried out or booked before you apply for CCC.

When submitting your application, please upload/supply the following:

- your CCC application, with all parts of the application form completed correctly,
- energy works certificates for any electrical or gas work,
- all licensed building practitioners (LBP) record of works documents.

Check out our website for a full checklist here: Form 6C - CCC Checklist

If we receive an incomplete application, it will be returned to the customer portal.

When all required documentation is supplied the application will be accepted and the 20-working day statutory clock starts.

Building careers

Recruiting experienced staff can often be a challenge. Currently we have a number of vacancies across the team, so we are running a building career opportunities event on 11 February to give potential applicants a chance to come along and talk with team leaders and management about the opportunities available.

If you know anyone in the industry that is looking for a new challenge, please let them know about the event.

People wishing to attend can register their attendance – see link in the ad on LinkedIn or Councils careers webpage.



Reminders on legislation and building code changes

Have your say

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) are currently consulting on <u>insulation</u> requirements for homes and other buildings to provide more flexibility for building designers and help reduce the upfront costs and maintain energy efficiency. Submissions close on 28 February 2025.

New MBIE portal for registers and multiproof documents

Te Pae is a new online portal by MBIE that enables data to be collected and stored in one safe and secure place (system). It also provides a way to communicate directly with MBIE, us including the submission of complaints and enquiries.

The portal provides searchable access to the following public registers:

- MultiProof, and Product Certificate (CodeMark)
- Product certificates
- Modular Component manufacturer (BuiltReady)
- BCAs
- a link to the earthquake prone building register.