

# Professional partnership programme newsletter

It has been a while since we've updated you all on how the programme is tracking.

Since the launch of the professional partnership programme (PPP) in 2021 we're still continuing to find ways to refine and improve how the programme works.

## How is the programme progressing?

- Since the launch of the professional partnership programme we've had
  - 31 companies/designers accepted as partners, and
  - 600 applications received via the programme
- Applications received to date have mainly been for R2 dwellings, but we're starting to see more solid fuel heaters and garages since we clarified application criteria
- We also have our first silver partner – who is getting the benefit of a 50% cost reduction on consents put through the programme
- Technical audits completed on PPP applications continue to provide both partners and us with feedback on areas of improvement
- In general, LBPs are taking the partnership seriously and understanding what the role of the designer is with building consents
- If you've been an active partner of the programme for a while now you will hopefully have received a certificate and badge with 2022 on it
  - You will receive an updated 2023 certificate and badge when your annual review is completed

With the slowdown of workload for everyone we'd like to encourage you stay with the programme for your eligible applications and focus on how you can become a silver partner. Why? Check out the [incentives on our website](#).

## What's new?

As part of our continuous improvement on this programme, we've introduced a new checklist for LBPs to check that the application

- meets the build criteria, and
- application criteria.

It is expected that

- LBPs complete the [professional partnership consent checklist](#) as part of the application, and
- the completed form will need to be the part of the combined document (refer [document submission order](#)).

This new checklist has been introduced to

- help ensure that applications continue through the programme efficiently because the LBP designer carries out a pre-submission check to ensure the application meets all required criteria, and
- save precious time for your application, hopefully minimising the need for us to question or reject an application through the programme.

We are allowing leniency for a period of time for our partners to remember to include this new form with their applications, and our Building Advisory team will communicate with Partners to remind them if an application is received without the new form attached.

The [professional partnership consent checklist](#) template is available on our website, and you can start using it anytime from now.

### Don't forget!

The purpose of the programme is to fast track applications through – and not just when the workload is high.

To help make this happen a few reminders below:

- Be familiar with the requirements, criteria and expectations on our website
- Have your documents
  - combined into the format listed on our [website](#),
  - have one single file provided in each upload area, and
  - be a searchable PDF – for guidance see our document with [tips on searchable PDFs](#)
- When applying please **add “PPP” to the description of work section** of the application form when you submit a PPP application
  - eg PPP – New detached dwelling with 3 bedrooms and attached garage
  - this will help us to identify your PPP projects from other applications more effectively and ensure they go through the fast track process
- Let us know if a new LBP designer joins your company
  - they will need to be approved before they can submit a PPP application
  - email [buildingPPP@selwyn.govt.nz](mailto:buildingPPP@selwyn.govt.nz) to advise details of your new LBP designer
- While we do everything in our power to ensure a smooth process, some hic-ups may occur
  - so if an application exceeds the 10-day guidance then please reach out to us to check on its progress.

We know not all projects are always quite as straightforward as intended, so we encourage you to contact us if your project is a little out of scope of the programme criteria.

Depending on the situation, we may be able to accommodate or discuss with you the best way to move your project forward.

## **Our people looking after you and your people**

Our wonderful Building Advisory team continue to be your first point of contact if you have any queries. You can contact them by either by

- emailing [buildingPPP@selwyn.govt.nz](mailto:buildingPPP@selwyn.govt.nz), or
- calling them on 0800 SELWYN (735 996)

Your application to become a partner, audit review outcomes and annual reviews are handled by:



Andrew Duckett  
Team Leader Residential

## **Anything new on the horizon?**

- We haven't forgotten about the virtual inspection capability; it is just proving to take a bit longer than anticipated due the volume of work we had last year, but still very much on our radar, so we'll let you know when there is more progress on this
- This partnership is about innovation from both sides, so we're always keen to hear any ideas that you may have that will benefit the industry

Thank you for being our partner.

Selwyn District Council building team