

Professional partnership programme

Partner newsletter

It's been a year since the launch of the professional partnership programme (PPP).

This has given us an opportunity to review how the programme is going and consider how we can improve it and get more involvement from more partners.

We're all still learning as we refine and improve how this programme works. In general things are running smoothly. We thought it would be timely to give our partners an update – and let you know of some exciting new developments.

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
- The level of PPP applications received is lower than we expected
 - We realise in part this is due to the state of subdivision and not being able to fully meet the criteria
- Several technical audits have been completed on PPP applications
 - In general, these have come back relatively clean showing that our various partners are taking the partnership seriously and understanding what the role of the designer is with building consents
 - They've also given us some feedback on little things we could improve on ourselves, which we've done
- Applications received to date have mainly been for R2 dwellings

Has anything changed?

Good news – we've clarified and made a couple of modification to application criteria.

- The original criteria required applications to be a new build of R2 complexity (or less). So to clarify - 'or less' means R1 complexity buildings – eg
 - unlined garages with no services,
 - rural pole/portal sheds with no services, and
 - solid fuel burners
- We've removed the requirement to have an accessory building that meets the PPP criteria on a separate application – this will avoid doubling up information
- 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.

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 your people

- First points of contact for any of your questions are:



Amanda Chinnery
Building Advisor



Sonia Hood
Building Advisor

- Through the processing stage you may hear from:



Andrew Sanderson
Senior Building Surveyor



Ghislaine Warren
Senior Building Surveyor



Zoei Craigie
Building Surveyor



Mark Homan
Building Surveyor

- Your application to become a partner and audit review outcomes are handled by:



Barbara Dillon
Building Services
Delivery Manager



John Cameron
Team Leader Residential

Don't forget!

- 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](#)
- Only an approved professional partner can submit a PPP application.

This means that if you are an LBP designer for an existing professional partner you can only submit PPP applications under that partner's company.

If you want to act as an agent for another company who is not a PPP partner, then either

- that company will also need to become a PPP partner, or
 - you will need to become a PPP partner under your own company/name and submit applications as the agent under your company
- Please 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 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.

Exciting new developments!

You may have spotted the new partner badge at the top.

We're making being a partner even more attractive to you and your customers ...

Introducing our **incentive system**

- The table below explains the benefits to you as a partner at the different levels
- The incentive programme will be rolled out to current partners as your annual review is completed.

	Usual consent process	Bronze partner	Silver partner
Consent costs	Time and cost to process consent	Similar cost to usual process	50% discount on usual processing fees
Consenting timeframe	Statutory timeframe under the Building Act 2004, within 20 working days	Within 10 working days	Within 10 working days
Routine auditing	Technical reviews targeting high risk work	1 in 10 applications audited	1 in 10 applications audited

Note – processing of applications won't change – your application will be processed the same way, no matter what partner level you are

Why have we introduced this?

- The incentive scheme has additional benefits for you as partner
- These have been introduced to incentivise our PPP to
 - ensure our partners continue to engage in working with us to provide efficient and effective consent solutions, and
 - keep partners using the programme once we are back on track with our statutory timeframes rather than defaulting back to the normal process

How does the system work?

- All partners accepted into the partnership programme will start as a 'bronze' member
- Your performance will be reviewed on an ongoing basis to consider your records and membership grading through
 - regular auditing, and
 - an annual review
- You may be upgraded to 'silver' if your routine audits and annual review show excellent compliance and actively engaging with both the programme and us – in which case
 - we'll let you know in writing and provide you with your new badge, and
 - you'll receive additional benefits as listed on the partners incentives table above
- If your audit highlights serious non-compliances or major issues your partnership status will either be
 - dropped back to 'bronze', or
 - revoked dependant on the nature of the issue(s).

A drop back in level will also mean you'll be subject to more regular audits (1 in 5) to monitor progress.

But once satisfied that you are operating appropriately and meeting the requirements of the partnership your audits can be extended back out to 1 in 10.

- We'll identify you as an approved partner and partner level on our website so customers can see who our partners are and select their designer/company on this basis if they want.

Can partners get a copy of the badge?

- Better than that – you'll receive a badge shortly that matches the colour of your partner status
- You can use the badge on your website or other marketing material to encourage customers to come to you.

And coming soon...

- Virtual inspection capability
 - We see this as area where we can work with partners in the field in the future
 - Realistically it is going to be at least 6 months before our software providers will have this capability ready for testing
 - Once it is we will be in touch with key stakeholders to do some initial testing before finalising how we can maximise the benefits for our partners.

Remember

- As a partner you can contact us via
 - buildingppp@selwyn.govt.nz, or
 - phone 0800 SELWYN – and ask to speak to Amanda or Sonia in building
- Keep an eye on website for updates.

Update on what's happening in residential construction across Canterbury

Come along to this free event and find out...

This event is hosted by Selwyn District Council Building department, in partnership with Blackburn Management, and similar format to the event we ran in May last year.

When	Wednesday 18 May 2022
Time	4.30pm to 6.30pm
Where	Selwyn District Council headquarters building, 2 Norman Kirk Drive OR Via Microsoft Teams (link will be sent after your registration is confirmed)
Registration	Fill in the online form on our website

Please register your attendance and preferred way to attend. This will enable us to:

- send out the link to the event if you are unable to attend in person, and
- manage the number of people attending in person, and we will then contact you back via your registered email to advise.

Thank you for being our partner.

Selwyn District Council building team