

Professional partnership programme newsletter

It's been another successful year of our professional partnership programme, and we'd like to thank our partners for helping keep this programme a success.

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How is the programme progressing?

- Since the launch of the professional partnership programme we've continued to grow with more partners and applications through the programme, with
 - 34 companies/designers partners of the programme, and
 - 923 applications received.
- Applications received to date continue to be mainly R2 dwellings, but we're starting to see more solid fuel heaters and garages since we clarified application criteria.
- We have one 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, providing the professional partnership consent checklist introduced.
- Annual reviews have been completed now on all our active partners. You will have received findings of your annual review, certificate and badge with 2023 on it.

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. Check out the [incentives on our website](#).

Annual reviews

During the annual review process the following are some of the points we review:

- findings from technical reviews,
- application submission process has been followed correctly,
- engagement with the programme,
- LBP works within limits of their LBP license (with no complaints or transgressions), and

- quality of applications.

What we found

The annual reviews showed us that:

- the majority of applications were of good quality,
- technical reviews generally identified minor issues,
- there were low processing issues, and
- RFI response times sometimes exceed the 24 hour timeframe to respond.

Keep up the good work submitting those quality applications and remember to take onboard all findings from technical reviews.

Active engagement with the PPP

Being a partner of our Professional Partnership Programme means that not only are you meeting the programmes [criteria and expectations](#), but you're also actively engaging in the programme.

What does actively engagement look like?

Actively engaging in the programme means you:

- keep us informed (eg projected workloads, heads up on anything unusual, staffing updates, change in contact details, etc),
- follow application requirements consistently,
- receive minimal processing RFIs,
- have minimal serious inspection issues,
- keep current with legislative changes and council requirements, and
- submit the majority of your consent applications through the programme.

You will be contacted if we think you're not engaging or meeting the criteria of the programme to find out if there's reason for lack of engagement and see if we can help with a way forward.

We then [monitor your participation](#) over an advised period of time, and which may result in you being removed from the programme if there's still little engagement by you.

What happens if you're suspended or removed from the programme?

If you're not meeting the criteria of the programme, you may initially be suspended for a period of time.

Towards the end of your suspension we'll review building consent applications that have been submitted during the suspension period, taking into consideration the requirements we'd expect of the PPP

- If you're submitting quality applications, minimal processing RFIs, and no complaints your suspension will be removed
- where the criteria of the PPP are still not being met, and no improvements, you may be removed from the programme.

You can reapply to become a partner again when you're confident that you are able to consistently meet the [programme criteria and expectations](#)

Amendments to applications via the PPP

To clarify, where an amendment is received for an application that has been processed under the PPP the amendment application will be processed as a regular building consent; with the 20 working day timeframe applied.

Applications needing resource consents

A number of applications coming in via the programme have required a resource consent but been submitted with the PPP checklist completed stating that the application fully meets the district plan requirements with no resource consent approvals needed from the territorial authority.

Applications that need a resource consent:

- do not meet the requirements of the programme – refer to our [applications that don't meet the criteria](#) information on our website, and
- will be moved from the PPP queue to the standard unallocated building consent application queue.

Reminder

Please:

- make sure that you know and understand any RMA issues relative to your projects – if in doubt contact the planning team to discuss, and
- refrain from ticking the box that a resource consent is not required when it fact it is.

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.

Thank you for being our partner.
Best wishes for the holiday season
Selwyn District Council building team

