

# Affected Parties



When processing your resource consent application, Council has to consider whether or not anyone would be adversely affected by what you are proposing to do, and what level of impact your proposal is likely to have on the environment. This determines whether your resource consent will be **notified**, **non-notified** or **limited notified**.

## Notified resource consent applications

If what you are proposing will have adverse effects on the environment that are more than minor, or if you request it, your resource consent application will be **publicly notified**.

Your application will be advertised in newspapers and anyone who wants to will be able to make a submission that either supports or opposes your application, or is neutral.

If you and/or any submitters wish to be heard, or if Council considers it necessary, a hearing will be held. At the hearing, you and the submitters will get to have a say in front of the commissioner(s) who will make the final decision on your application.

## Non-notified resource consent applications

Council may decide that your application does not need to be notified, provided that you obtain the written approval of every person who is considered to be adversely affected by the activity you plan to carry out.

This written approval is referred to as "**Affected Party Approval**". Council can provide you with forms for you to take to affected parties, along with a copy of your application, to get their written approval.

It is best, if you can, to talk to everyone you think might be affected by your activity, show them your plans and your completed resource consent application, and get their written approval before you submit your resource consent application to Council.

If your application does not need to be publicly notified but you are not able to get written approval from all affected parties, your application will be **limited notified**. You can also request that your application be limited notified.

Council will write to all affected parties and give them the opportunity to make a submission on your application within 20 working days. **Only those people considered affected by your application will get the chance to make a submission.**

If you and/or any submitters wish to be heard, or if Council considers it necessary, a hearing will be held. At the hearing, you and the submitters will get to have a say in front of the commissioner(s) who will make the final decision on your application.

If a hearing is not required, Council staff will make a decision on your application.

Notified and limited notified resource consents **cost more**, as Council Planning staff have to spend more time on your application. They also **take longer**, as your application has to be open for submission for at least 20 working days and then a hearing may be required before a decision can be made.

The people most likely to be affected by your resource consent application are your **neighbours**. As it is likely you will continue to live next to them after you have completed the resource consent process, it is best if you can talk to them about your plans and get their written approval **before** you submit your application to Council.

Have a think about what you are wanting to do, and **how you would feel** if your next-door neighbour or the person across the street was going to be the one doing it.

Also have a think about whether you could change your plans so that they **meet the rules** in the Buller District Plan. If you can, **you may not need to get a resource consent**.



For more information on the resource consent process call into **Council's Westport office** or phone **(03) 788 9111** or **0800 807 239** and ask to speak to the **Duty Planner**.