

Planning Focus

Weekly Bulletin of the New Zealand Planning Institute
Friday 24th April 2020



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Planners join Government in urging councils to keep consenting

NZPI Media Release

The lockdown is a prime opportunity for councils to clear any consent backlogs, minimising potential delays to development projects when restrictions end, the New Zealand Planning Institute (NZPI) said today.

"We support the Government's appeal to councils that encourage them to continue consenting during the COVID-19 crisis," says NZPI Chair Karyn Sinclair.

"The majority of consents are cost-recoverable. At a time when councils are facing a down-turn in income streams it makes economic sense to take advantage of the quieter period and clear as many consents as possible – which will also mean there is work ready to go when we come out of lockdown."

Minister for the Environment David Parker sent a letter to councils last week urging them to use the lockdown to clear a backlog of development consents, creating a pipeline of projects to help stimulate the economy.

"Control over planning and consenting functions rests almost entirely with councils. These functions have essential service status because of the crucial role they play in the operation of the economy," states the letter ...

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Call for Contributions

PLANNING FOCUS is the weekly e-Newsletter of the New Zealand Planning Institute. If you have any new/info that would be of interest to members, please email melissa.hubbard@planning.org.nz

NZPI Member Profile

Keeping your personal details up to date will ensure you don't miss out on valuable information from the institute, **please remember to [update your contact details](#)** whenever you move or change jobs.

To update your place of employment, please [click here](#)



Amendments to your CPD requirements

Over the last few weeks we have been reviewing how we can support our members as we all navigate these unusual times. One area we have reviewed is our annual Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements of members. The CPD programme fosters development and growth for all members. It covers educational activities, both formal and informal, which aim to broaden, deepen and update a members' knowledge as well as improving technical and professional competence.

As discussed during the AGM last week, in light of the way Covid-19 has affected us all – personally and professionally – the Board has decided to amend the CPD requirements to provide members with additional flexibility in how you achieve your annual CPD requirements. In short, this will allow you to utilise more self-directed and informal education in recognition that some members will have limited opportunity to access formal training

You will shortly receive an email from the membership team detailing these changes for your level of membership. Please be assured we are here to help you through this process in any way we can and you can contact us on membership@planning.org.nz

LUNCHTIME SESSION | Best Practice Guidance - Planning and Notable Trees

ONLINE VIA ZOOM: 07 May 2020, 12:30—1:30pm, 1 CPD Point

During this lunchbox session Jez Partridge will provide practical advice on processing resource consents where protected trees could be affected. He will cover the level of tree information that should normally be required, and the standards this should meet. From receipt of the application and first site visit through to engineering solutions and use of conditions, the presentation uses examples of actual resource consents to distil learning and best practice outcomes. National Planning Standards protected tree requirements will also be covered.

[Click here for full details and to register - tickets are limited, be quick!](#)

Remember to join us next week, 28 April 2020, 12:30—1:45pm, for our 'In a post-covid 19 New Zealand, can we return to the local?' lunchtime session.



NZPI Award Winners

We are pleased to announce the next of our Best Practice Award category winners ...

NZPI Best Practice – Integrated Planning and Investigations

- The Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints
- Bloxam Burnett & Oliver
- Konstrukt Associates
- Mansergh Graham Landscape Architects

For the Temple View Project

[Click here for full details](#)

NZPI Best Practice – Consultation and Participation Strategies and/or Processes

- Auckland Airport

For the Auckland Airport Community Engagement Strategy – The Northern Runway Interactive Map

[Click here for full details](#)

Congratulations to All!

Next week we will announce the winners of the 2020 Best Practice - District / Strategic planning & guidance and the Best Practice - Non-statutory planning awards

2020 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE CONFERENCE
19 – 21 October, Christchurch.

www.environmentalcomplianceconference.org

REMINDER - Abstract submission deadline 29 May 2020, 3pm



Lockdown Air Quality Keeps Getting Better

Pollution levels in our main cities are continuing to fall as a result of the nationwide lockdown, says NIWA. Air quality scientist Dr Ian Longley has analysed data from the third week of lockdown and found levels of nitrogen oxides, mostly caused by vehicle exhaust, have fallen between 83 and 91% of normal at most sites ...

[Read More](#)

Putting Local at Core of NZ's Economic Recovery

As New Zealand prepares to move out of the strictest lockdown status, we need to ask a wider question: What kind of economy do we want to build? Iain White writes. There is a lot of media discussion concerning the economic recovery. This tends towards three main areas: the timing of dropping alert levels and what this entails, the size of the economic hit we may take, or finances and the specific sectors that will need tailored support ...

[Read More](#)



How we think about 'after'

Source: www.pce.parliament.nz

Confined citizens understandably want to know what comes 'after'. The same applies to policymakers and lobbyists (or, more politely, 'stakeholders'). I have been struck by the number of people who have asked if I am writing a blueprint – or at least sketching an environmental agenda – for an 'after' that is assumed to be radically different from 'before'.

There is an element of opportunism here. Some have been absolutely candid in expressing the view that one should never waste a good crisis. And there is no doubt that it is easier in times of crisis to sweep away institutions and rules than in normal times. This can cut both ways for the environment ...

[Read More](#)

NZPI BLOG | Discovering Public Life Under Lockdown

By David Batchelor

David Batchelor is a planner and heritage advisor in Wellington.

Twenty-seven people and three dogs occupied Kelburn Park in Wellington at 5:36 pm last Tuesday.

The lockdown has pushed many people into 'formal' recreational parks for the first time; myself included. These parks have proven essential for people to regain their freedom. But, most importantly, the lockdown is teaching New Zealanders the art of using public space.

During my regular visits to Kelburn Park, I have witnessed New Zealanders becoming accustomed to using public spaces as outdoor living rooms. People are adopting the confidence to occupy public space and the ability to define its use, as seen in European and Asian cultures ...

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The NZPI Blog is place for you to have your say on key planning topics, issues or anything planning related you would like to share, [click here](#) for full details

JOBS

NZPI's Situations Vacant service connects you with planning opportunities available throughout the country.

Latest Jobs In Planning

- **PLANNER** | Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga
Location: Wellington **Level:** Intermediate **Closing:** 03/05/20
- **LOOKING FOR EXCEPTIONAL CONSULTANTS** | Mitchell Daysh Limited
Location: National **Level:** Various **Closing:** 15/05/20
- **PLANNING TECHNICIAN (BUILDING CONSENTS)** | Wellington City Council
Location: Wellington **Level:** Intermediate **Closing:** 06/05/20

Last Weeks Listings

- No Listings

Job Seekers

Looking for a Short-term, Temporary or Entry Level Position? NZPI offers all Student and Recent Graduate members the opportunity to advertise their availability online - [CLICK HERE](#) if you would like to register your details



NZPI Conferences

- [2020 Environmental Compliance Conference](#)
19 – 21 October, Christchurch

Branch & SIG Events

- Watch this space

Industry Events

- [Massey Planning Seminar: All sorted? Heritage planning for protection, sustainability and place-making](#)
29 April 2020, Online via zoom

EVENTS

To view all current job opportunities [click here](#) ...

“All members are strongly advised to familiarise themselves with their NZPI CPD requirements for planning their CPD in 2020 [click here](#)”

Upcoming NZPI Courses/Workshops

- [Planning for Non-Planners](#)
29 Apr, Online
- [Emerging Technologies and Resource Management](#)
01 May, Online
- [PM3: Running a Good Plan Process](#)
04 May, Online
- [RC3: Conditions, Decisions, Reports and Hearings](#)
05 May, Online
- [NZPI Lunchtime Sessions](#)
Various Dates, Online

To ensure a quality learning experience we are limiting online workshop sizes; we encourage you to book early to avoid missing out. .



NZPI CPD Spotlight on ...

NZPI Panel Discussion

30 April, Online

'How do we fast track consents as part of restarting the economy without compromising quality planning outcomes'

Join our panellists for a thought provoking discussion on the challenges and opportunities that fast tracking consents presents as we deal with the immediate need to restarting the economy, and also what changes made now might mean for future planning practices.

The format is each panellist has 5 minutes to state their view and then there will be 30 minutes of Q&A with attendees.

Panel -

- Professor Iain White from Waikato University
- Jo Ross from Massey University
- Jonathan Cleese
- Reg Proffit
- Kathleen Haylock

With NZPI Chair Karyn Sinclair sitting in as moderator/chair.

[Click here to register - tickets are limited, be quick.](#)



Advertising Opportunities

• Job Opportunities

Advertising with us means you specifically target qualified planners, we believe no one else will be able to offer you this kind of target audience.

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• Online Consultants Directory +PQConnect

We produce an online Consultants Directory to help companies enhance their visibility at an affordable price and to help the public find a qualified Consultant in their region. Who Should Advertise? Planners, Architects, Landscape Designers, Surveyors, Engineers, Lawyers and other Professionals involved in Planning, Design and the Environment.

[Read More](#)

• Events

Simply complete the online '[Event Advertising Request](#)' form and we'll get back to you with a quote. There is no charge for free events or events organised by NZPI Branches or the NZPI Young Planners Group. Event advertising is subject to the approval of our Events Manager.



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