



11 April 2025

Christopher Hetherington

s7(2)(a)

Dear Christopher

Request for Information – Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA) 1987

We refer to your official information request dated 14 March 2025 for:

“All correspondence to and from, regarding implementing the Quality Assurance Building inspection.

How many people have been charged hours on the Quality Assurance Inspection when it is or was not part of their Building Consent?

How much money has been collected by the Hutt city council for the Quality Assurance inspection when this inspection was not on a persons building consent. “

Answer:

The Quality Assurance Audit was implemented as an internal process due to issues the team were experiencing with the collection of documentation and missing and failed inspections at the code compliance application stage. These issues were significantly affecting our statutory timeframes and therefore customers were not receiving these as timely as they would like.

The addition of this audit does not increase the amount of time spent on a consent; it is a process to ensure all necessary information is correct prior to the application for code compliance certificate, therefore shifting some of the CCC processing time before the applications is received.

The outcome of this revised process is that there would be less refusal, CCC being issued quicker and the team can meet the 20-day statutory timeframe

Since it's implementation 96 audits have been completed, the average time to complete these audits is 1.5 – 3.5 hours charged at a rate of \$230/hour for

residential and \$250/hour for commercial. Essentially, we are using the time allocated to process the CCC application as below.

(for works \$20,000 and over)	Commercial: \$75.00	Commercial: \$80.00
Code Compliance Certificate (Application Fee for all building work included in an issued building consent)	Residential: \$195.00 Commercial: \$220.00	Residential: \$510 (includes 1.5 hours of processing, 1 hour of admin) Additional time: \$230.00 per hour Commercial: \$1,040.00 (includes 3.5 hours of processing, 1 hour of admin) Additional time: \$250.00 per hour
All additional processing and	Admin only: \$150.00	Admin only: \$165.00

It is important to note that the Building Control Group are required to be between 60 and 79% cost recoverable this policy has been set by Council to reduce the burden on rate payers and ensure user pays principals are applied. Regardless of when we check this information prior to the CCC application or after the time spent to make the technical decision will be charged to the customer.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response to your information request may be published on Hutt City Council's website. Please refer to the following link: www.huttcity.govt.nz/council/contactus/make-an-official-information-act-request/proactive-releases

Yours sincerely

Lakna Siriwardena

Legal Operations Advisor