



SUMMARY OF RESOURCE CONSENT APPLICATION CHARGES

When you are applying for a Resource Consent, it is important to understand the fees and charges that are associated with your application.

Under the Resource Management Act 1991, the Timaru District Council can fix charges for a range of activities such as processing applications, monitoring consents, or changing a plan. We are required to ensure that our charges reflect the actual cost of the work and the benefit to the application, as well as to the community.

This factsheet provides you with a summary of the type of charges that relate to your Resource Consent application, together with a schedule of charges for specific tasks.

Please note that when applying for a Resource Consent, the onus is on you to be familiar with the likely costs. If you want to discuss any of the information here, feel free to contact the Duty Planner at the Customer Services Reception, Timaru District Council, 2 King George Place, Timaru, telephone (03) 687-7271.

Our charges are in three parts:

1 Preliminary Fixed Charges (Your Deposit)

You will be required to pay a deposit when you lodge your application. The processing of the application can begin only when the deposit is received. Processing an application includes a number of tasks, such as checking to make sure that all of the relevant information has been received and writing a Planning Officer's report. If the deposit turns out to be less than the total costs for processing the application, then additional charges may be incurred. If the deposit turns out to be more than the actual cost of processing then the difference will be refunded to you.

2 Further Fixed Charges

These charges are incurred only when an application requires further work, such as a site visit, public notification, a pre-hearing meeting and/or a hearing.

3 Additional Charges

Additional charges are payable when the fixed charges are insufficient to cover the actual and reasonable costs incurred by Timaru District Council in the processing of your application. In these cases we will send an invoice with a break-down of the actual costs, once a decision is made regarding your application.

Ongoing Costs

Please note that the costs outlined here are the Resource Consent applications. Once your consent is granted you may be invoiced for costs associated with the monitoring of your consent(s).

Which charges will apply?

The fixed charges described above will apply to each application for Resource Consent (for a proposed activity).

Land Use Consents and Subdivision Consents will be issued as separate Resource Consents, with each requiring a separate preliminary fixed charge (deposit).

Can I object to these charges?

You can make an objection to any additional costs but not to fixed charges. (Fixed charges are set via the Annual Plan). When making an additional charge Timaru District Council is required to take into account a range of factors such as the benefit of the work to the applicant (compared with the community), what caused the work to become necessary (including any frivolous or unreasonable actions by a third party), and the willingness of the applicant to resolve issues without having to hold a hearing.

If you want to object you must do so in writing within 15 working days of receiving your invoice.

Refunds

Refunding a charge, or part of a charge, is known as a remission. You may seek a remission of the whole (including the deposit) or part of your charges if you believe the charge is unlawful, unreasonable, or in excess of the actual cost of the work undertaken by Timaru District Council. Like the process for considering objections (above), Timaru District Council will take into account the particular circumstances of the application, the beneficiaries of the work, and whether the additional charges are a fair reflection of the actual costs of the work undertaken by Timaru District Council.

Applications for remission of charges must also be made in writing to Timaru District Council and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.