



28 August 2020

NZ Kiwifruit Growers Incorporated
C/o Sarah Cameron
Po box 4246
Mount Maunganui south
MOUNT MAUNGANUI 3149

Dear Sarah

Advice on RSE accommodation facilities during Covid-19 pandemic border restrictions

Due to the current border restrictions as a result of the global health pandemic - Covid-19, Western Bay of Plenty District Council is currently supporting a pragmatic approach to RSE and seasonal worker accommodation facilities associated with the kiwifruit industry. We understand the difficulty with sourcing international workers (RSE workers) and therefore there is a need to allow alternative categories of workers to occupy accommodation facilities.

Some current resource consents associated with existing accommodation facilities specify only RSE workers are to be accommodated. At this time, we appreciate that with the inability to source RSE workers there remains a need for accommodation for domestic workers who will come from around New Zealand. Therefore, at this time, it is acceptable for other workforces involved with the kiwifruit industry to occupy those accommodation facilities.

Councils' advice is that consent holders continue to operate the facilities in accordance with the Site Management Plan and to communicate with Council any issues related to non compliance with current consent conditions. In particular, the increased potential of traffic effects as a result of domestic workers (who generally have their own transport) as opposed to RSE workers (who are usually transported in vans). If the facility is unable to operate in general accordance with its consent conditions Council may require a variation to any existing resource consents.

Council notes that the use of these buildings has been established through a building consent issued under the Building Act 2004. Any use other than for workers involved in the kiwifruit industry may result in a change of use to the buildings (in terms of the Building Act). If you have any queries regarding this, please contact our Building Services Team.

We will review our advice in the next 6 to 12 months and advise you in the meantime if anything changes. Please note that this letter does not exempt any other consent conditions

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associated with accommodation facilities in any other way other than what is prescribed above.

Please contact Tracey Miller to discuss this matter further.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tracey Miller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tracey Miller
Senior Policy Analyst Resource Management