

BRF-2895

David Ward  
Chief Executive Officer  
Selwyn District Council  
s 9(2)(a)

Dear David Ward

**COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 – comments sought on referral application – Lincoln Retirement Village Project**

The Minister for the Environment (the Minister) has received an application from Arvida Group Limited to refer the Lincoln Retirement Village Project (project) to an expert consenting panel (panel) for consideration under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (FTCA).

The project is described in Appendix A and the application documents are in Attachment 1.

Under delegated authority from the Minister and pursuant to section 21(2) of the FTCA, I invite Selwyn District Council to provide written comments on the referral application. A template is provided for this purpose in Attachment 2. Comment is sought on the specific matters outlined in the table below, and on any other matter you consider relevant to the Minister's decision on whether or not to accept the application.

Specific questions on the application
1. Are there any reasons that you consider it more appropriate for the project, or part of the project, to proceed through existing Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) consenting processes rather than the processes in the FTCA?
2. Does the applicant, or a company owned by the applicant, have any environmental regulatory compliance history in your district?
3. Provide details of any submissions or further submissions received on the proposed district plan that are relevant to the project site and/or the project?
4. Advise timing of the rezoning hearing and decisions relating to the project site?




The above information is provided to you in confidence and as part of the statutory process set out in the FTCA. Please do not forward the application or request for comments to anyone outside your organisation.

If the Minister accepts the application and the project is referred to a panel, Selwyn District Council will have the opportunity to nominate a local authority representative (who could be a councillor or independent hearings commissioner) to sit on the panel and determine the RMA approvals for the project. The applicant will provide a detailed assessment of environmental effects and cultural impact assessments at this stage and the council will have the opportunity to provide further comments to the panels.

Please provide comments via return email within 10 working days to ensure that the Minister takes them into consideration when making his decision. Note that the Minister is not required to consider any comments provided after this time.

If it is more efficient for you to discuss the applications, please contact the Ministry for the Environment's Fast-track Consenting Team at [fasttrackconsenting@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:fasttrackconsenting@mfe.govt.nz) to arrange an appointment.

Yours sincerely



Rebecca Perrett  
**Acting Manager, Fast-track Consenting Team**

Appendix:

A. Details of proposed project

Attachments:

1. Application to refer the Lincoln Retirement Village Project to an expert consenting panel, including supporting information (Databox link)
2. Response template for written comments

cc: Tim Harris  
Group Manager, Environmental and Regulatory Services  
s 9(2)(a)

Ben Rhodes  
Planning Manager  
s 9(2)(a)

## Appendix A – Details of proposed project

Project	Applicant	Details
Lincoln Retirement Village Project	Arvida Group Limited	The project is to construct and operate a retirement village on an approximately 11.4-hectare site located at 1506 Springs Road, Lincoln, Canterbury. The retirement village will include approximately 200 independent-living residential units, a two-storey care home building that accommodates approximately 60 assisted-living suites, and associated facilities, including a clubhouse and pavilion for resident activities. The project also includes works within Springs Road road reserve to upgrade the site access, development of outdoor recreation areas, landscaping, car parking areas, and any necessary upgrades to three-waters infrastructure.