

Fee Increase Consultation

Dear architect

Your feedback is sought regarding a proposed increase in the Annual Certificate of Registration Fee that Registered Architects are required to pay.

The increase would be from \$644.00 (GST included) to \$724.50 (GST included) annually, effective on 1 July 2020.

The Annual Certificate of Registration (ACR) fee is paid by all Registered Architects. The income provides about 80 per cent of the NZRAB's funding, the remainder coming from applicants for registration and bank interest.

The current ACR fee was set in 2013 when the fee was increased from \$563.50 (GST included) to \$644.00 (GST included).

This increase is needed because the NZRAB is facing significant deficits and the NZRAB's reserves are now unacceptably low. This is exposing the NZRAB to risk. We are seeking a fee increase to ensure that the NZRAB can do its work effectively in the near to medium term.

Several factors have led to this.

There has been significant inflation since the ACR fee was set at its current level.

The NZRAB's role continues to expand. On 30 June 2013, there were 1,671 New Zealand Registered Architects, whereas on 30 June 2019, 2,035 architects were registered in New Zealand. In 2012/13, the NZRAB received eight written complaints against architects. In 2017/18 and again in 2018/19, the NZRAB received 13 complaints. Recently the NZRAB has had to increase its total number of staff from 3.5 full time equivalents to 4.5 full time equivalents.

We expect that in late 2020 the NZRAB will be taking on a new administrative task providing an inhouse framework for architects to do and record their professional development activities.

For a NZRAB fee to be increased, the profession and the NZRAB's other stakeholders must be consulted.

To have input, please indicate by return email whether or not you think the proposed fee increase is fair and reasonable.

You are also welcome to make any comments that you wish.

This consultation will close on 23 September 2019.

Best wishes
Paul Jackman: CE