

Installation of second-hand wood burning fires

Information sheet

Tararua District Council currently allow the installation of second-hand fires, however, there are a number of conditions that must be adhered to.

The second-hand fire has to be certified by a suitably qualified welding engineer. A Building Officer may be able to advise you on this.

The engineer must give Council a report to advise that the fire is fit for purpose and that they are prepared to guarantee the fire will last for at least another five years.

The fire must comply with the National Environmental Standard for air emissions. Older models may not comply with this.

We do not recommend the installation of second-hand fires as often people think they are only a few years old but when they delve deeper for information they are often a lot older than thought.

The manufacturer may help here if you can provide them with the serial number.

Every fire has to be fitted with a new flue as well, whereas, if you purchased a new fire this may come with a new flue.

You still require a building consent for a second-hand fire. An application consent for a fire can be obtained at any of our service centres in Dannevirke, Woodville, Pahiatua, or Eketahuna. Under the Building Act 2004, Council have 20 working days to issue or decline the building consent for the fire. The application will be processed on receipt of all information and payment of fees. The cost is \$285 for a freestanding fire or an inbuilt, which is \$385.

You should also check with your insurance company as some insurance companies may not provide cover where a second-hand appliance is installed.

The fire must be installed (combustible surfaces clearance, hearth types, sizes, etc) as required by the fire manufacturer. Many of these older specifications are available on the internet, however, a Council Building Officer may be able to help if you are unable to find the correct information yourself.