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February 29, 2008

Consent numbers continue to grow

The number of dairy sheds built in Southland has more than quadrupled in January this year from the same time last year, according to Southland District Council statistics.

Building Control Manager Kevin O'Connor said in a report presented to Council this week 14 dairy sheds, with a combined value of \$2,756,300 were granted consent during January, compared to three with a value of \$211,550 during January 2007.

A total of 60 dairy shed consents had been issued up until the end of January for the 2007/08 financial year.

Dwelling consents also quadrupled, with 22, with a value of \$4,753,394, granted in January, compared to five, valued at \$1,332,772, in 2007, Mr O'Connor said.

In total, 106 consents, with a value of \$11,662,503, were granted in January, compared to 67, valued at \$2,856,768.

So far this financial year 911 consents have been granted with a total value of \$63,414,353. At the same stage last financial year 863 consents had been issued with a total value of \$49,844,339, he said.

"January has been extremely busy and despite what the economists are telling us, there's been no indication of things slowing during February either. It's looking like another busy year for us," Mr O'Connor said.

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