



The South African Council for the Project and Construction Management Professions

— CONSTRUCTING NEW PERSPECTIVES —

## Official Response to Media Query

**Midrand, 24 January 2020**

**Butcher Matutle, Registrar (SACPCMP)**

The frustration from the sector in terms of employment requirements is recognised and most definitely not ignored, and as a Council, we are always looking for ways to develop the Construction Industry and employment opportunities. Speaking specifically to some of the points you mentioned - may we please clarify the following:

The employment of qualified professionals in the sector is of the utmost importance to the SACPCMP. The safety of both the public (in terms of construction quality) and other employees working on sites is directly related to the competency of those working in construction industry. Employment is vital; safe and qualified employees are crucial.

If a doctor fails to renew his licence, would you use him as your doctor?

There is a degree of professionalism in the industry that needs to be adhered and the registration and annual renewal processes we follow account for this.

To clarify - we do not charge for PrivySeal certificates. The registration includes an application fee, the costs related to examinations/interviews/assessments (these are dependent on the category of application and are necessary to ensure competence) and an annual fee. The registration process and fees are not unlike those related to other professions such as doctors, engineers, or architects where competency is necessary, and needs to be regularly ensured.

What we find is that people do not pay their annual fees (they are invoiced and provided three months to pay with an option to pay pro-rata). People ignore these invoices or leave them for years without paying, which incur penalty fees.

It is not an ideal situation, but as a regulatory authority, we cannot issue certificates where people have not completed their registration processes adequately or kept their annual fees and CPD (continuing professional development) up to date. At the moment, we are in the process of updating our systems to support applications and registered persons even more, through a smooth automation process. We also regularly present workshops to assist with the registration processes (such as logbook completion). We look to provide opportunities

where people can maintain their CPD hours. And we have kept fee increases as low as possible.

We are working hard to support the sector and we encourage our professionals to meet us halfway, ensure their fees and credentials are keep up to date, and attend to their registration renewals in a timeous manner.

In terms of invoicing and the queries pertaining to fees and deregistration:

The following should be noted:

1. The SACPCMP invoices in December each year
2. Registered Persons have until the end of March to pay these fees, following which they are given an additional month as a grace period.
3. If by May, fees are not paid, the relevant persons will be put on suspension for at least six months before deregistration is even considered. The Council, which is aware of the strain faced by the economy and job sector, has looked to increase this period so as to avoid deregistration at all costs.

During the time of suspension, the Council may, under Sections 12, 20 and 22 of the Act, charge administration fees pertaining to non-payment of annual fees.

It should be noted that the annual fees are what sustains the Council's operations, which received no grants nor subventions from the Government.

Ends-

**Media Contact – For interviews or queries, contact:**

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**Note to Editors**

**About the SACPCMP**

The South African Council for the Project and Construction Management Professions (SACPCMP) is empowered by Section 18 of Act No.48 of 2000 to certify, register and regulate the Project and Construction Management Professions. The SACPCMP, as a regulatory authority, is established to advance project and construction management professions for the primary purpose of protecting the public interests and contribute towards the promotion of the built environment. The SACPCMP is empowered under Section 18(1)(c) of the SACPCMP Act (Act No 48 of 2000) to prescribe any specified category it deems fit from time to time and Building Inspectors registration will be one of the Specified Categories.