



Belmont Quarry Development – Part B

Substantive Application
Appendix B.1 – Curriculum Vitae – Planner
Winstone Aggregates

16 August 2026

Short-Form CV – Colin Hopkins

Planning Consultant | DCS Planning Limited

Qualifications

Master of Planning Practice, University of Auckland (2004)

Bachelor of Arts, University of Otago (2002)

Professional Experience

I am a planning professional with over 21 years' experience across New Zealand and Scotland, working in both local government and private practice. My background includes nine years in government roles and twelve years in consultancy, with extensive experience preparing and assessing resource consent applications, plan changes, and statutory planning documents.

Career history includes:

- Planning Consultant, DCS Planning Limited (2014 – present) – Providing expert planning advice and assessments for private clients, regulatory authorities, and government agencies across New Zealand.
- Principal Planner, Auckland Council (2008–2014) – Leading teams, managing complex applications, developing best-practice guidance, and appearing as an expert planning witness before the Environment Court.
- Planner, Aberdeenshire Council, Scotland (2007–2008) – Processing a diverse range of applications including renewable energy, housing, rural diversification, industrial development, and Greenbelt management.
- Planner / Senior Planner, Auckland City Environments (2004–2007; 2008–2011) – Progressed to Senior Planner and Team Leader, managing processing planners and front-of-house staff.

Relevant Skills & Expertise

- Resource consent preparation and assessment
- Plan changes and statutory planning processes
- Assessment of environmental effects
- Project management and multidisciplinary coordination
- Expert evidence and Environment Court appearances
- Managing complex, contested applications and delivering positive environmental outcomes