

PARTNERS TO PROPERTY FACTORS & BLOCK MANAGERS

# WORKING WITH CONTRACTORS WHO ARE USING BLOCKWORX

**AUG 2020** 



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## INTRODUCTION

This Guide will assist you with getting the best from working with your contractors who are using Blockworx.

Please make sure that the correct people in your organisation have access to this Helpsheet to enable them to link contractors to CPL and work more effectively with estimates, jobs and invoices.

In order to be able to work effectively in CPL with your contractors who are making use of Blockworx, they will need to request to link with you and you will need to link them to their PL Account.

There is a new **Blockworx Contractor Link Requests** card which you will be able to add to your CPL Dashboard and you will find information on this below, including a permission required to allow users to add this card to their Dashboard.

Please ensure that there is an existing PL Account for you to link each contractor to.

You will also benefit from making sure you do not have toaster popup notifications disabled in CPL.

SETTING PERMISSIONS FOR A USER TO ACCESS THE BLOCKWORX CONTRACTOR LINK REQUESTS DASHBOARD CARD

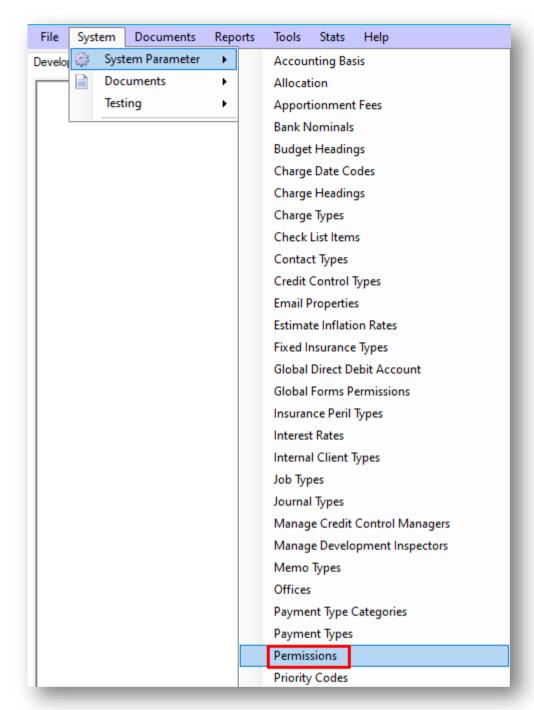
If the CPL user is a Superuser then you will not have to set permissions to enable them to turn the new Dashboard card on.

If they are not a superuser then you will need to set a permission for them.

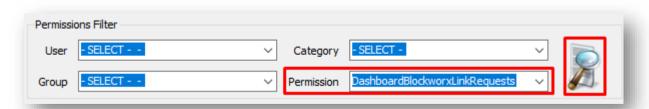
This permission is called **DashboardBlockworxLinkRequests**.

Click on **System** in the top menu bar in the main CPL screen. Once you have clicked on **System**, select **System Parameter** from the drop-down menu which appears. This reveals another drop-down menu. Scroll through this menu until you see the **Permissions** option and click to select this.



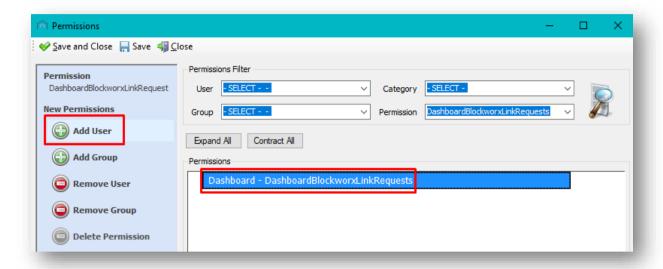


When the **Permissions** screen opens, select the individual **Permission** field and scroll until you find the **DashboardBlockworxLinkRequests** permission. Click on the **Search** icon.

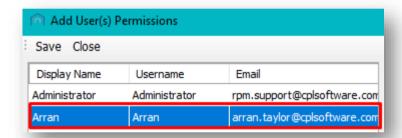




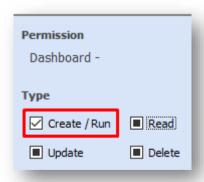
Click to highlight the permission in the grid and on the left of the screen click on Add User



This will open the Add User(s) Permissions screen where you can click to select a user in the grid.

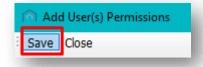


Once you have selected the user you will need to use the Permission **Type** tickboxes to set the correct level of permission. On the right of the window where the permission types are located, click twice to place a tick in the **Create/Run** type.



Click on Save in the top-left of the window to save this.

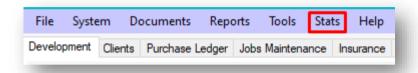




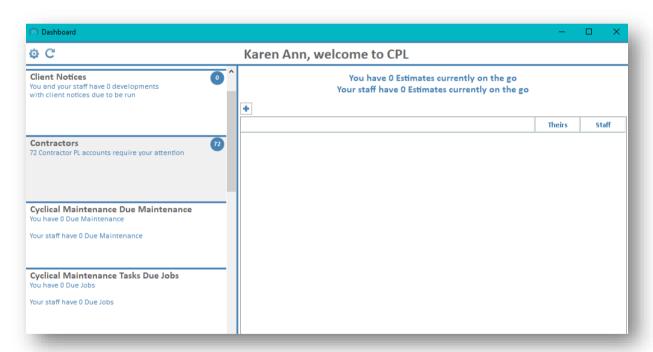
# ADDING THE BLOCKWORX CONTRACTOR LINK REQUESTS CARD TO THE DASHBOARD

To add this card to your Dashboard please make sure you have the Dashboard opened in CPL.

If the Dashboard is not already opened then click on the **Stats** option in the header menu of the CPL screen.

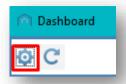


This will open the CPL Dashboard.

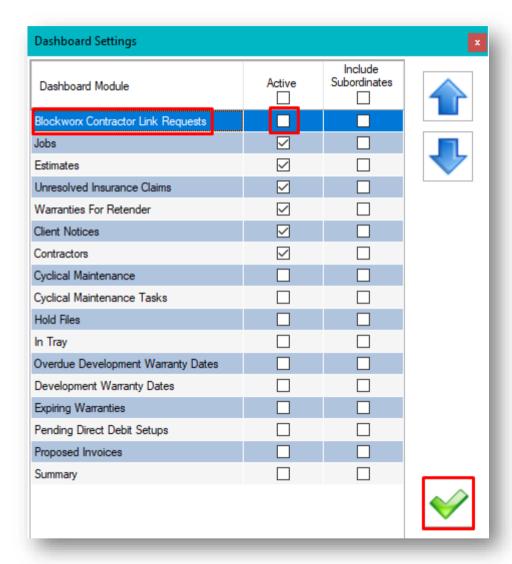


If you do not already have the **Blockworx Contractor Link Requests** card on your Dashboard then click on the settings cog icon towards the top-left in order to add this.





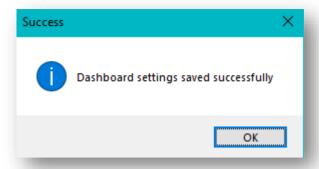
This will open the **Dashboard Settings** window.



Click to place a tick in the **Active** column for **Blockworx Contractor Link Requests** and then click on the green tick to implement this setting.

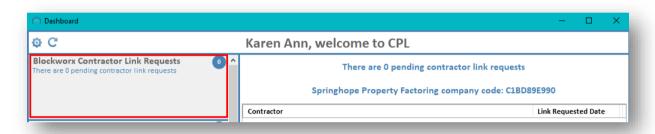
You will see a pop-up message confirming that your settings have been saved successfully.





Click on **OK** to dismiss this message.

The new card will now be added to your Dashboard.



This Dashboard card will list your **Company Code**. You will need to distribute this code to any contractors who you want to be able to use Blockworx to link with you as they will need to enter this into Blockworx in order to request the link up.

### **NOTIFICATIONS**

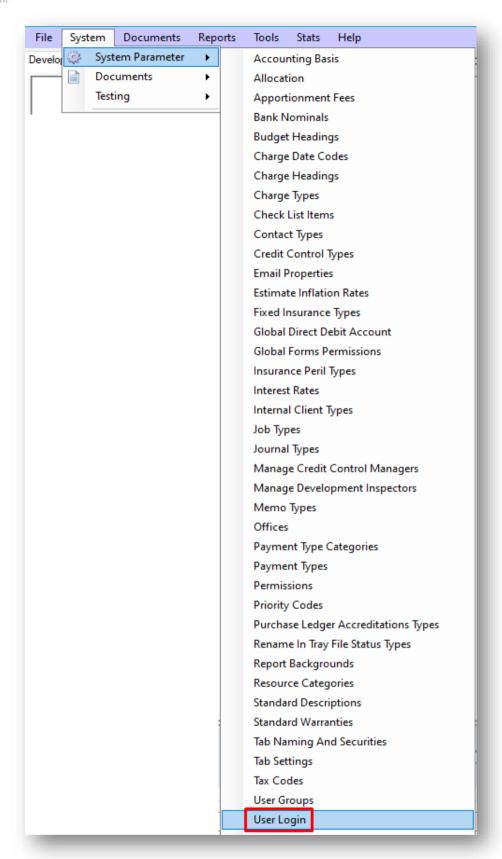
In addition to having the permission to allow the Dashboard card to be added, the user would also benefit from receiving the toaster pop-up notifications. This will enable them to be alerted when they receive comments from the contractor.

Being able to see these notifications would depend upon them not being disabled on the **Amend User** screen for this user.

In order to check that notifications are not disabled for a user, access their Amend User screen.

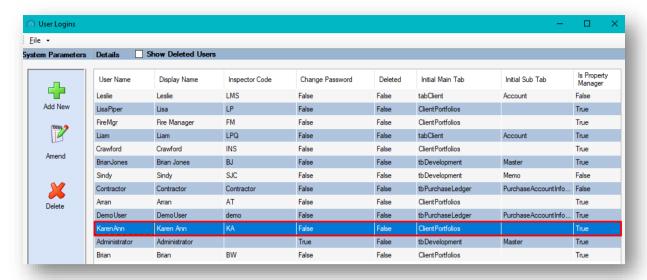
From the menu bar at the top of the CPL screen select **System, System Parameter** and scroll down to select **User Login**.



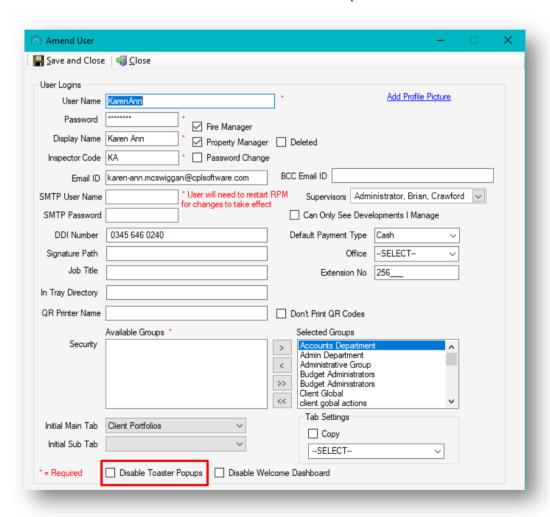


This will open the **User Logins** screen, containing a list of the users in CPL.





Locate the individual user on this screen and double-click to open their Amend User screen.



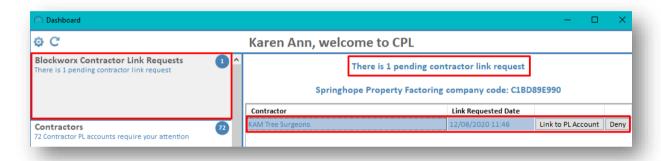
Make sure there is not a tick in the **Disable Toaster Popups** box if you wish this user to be able to receive notifications.



When a contractor has requested to link with your company using Blockworx then notifications will be able to be viewed on the right of your CPL screen.



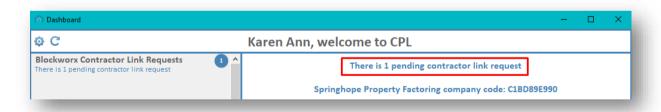
Clicking on the individual notification will open the Dashboard with the **Blockworx Contractor Link Requests** card selected.



### LINKING THE CONTRACTOR TO A PL ACCOUNT

Your contractors will use a specific code which has been issued to them in order to request to link to your company. The next step is for you to connect this contractor to a Purchase Ledger Account you have set up for them in CPL.

In order to view any link requests you have received, head to the **Blockworx Contractor Link Requests** card on your Dashboard.

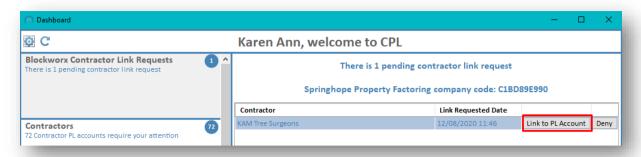


You will see a message informing you of any pending link requests awaiting your attention.

The link requests will be listed on the Dashboard card and you can link or deny them straight from here.

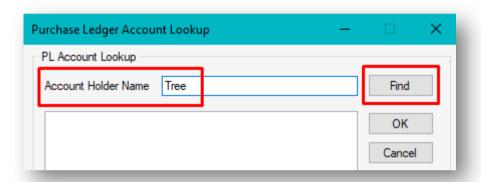
To link the contractor, click on the Link to PL Account button on the Dashboard card.



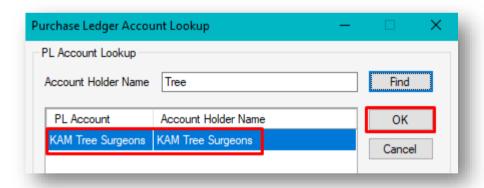


This will open a **Purchase Ledger Account Lookup** window which will enable you to search for the appropriate account.

Add the contractor name or code into the Account Holder Name field and click on the Find button.



Once you have located the correct account, click to highlight it in the list of results and click on the **OK** button.



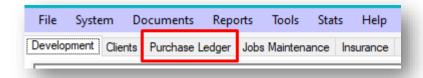
The contractor has been linked and will now be able to receive and respond to estimates and jobs and submit invoices to you in CPL via their Blockworx account.

### REMOVING A LINK WITH A CONTRACTOR

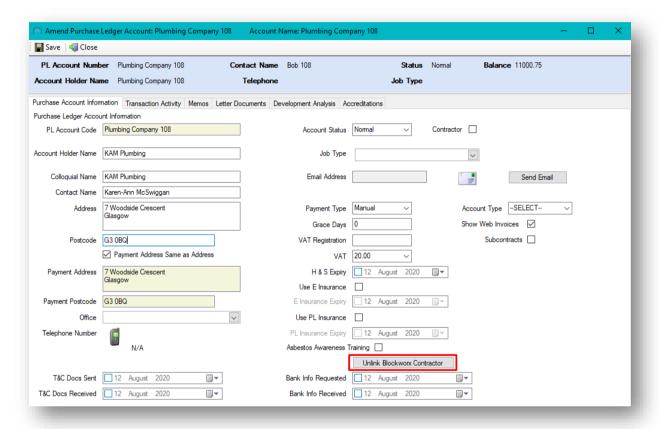
If for any reason you wish to remove a link with a contractor, head to the Purchase Ledger Account screen for the contractor in question.

Click on the Purchase Ledger tab on the main CPL screen.





Search for their account by using the filters at the bottom of the screen and double-click to open the **Amend Purchase Ledger Account** window for this contractor.



Clicking the **Unlink Blockworx Contractor** button will mean that the contractor can no longer send comments and files to you on Jobs and Estimates using Blockworx. They will still exist as a PL Account in CPL, as before.

### COMMUNICATING WITH A CONTRACTOR

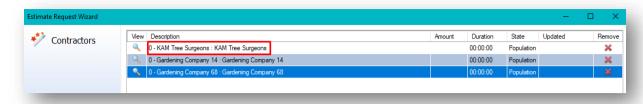
When your contractor is using Blockworx there is much more opportunity for them to communicate with you as their comments, quotes and invoices will come directly into the appropriate modules within CPL.

In the following sections you will find explanation for where you will see these comments, quotes and invoices and how this can help you achieve better communication with your contractor for a more efficient and smoother process for repairs and maintenance.

### **ESTIMATES**

Create an estimate in CPL as you normally would, adding the contractors you would like to receive quotes from.





Once you have completed the estimate details, click on the Send Quotes icon as usual.

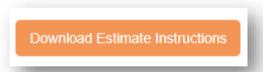


The contractor highlighted above has a Blockworx account and you have linked them through to their PL Account in CPL.

As well as receiving the estimate quote request by the normal method from CPL, your contractor will also receive information about this in their Blockworx website and app.



They receive the information above and can also download the estimate details straight from Blockworx.



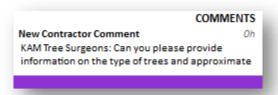
When your contractor is ready to send their quote to you, they can do this through Blockworx.

The contractor can also send you comments ahead of them submitting their quote. They may for example want additional information from you to enable them to provide a quote.

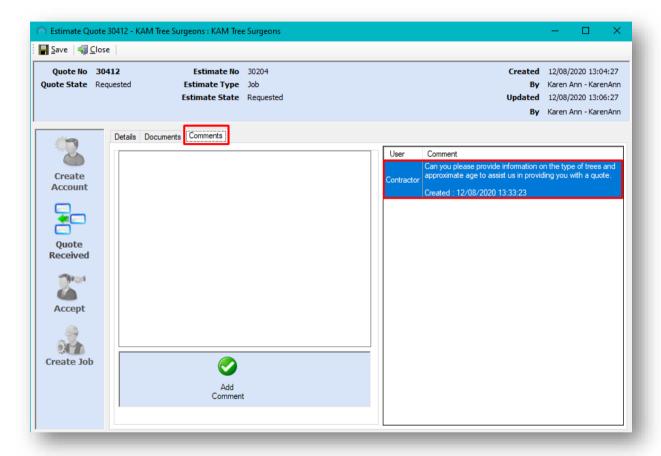
Any comments they submit regarding your estimate request will be available on the **Estimate Quote** window for that particular contractor.

If you raised this estimate (and you have not chosen to disable toaster popups) then you will receive a **New Contractor Comment** notification when the contractor sends a comment.



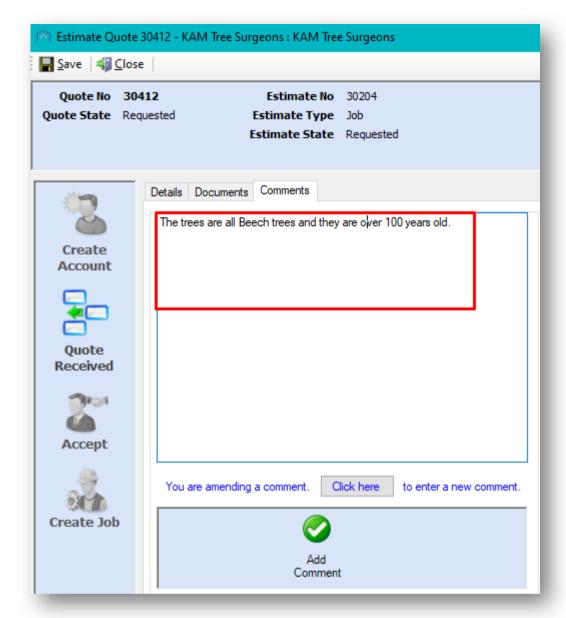


Clicking on this notification will open the **Comments** tab on the **Estimates Quote** window for this contractor and you will be able to review any comment they have sent by looking at the comments field on the right of the page.



You can type a return comment by entering this into the Comment field on the left of the screen.



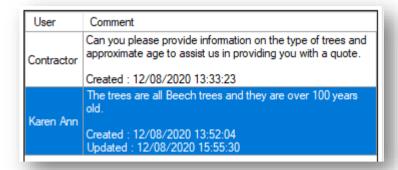


Once you have typed the comment you wish to send, click on the Add Comment button to send this.

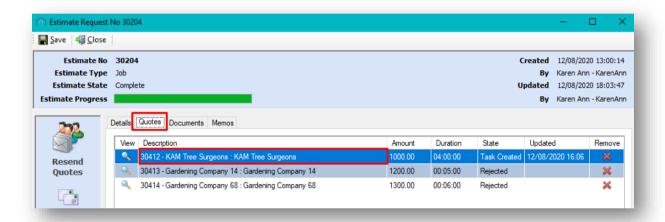


Your comment will then be added to the record in the field on the right of the screen and the contractor will receive an alert in Blockworx and be able to see your comment.

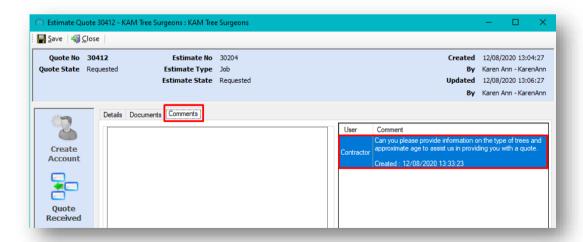




If you are not clicking on the notification to locate any comments from a contractor then you can navigate your own way to the comments tab by opening your estimate request and clicking on the **Quotes** tab.

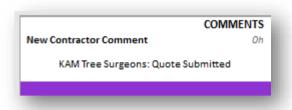


Double-click on the contractor to open the **Estimate Quote** window and you can select the **Comments** tab.

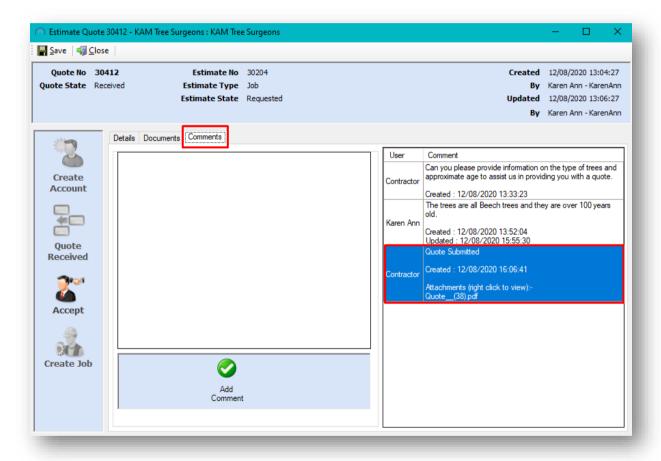




Your contractor will be able to use Blockworx to submit an estimate quote to you and you will receive another notification to alert you to this.

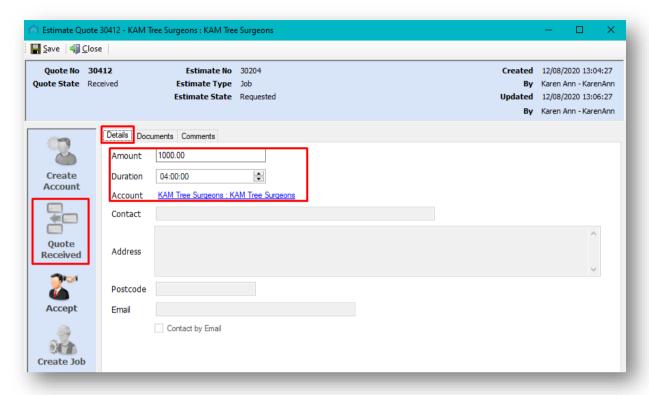


Clicking on the notification will again take you to the **Comments** tab of the **Estimate Quote** window, where you will find an update to confirm that a quote has been submitted by the contractor.

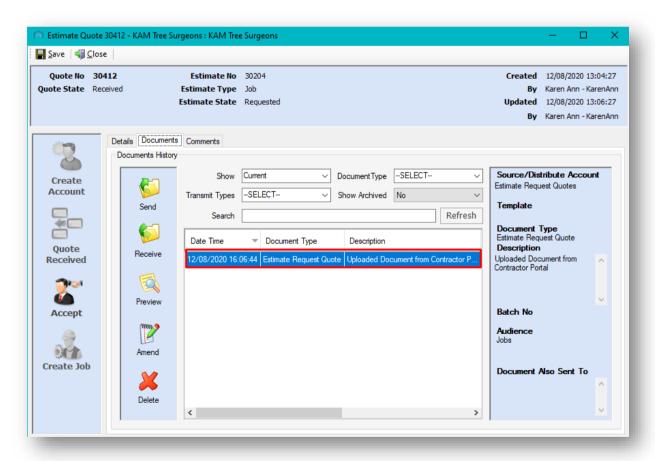


If you click on the **Details** tab you will see that the fields have been automatically populated with the information from the contractor's quote and marked as a **Quote Received**.





If you click on the **Documents** tab, you will find the quote has already been uploaded.





You can now proceed, as you normally would, to accept the appropriate quote you would like to move ahead with and send emails.

**JOBS** 

Once your estimate becomes a job, you would proceed as normal, through adding the additional information on Stage 1 of the Jobs Maintenance screen and click **Create New Job**.

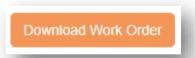
On Stage 2 of the Jobs Maintenance screen your contractor will already be selected as usual. Once you have added the additional information to the other fields, click on the **Create W ork Order** icon as you normally would.



As soon as you have clicked to create the work order for this job, your contractor will receive a notification in Blockworx with the full details.



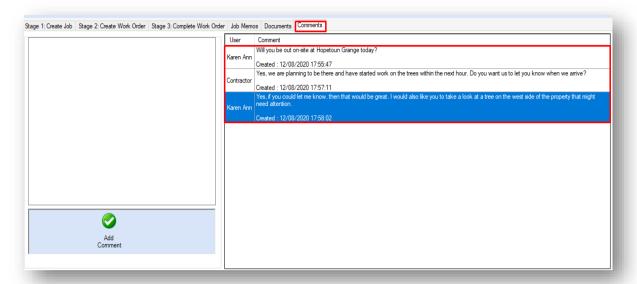
They also have the capacity to access the work order straight from their Blockworx app or website.



This will all happen automatically for your contractors, before you have even chosen to email or print the work order.

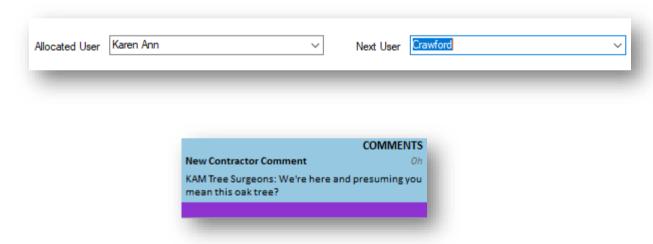
Similar to your estimate, the **Comments** tab on your job will be able to be used for comments between yourself and the contractor. This works in exactly the same way as it did with comments on your estimate request.





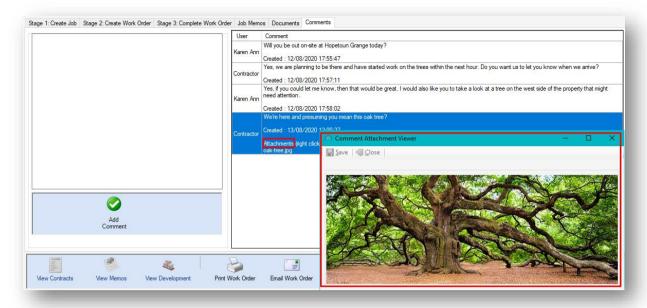
As before, the contractor will receive notifications when you make a comment about the job and you will receive a notification in CPL when the contractor has made a comment to you.

If, when you created the job, you allocated it to another CPL user, or allocated a follow-up user then the appropriate user would receive the notifications within CPL when a comment is received.

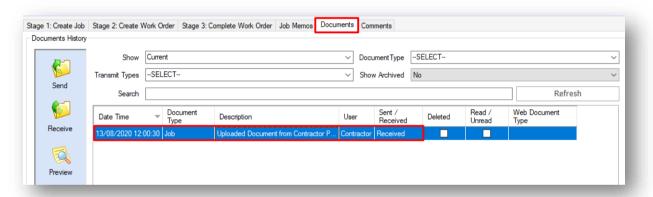


Your contractors will also be able to attach files, including images to their comments which you will be able to view in the comments tab of the job.





Any attachments submitted with your contractor's comments will also be available on the **Documents** tab for the job.



Messages can be sent backwards and forwards between you and your contractor at any time using their Blockworx account and you can come to agreement there and then. For example, they could be using the Blockworx App when they are onsite and message you directly with an image concerning the job.

You will also have a full record of all comments made in one place for the job, rather than a series of emails and phonecalls.

Previously, you would have had to mark the job as completed on Stage 3 of the Jobs process. However, the job will now be marked as completed when the contractor uses Blockworx to note the date and time and submit their invoice to you.

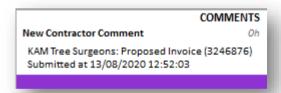


User	Comment
Karen Ann	Thanks, that's the one - I will send a separate estimate request for pruning this tree back.
	I'd be grateful if you could let me know how you get on with the other trees.
	Many thanks.
	Created: 13/08/2020 12:13:23
Contractor	It looks as though the Beech trees may take longer to prune than we had previously thought and there is an issue with some disease on one of them which will have to be treated.
	Created: 13/08/2020 12:14:54
Karen Ann	Ok, understood. Can you let me know how much you think that will add to the total cost for the job please?
	Created: 13/08/2020 12:16:03
Contractor	Bob is looking at that just now and thinks it will add another hour onto the job.
	This will add another £200 onto the total cost.
	Would you like us to go ahead with the additional treatment for this tree?
	Created: 13/08/2020 12:17:48
Karen Ann	Yes, please go ahead with that additional work.
	Created: 13/08/2020 12:18:21

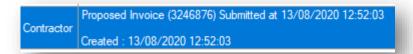
Contractor
Thanks - the job is now completed and we've cleared everything up and left the site.
Created: 13/08/2020 12:27:32

### PROPOSED INVOICES

Your contractor can also use Blockworx to submit their invoice to you.



When they have done this, you will receive a notification telling you that the comment on the job has been updated. Clicking on this notification will open the job and take you to the comments tab where the new comment will be listed.



You will also receive a separate notification informing you that there is a new proposed invoice awaiting your attention.



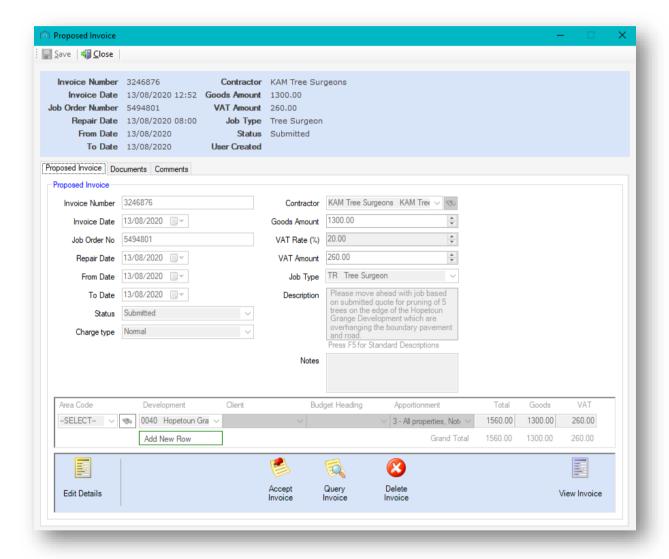
PROPOSED INVOICES

New Proposed Invoice Oh

Proposed Invoice 3246876 for Job 54948 Task 1

Created by a contractor on 13/08/2020.

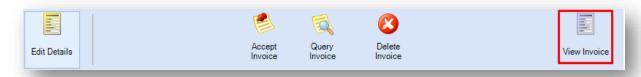
Clicking on this notification will open the individual **Proposed Invoice** screen which will contain all details of the contractor invoice for the work carried out.



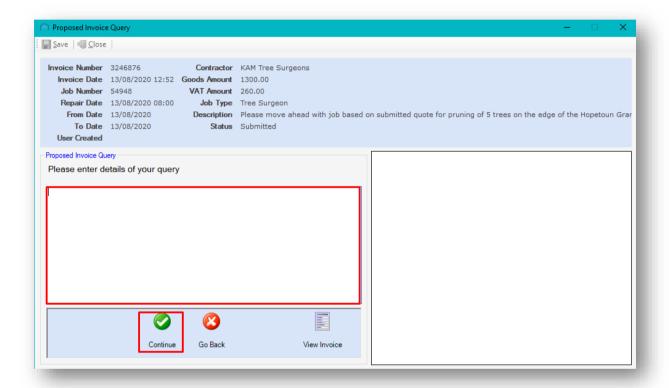
If you use the In-Tray in CPL then you will already be familiar with linking invoices through to the Proposed Invoices module. This allows you to view the invoice, query or delete and once you are happy with all details, accept it.

To view the invoice, click on the **View Invoice** icon in the action bar at the foot of the screen and you will see the invoice submitted by the contractor.





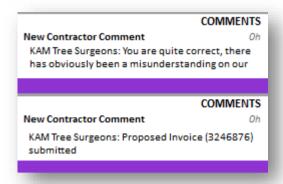
If you wish to query any aspect of the invoice, you can click on the **Query Invoice** icon and the **Proposed Invoice Query** window will launch. This works in the same way as the comments tabs for both your estimate and your job, except in this instance the comments will be held on the proposed invoice screen.



Enter the query message you wish to send to the contractor in the field on the left of the screen and click on the **Continue** icon to send this. This will send your message to the contractor and close the additional **Proposed Invoice Query** window.

When the contractor responds with a comment and/ or an updated invoice a notification will be received by the Property Manager and the Credit Control Manager listed for the individual Development in CPL.

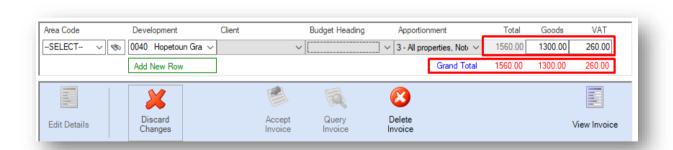




Clicking on either of these notifications will link you back through to the appropriate **Proposed Invoice** screen. Your updated invoice will now be available from there and the pin panel at the top of the screen will show the updated invoice amounts in red to alert you to the fact that these have changed.

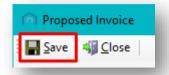


Click on the **Edit Details** icon, if you wish to amend details such as the apportionment, or the budget heading or to update the totals now that the contractor has updated the invoice.



Once you have edited any of the posting details, head to the top of the screen and click on the **Save** option to ensure any changes are saved.

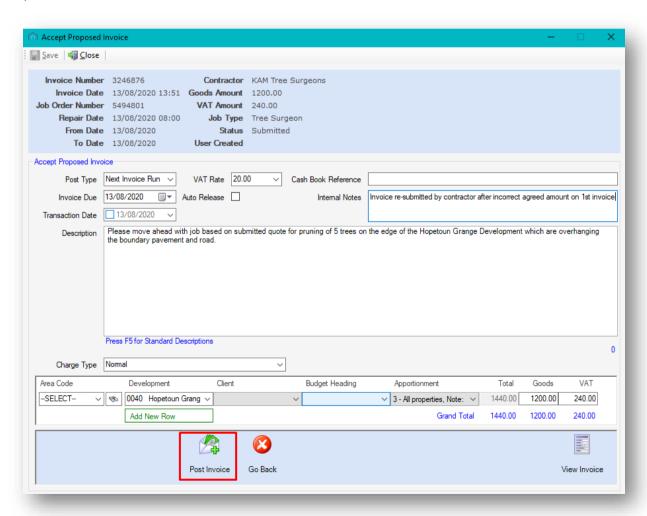




When you are happy with the invoice you can click on the **Accept Invoice** option in the action bar at the foot of the screen.



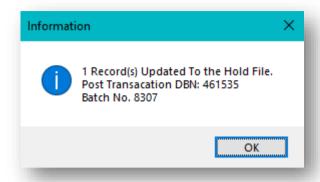
This will open the **Accept Proposed Invoices** screen where you can make any further changes required.





When you are satisfied with everything, you can click on **Post Invoice** to post the invoice through to the Hold File as normal.

Your invoice will be posted and you will receive a confirmation pop-up message.



### **DIARISED CHARGES**

Working with diarised charges for your developments with a contractor who is using Blockworx will now also be slightly different. The invoices will come in through Blockworx from your contractor when they are prompted by you running the diarised charge. The diarised charge will be suspended until the corresponding invoice comes in from your contractor and is approved by you.

When you have created a diarised charge, you will still run this in the **Diarised Charges** tab in PL Global for a period as normal. However, your contractor will now be able to get a notification in their **Outstanding Charges** area within Blockworx each time you do this.

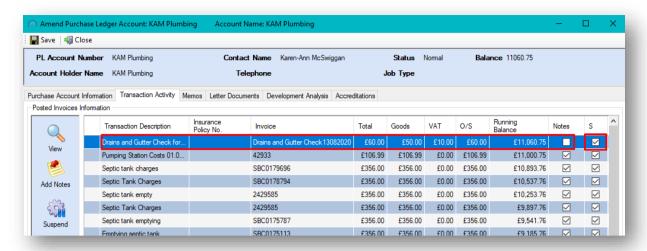


This acts as a prompt for your contractor who can the use Blockworx to generate and submit an invoice to you for this charge.

This invoice will be transmitted directly to CPL where you can view, approve or reject it.

Prior to being approved, the invoice will automatically be placed on **Suspend** in the Purchase Ledger as can be seen in the PL Account on the **Transaction Activity** tab for this contractor below.





To approve or reject the invoice, click on the Purchase Ledger tab on the main CPL screen.

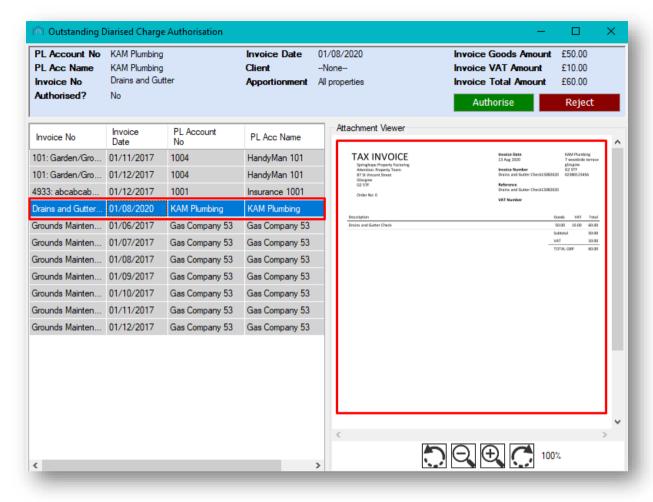


This will open the Purchase Ledger screen. Click on the **Outstanding Diarised Charge Authorisations** button on the pin panel on the right of the screen.

Outstanding Diarised Charge Authorisations

This will open the **Outstanding Diarised Charge Authorisation** screen, where you will find the diarised charge invoice listed with a corresponding preview.





If you are not happy with this invoice then you can choose to **Reject** it by clicking on the red button at the top of the screen. This will remove this invoice from the screen and the contractor would then be alerted to submit another invoice. You could then repeat this process for navigating to the **Outstanding Diarised Charge Authorisation** screen to locate the new invoice.

When you are happy to **Authorise** the invoice, click on the green button at the top of the screen. Once authorised, if you click on anything else in the list you will notice that your diarised charge has turned green.





If you head back to the PL Account for this contractor and back to the **Transaction Activity** tab you will see that, since it has been approved, the diarised charge is no longer on suspend.



This diarised charge will now come through for your normal payment runs since it is no longer suspended.



# **CPL KNOWLEDGE BASE**

This training guide forms part of CPL's Knowledge Base which is available for all CPL users at <a href="https://contact.cplsoftware.com/portal/home">https://contact.cplsoftware.com/portal/home</a>

The CPL Knowledge Base will be continually updated with additional guides and information. If you have any questions or suggestions for further guides we'd be happy to hear from you. You can contact CPL Support by emailing us at <a href="mailto:support@cplsoftware.com">support@cplsoftware.com</a> or through our portal at <a href="https://contact.cplsoftware.com/portal/home">https://contact.cplsoftware.com/portal/home</a> or calling us on 0345 646 0240 (option 1).

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