



Greater Christchurch RECOVERY UPDATE



Thousands turned out to greet New Zealand's conquering Olympians last month when Christchurch hosted the official Olympic Team homecoming celebrations.

Around ninety members of the New Zealand Olympic Team came to town on 24 August to a rousing Canterbury welcome. They signed autographs, answered questions, posed for photos and some later even competed against local children in various sports such as hockey, volley ball and athletics.

The 2012 New Zealand Olympic team brought home 13 medals from the London competition - equalling the record set by the 1988 team in Seoul.

Photographs clockwise; A traditional Maori welcome for the NZ Olympic Team in Christchurch, Mahe Drysdale signs autographs for eager fans, Olympians mix with young locals around the city after the official celebrations.

Support for a new Christchurch central city

The people of greater Christchurch are committed to the rebuild of the central city, according to a study commissioned by the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA).

Three surveys were carried out by UMR Research on behalf of CERA's Christchurch Central Development Unit (CCDU) immediately after the launch of the Christchurch Central Recovery Plan at the end of July.

The survey results were released by Invest Christchurch, the investment facilitation service of the CCDU. Manager Sheila McBreen-Kerr says the surveys indicate that Christchurch's businesses, young people and wider community plan to stay in the city, they are behind the Blueprint Plan, and they overwhelmingly think it is a good time to invest in Christchurch.

The three studies were made up of:

- 400 randomly selected business owners or managers from the greater Christchurch region
- 500 randomly selected residents of the wider Christchurch area
- 750 randomly selected New Zealanders

(The studies have a margin of error $\pm 4.9\%$ or better.)

The survey results show:

- Awareness of the Christchurch Central Recovery Plan is near-universal, with 99% of Christchurch businesspeople, 95% of Christchurch residents and 88% of New Zealanders reporting awareness
- Support for the Recovery Plan is high, with 74% of Christchurch businesspeople, 56% of Christchurch residents and 52% of New Zealanders supporting the Plan
- Opposition to the Recovery Plan is very low, expressed by only 7% of Christchurch businesspeople, 13% of Christchurch residents and 17% of New Zealanders
- 78% of Christchurch businesspeople and 61% of Christchurch residents believe Christchurch is heading in the right direction
- 73% of Christchurch businesspeople, 61% of Christchurch residents and 50% of New Zealanders believe it is a good time to invest in the city
- 97% of Christchurch businesspeople and 88% of Christchurch residents plan to keep living in the greater Christchurch region over the next few years
- More than 20% of Christchurch businesspeople want to locate their businesses in the new central business district

CERA Chief Executive Roger Sutton says CERA is very aware there are people in the suburbs and in greater Christchurch who are still dealing with a number of difficulties presented by the earthquakes.

"We know for some people life is extremely hard right now but we also know it is fundamental for the future of Christchurch that it has a strong and vibrant central city. This isn't an either/or situation. Christchurch has to be rebuilt and to recover both in the suburbs and in the CBD. What this research affirms is that we are heading in the right direction and we plan to keep building on that for the long-term good of greater Christchurch, Canterbury and New Zealand."

CCDU Director Warwick Isaacs also stresses the importance of moving ahead quickly with the rebuild of the central city.

"International experience indicates that the first three years after a major disaster determine the outcomes and how long the recovery takes. The development of this Recovery Plan in year two is an important step in assisting the long-term recovery of greater Christchurch."

Mr Isaacs says the Christchurch Central Recovery Plan reaffirms the country's commitment to Christchurch and lays the foundation for a dynamic, productive central city at the heart of a strong region. 🔄



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Gerry Brownlee
Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Minister

It has been two years since the first Canterbury earthquake in early September 2010.

We are making significant progress along our road to recovery and we can all be proud of what we have achieved.

The shared experience since then has come to define the lives of this generation of Cantabrians.

The challenge we all need to take up is to ensure that in five years' time, the event that defines our lives is no longer the earthquakes, but being part of the recreation of the magnificent new Christchurch.

We will create the best small city in the world and there are extraordinary opportunities for anyone who wants to be part of it.

Every part of the Canterbury community has been affected.

Following the February 2011 quake it was clear that a timely, focused and expedited recovery process was required. CERA was established, to provide leadership, quick action on urgent priorities and coordinate the recovery efforts of local authorities, businesses and the wider community.

CERA's key task has been to restore confidence in our physical environment. Almost 190,000 properties throughout the city and CBD have been zoned in a difficult process requiring the careful consideration of the capacity of the land to be safely rebuilt on. The zoning has restored confidence that we can rebuild Christchurch and restore our homes and neighbourhoods in the knowledge that if we had a similar quake in the future, it would not cause the same level of devastation.

I believe we have a better scientific understanding of our land than any other place in the world. This greater understanding of the land we are living and building on helps enhance our own sense of confidence, and that of insurers who are now making insurance more readily available and expanding their market beyond existing customers.

On 1 June 2012 CERA also released the Recovery Strategy, in partnership with strategic partners the Christchurch City Council, Selwyn District Council, Waimakiriri District Council, E-Can and Ngāi Tahu, to provide a vision, goals and a road map for ensuring the success of greater Christchurch. The Strategy shifts the emphasis of earthquake recovery from disaster response to implementing a shared vision and goals for the long term. Implementation is in full swing through 26 recovery programmes ranging from Economic Recovery to Cultural Heritage and Education Renewal.

The recreation of a magnificent new Christchurch has to be exceptional. We have to be - both public and private sectors - focussed on creating only the best of facilities.

Let's not be half-hearted. Everything we do in Christchurch should be the best. We have the opportunity to now make it happen.

The Government is committed to rebuilding and restoring the services that it provides in our city, new schools, health facilities, justice buildings, sports facilities, new roads, sewers and water pipes. The shopping list is long and is predicted to be \$30 billion dollars, roughly the size of our region's entire GDP. But it will leave us a highly productive and exciting place to live. We can't build all this overnight, but we must not delay.

Our level of investment will create an economic boom. Canterbury is already the fastest growing region in New Zealand. We also need to attract private investment and industry.

Money, people and ideas are pouring in. But, we need to develop an economy that is built on a fundamentally strong economic base. That economic base is the primary reason why the Central City will be recreated as the CCDU Blueprint lays out. The business community which drives our economy has embraced that vision of a modern CBD which makes doing business easier.

The Blueprint is also designed to be a place that people will want to not only work in, but also to live in. The Avon River Precinct, the Performing Arts Precinct, and the Frame, will provide a social and cultural fabric that people will enjoy being a part of.

Our goal should be that within a decade, Christchurch is clearly recognised as the best small city in the world in which to bring up kids, open a business, go to an art gallery, study at university, watch the All Blacks, make money, create jobs, build a home.

Partly as a result of the shared experience over the last two years, I think that people in Christchurch and Canterbury have a new respect for one another, and a tolerance that wasn't always here before.

We've had our scraps and bitter words, of course. We've been under pressure but it's made us stronger.

We have always been a beautiful city, in the most beautiful part of New Zealand; the place to bring up a family; and the main support centre for the South Island's most important industries, past and present, including agriculture, tourism, mining and oil, education, the high-tech industries and logistics.

We have a fabulous new airport, a restored port and are building superior roads, connecting us better than ever before with the rest of the South Island and the world.

If we can't make something extraordinary about the new recreated Christchurch off the back of such opportunities and such overwhelming public, political and business support, there is something wrong with us.

And we've proven this last two years there is nothing wrong with us. We have proven we are among the best and most resilient people in the world, and together we can achieve these goals.

CHRISTCHURCH CENTRAL RECOVERY PLAN

Land acquisition

The process of acquiring the land needed to implement the Christchurch Central Recovery Plan is now underway.

Land for the anchor projects identified in the Recovery Plan can be compulsorily acquired under the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Act 2011. However, CERA's Christchurch Central Development Unit (CCDU) would prefer to negotiate with land owners to reach a mutually acceptable agreement. The properties acquired will be used for anchor projects including the Convention Centre, Bus Interchange, Performing Arts Precinct, Central Library, Stadium, Metro Sports Facility and the Frame.

In total, 884 letters have been sent to property owners directly impacted by an anchor project. That includes owners of 127 separate unit titles related to the Farmers parking structure and complex.

CCDU Manager Implementation Greg Wilson says the process of acquiring properties by agreement began by sending an initial letter and questionnaire to all affected property owners. The Property Group (the Crown's Settlement Agent) is now making direct contact with property owners and will start negotiations for acquisition by agreement.

"The initial reaction from affected property owners who've made contact with us has been mixed, but the vast majority see the value and benefit to the city in the Plan. Many have expressed willingness to enter into the negotiation process and some have even indicated they'd like to settle quickly in order to free up the capital and get on and invest it."

"The feedback we've received is that the vast majority see the sense in what the Government is doing to acquire property to make sure we can deliver on the Christchurch Central Recovery Plan. This would not be able to happen if we left it to the market or just let the central business district grow organically. The Recovery Plan simply wouldn't be deliverable," says Mr Wilson.

Greg Wilson acknowledges in some cases negotiations may not be able to achieve a mutually acceptable resolution.

"At that point the Crown will pursue the compulsory acquisition process; however the Crown will make every effort to acquire property through acquisition by agreement."

Valuations for the acquisition by agreement process are being undertaken by Telfer Young and reviewed by Colliers on behalf of the Crown. The same values will be used as a basis for compulsory acquisition.

CERA is conscious of the tight timeframes involved. It is in the process of increasing CCDU staff to help implement the Plan and meet the significant investor demand.

For more information visit: www.ccdugovt.nz

CHRISTCHURCH CENTRAL RECOVERY PLAN

Papa o Ōtākaro/Avon River Precinct

The re-birth of Victoria Square.

A much larger Victoria Square will become a gateway to the city. It is a key feature of the Avon River Precinct, one of the Christchurch Central Development Unit's priority anchor projects.

The winding Ōtākaro/Avon River will create a new public precinct running from Christchurch Hospital to the East Frame. The right bank will form Christchurch's new urban waterfront edge. The left bank will be softer, with landscaping and meandering pathways. The precinct will give priority to people – city workers, city residents, pedestrians, cyclists and visitors.

CCDU Manager of Design and Planning Rod Marler says his unit is currently developing the design brief for the Papa o Ōtākaro/Avon River Precinct. The aim is to release a Request for Proposal (RFP) to the consultant market in October of this year.

"We're planning for Victoria Square to become a focal point for the Precinct. It will be a gateway to the city and a place of welcome for visitors. We want to reference back to Victoria Square's heritage and its history as a market place where Ngāi Tahu sold fresh produce to the early settlers. It will be a big space – probably about double what was there before in terms of green space, with the river running through the middle. Victoria Square will be developed all the way through to the Durham-Kilmore Street corner, incorporating the Crown Plaza site".

Te Puna Ahurea Cultural Centre is proposed as part of the enlarged Victoria Square, on the western side of the river. It will provide an interactive and dynamic facility to complement the nearby Convention Centre and Performing Arts Precinct.



Illustrative concept of the Ōtākaro/Avon River

Rod Marler says the rest of Papa o Ōtākaro/Avon River Precinct will be developed with a slightly different focus for each river bank. The right-hand or city-side bank will be developed to form an urban edge. That will include pathways, terraces and access to the water.

"The left-hand side will be softer in character and more park-like with the introduction of more native plantings, pathways and places to sit and enjoy the view. We'll have a cycle path running through but overall it will be a slower, more peaceful environment."

An arts trail featuring various artworks and places that celebrate the stories of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu will also be woven into the space.

Rod Marler says Papa o Ōtākaro/Avon River Precinct will have pathways that link points of interest together so it will become Christchurch's promenade – a place to stroll with friends and family, unencumbered by the bustling city nearby.

"It will become the must-go place for visitors and locals, a destination in itself." 🌍

Invest Christchurch

Local, national and even international investors have already shown strong interest in investing in the new Christchurch central business district.

The Christchurch Central Recovery Plan was launched on 31 July. Local and central government will be committing significant funding but, if it is to be implemented successfully, the Recovery Plan will also need financial input from private investors. For this reason, Invest Christchurch, the investment facilitation service of CERA's Christchurch Central Development Unit (CCDU), was established.

A team of Invest Christchurch representatives have held a series of presentations nationally to explain the Recovery Plan and give target groups of potential investors and their advisors all the information they need to start making investment decisions.

A website and call centre have also been established as a first port of call for potential investors (visit www.ccdi.govt.nz, email investchristchurch@ccdu.govt.nz or phone +64 3 352 0636).

The Manager of Invest Christchurch, Sheila McBreen-Kerr, says the bulk of the interest has been local. However, they've been surprised by how much national

and international interest they've had at this early stage.

"On the one hand, we've had local investors often directly affected by the Christchurch Central Recovery Plan. They want to check their understanding of detail and how it affects them. We're finding they may come back two and three times as they get to grips with implications and current possibilities. On the other hand, investors from the rest of New Zealand, Australia, China and the United States are also logging interest. They've got different questions. They want to understand the opportunities for them, the timeframes of major projects and how and when can they get involved. Some also need support to understand the New Zealand systems and processes."

Sheila McBreen-Kerr says they've fielded hundreds of enquiries and have already worked more significantly with over 70 interested parties. Enquiries are also being handled by Recover Canterbury and Christchurch City Council, who are working closely with Invest Christchurch.

The next step will include an international promotion campaign which will take the Christchurch Central Recovery Plan to the international market in the fourth quarter of this year. Planned target destinations include Australia, Asia and Europe. 🌍



Roger Sutton
CERA Chief Executive

Spring is finally upon us bringing sunshine, daffodils and the promise of summer. Our record-breaking Olympians have been in town for their official Olympic Team homecoming celebrations bringing excitement and pride to the city.

It's hard to believe it's been two years since the first earthquake struck in Canterbury and changed our lives forever. That first magnitude 7.1 quake hit at 4.35 am on 4 September 2010, 40 kilometres west of Christchurch at a depth of 11 kilometres. Since then, this region has experienced more than 11,900 quakes including the devastating 6.3 magnitude February 22 event.

It may not always feel like it but we have made so much progress since then. The launch of the Christchurch Central Recovery Plan will see the creation of a vibrant and exciting central business district. The Stronger Christchurch Infrastructure Rebuild Team (SCIRT) has completed 187 projects valued at \$73 million – its budget over five years is more than two billion. EQC through Fletchers EQR has completed more than 21,000 full repairs on damaged homes.

I know some of the residents of greater Christchurch are still doing it hard. More Port Hills property owners have been zoned red in the last month and others, albeit comparatively very few, still wait to hear what will happen to them. Some green zone property owners are also looking for answers.

CERA is working hard to keep people informed.

We've held a number of meetings recently in Sumner and Heathcote to talk about the Port Hills zoning decisions. Some are still zoned white. We haven't finished doing the analysis needed over possible rock-fall and landslide mitigation measures and a decision cannot be made until this is done. I know some of these decisions have taken a long time. However, as I've said before, the complexity of some of the issues we have encountered are unprecedented.

We are also in the process of holding a series of community meetings for property owners in the residential green zone, which run through to early October. The meetings are an opportunity to hear from, and talk with, representatives from CERA, Building and Housing, insurers, Council and EQC on the latest information around flood risk, insurance processes and land damage assessments, including the issues facing property owners in Technical Category 3.

I encourage people to attend if at all possible.

You can find out more about these meetings and about support and assistance that is available on the CERA website www.cera.govt.nz or by calling **0800 RING CERA (0800 7464 2372)** during office hours.

Support is also available through the Earthquake Support and Counselling Line: 0800 Canterbury Support Line **0800 777 846**

Find out more about the Canterbury Earthquake Temporary Accommodation Service (CETAS) by visiting: www.quakeaccommodation.govt.nz or call **0800 673 227** for assistance. 🌍

Survey to gauge Cantabrians' wellbeing

A survey is underway to help CERA and partner agencies better understand residents' experiences and perceptions of recovery in greater Christchurch.

The Wellbeing Survey investigates a range of ways in which people have been affected by the earthquakes. That includes looking at the prevalence and causes of stress, quality of life, social connectedness, satisfaction with the recovery and any positive impacts people may be experiencing.

The Wellbeing Survey be undertaken in two parts. First, Nielson is surveying a randomly selected representative sample of 2,500 residents. Second, is an online survey available to all residents in October.

The Nielson survey of the representative sample began on 29 August and will continue until 14 October 2012. The 2,500 residents surveyed live in greater Christchurch (1,250 in Christchurch, plus 625 each in the Waimakariri and Selwyn districts) and are selected randomly from the electoral roll.

CERA General Manager Community Wellbeing Michelle Mitchell says the Wellbeing Survey will continue to be run twice a year for the next three years. The information it provides will be used to understand people's wellbeing across greater Christchurch.

"We want to understand people's wellbeing and recovery better. We need more information about how people

are feeling in different parts of town and in the greater Christchurch area. From this, we can see what trends are emerging in different places in terms of wellbeing and identify where best to target resources."

The online survey will be available to all residents on the CERA website from 15 October for two to three weeks.

Michelle Mitchell says that, through the online survey, residents who were not selected for the representative sample will get the chance to have a say.

"The survey is not just for those who are worst affected by the quakes, it's for all residents. It will allow all people in greater Christchurch to engage in dialogue about the progress of recovery."

CERA has developed the Wellbeing Survey in partnership with Christchurch City Council, Waimakariri District Council, Selwyn District Council, Canterbury District Health Board, Ngāi Tahu and the GNS Natural Hazards Research Platform which is also a major funder.

The data will be incorporated into the Canterbury Wellbeing Index which is designed to track the progress of recovery using indicators in areas such as housing, health and education.

The Canterbury Wellbeing Index will be available on the CERA website later this year. 🗺

Residential red zone homeowners meet an important deadline

The expiry date of the first of the Crown offers to residential red zone property owners passed on 19 August 2012 – and all eligible property owners accepted the offer.

Property owners have up to 12 months from the date on their letter of offer from the Crown or until 31 March 2013, whichever comes first, to accept the Crown offer by submitting a signed Agreement for Sale and Purchase to the Crown via their lawyer.

If property owners do not submit a signed agreement by that date, the Crown offer will expire and will no longer be available to accept.

The first of those deadlines passed on 19 August 2012 with almost 3,000 affected property owners submitting a signed agreement in time. This process will continue with other offers. However the expiry date for each individual differs, depending on the date on their offer letter.

Property owners in South New Brighton and Southshore who were zoned red on 18 May 2012 have up to 12 months from the date of their offer letter or until 31 May 2013, whichever comes first.

So far 7,779 properties, including the recent Port Hills zonings and the zoning review changes, have been zoned red. At the end of August, 5,782 had returned a sale and purchase agreement. Of those, 4,501 have settled with the Crown and moved on from their former homes.

The majority of property owners (3,372) have selected Option 2, while 1,129 have chosen Option 1.

Information and assistance are available from a range of organisations. Call CERA on 0800 RING CERA (0800 7464 2372) 8am to 5pm weekdays or visit: www.cera.govt.nz. You can also visit the Kaiapoi Earthquake Hub at 11 Cass Street in Darnley Square, or the Earthquake Assistance Centre at the Avondale Golf Club to talk to someone face to face. 🗺

New start for long-time Southshore couple

Long-term Southshore residents Les and Dorothy Batcheler are preparing for a different life away from their beloved estuary.

The couple have been red zoned after 19 years in their Rocking Horse Road home. Dorothy Batcheler says they have accepted they will take the Crown's offer for their property, and move on with their lives.

"It is a bit heart-breaking but we are taking a pragmatic approach. It might be two months or it might be 10 months but we will move on."

The Batchelers will probably move to the north-west of Christchurch to be closer to family but not before they

are both recognised for their work to protect the estuary ecosystem. Both have just been granted honorary life membership by the Avon-Heathcote Estuary Ihutai Trust.

Les Batcheler is best known for campaigning for the Christchurch City Council's ocean outfall project, an \$87 million venture that takes Christchurch's treated sewage three kilometres out to sea. Prior to that, the wastewater went directly into the Avon-Heathcote Estuary.

Dorothy Batcheler says her husband Les in particular will miss the area. "But we've talked it over with other people in the same boat as us and we understand if you've got to go, you've got to go." 🗺

UPDATE FROM THE
CANTERBURY EARTHQUAKE
RECOVERY AUTHORITY

The flat land zoning review

The outcomes of the review of flat land zoning were announced on Friday 24 August.

Just over 100 flat land properties have had their zoning changed, following an assessment by the Zoning Review Advisory Group. The review was led by Dr Keith Turner, and followed the last zoning decisions which were completed in May this year.

Initially more than 1350 people applied to have the zoning of their property reviewed, although some subsequently withdrew that application. In total, three properties will change from red to green zone, and 101 properties will change from green to red. The remainder will not change. In the process of the review, 35 properties whose owners had not applied for a review also had their zoning changed - all from green to red.

CERA Chief Executive Roger Sutton says he is very happy with the review process, and thanked Dr Keith Turner for his guidance.

"I appreciate this still didn't give everyone the answer they were hoping for, but the process has been able to correct the boundary anomalies where needed. This is the end of the flat land zoning process now. It has been an incredibly long and detailed process but I am happy that there is finality for the many people who have been so badly affected by the devastating earthquakes."

A zoning review for Port Hills properties will also take place in the future. Final zoning decisions are expected on 14 September for 37 Port Hills properties which are still zoned white – six in the Horotane Valley and 31 on Bridle Path Road. Mitigation analysis has not been completed for these properties. A decision is expected in October for eight properties on Lucas Lane. 🗺

CERA 
Canterbury Earthquake
Recovery Authority

Phone: 0800 RING CERA (0800 7464 2372)
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An update from Ngāi Tahu: He Toki ki te Rika – Inspiring Leadership in Trades

Māori Trade Training is experiencing a renaissance as a new generation of students step up to rebuild Christchurch.

He Toki ki te Rika was launched by Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, CPIT and industry partners to build Māori capability and facilitate leadership in the construction and infrastructure sector. As well as gaining practical skills, students are taught in a cultural environment, involving tikanga and the use of Te Reo.

CPIT Kaiarahi Hana O'Regan said CPIT was well positioned to deliver He Toki. "It was right that we put ourselves forward to support the re-establishment of Māori trade training in Christchurch given our history as a key provider of Māori trade training in the region, and our commitment to whānau transformation through education."

The He Toki network enables students to make a seamless transition from classroom training to on-site work and then employment. Also, semi-skilled 'tradies' without formal qualifications can gain recognition of their experience through CPIT's Centre for the Assessment of Prior Learning.

The original Māori trade training programme started in the late 1960s, running through to the 1980s. Hundreds of young Māori came to Christchurch from all over the country to learn a trade. It was a significant period of change that helped to grow the city at the time. Today, graduates from programmes past are returning to mentor and encourage new entrants.

Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu Kaiwhakahaere Mark Solomon says the foundation of the programme is kinship.

"This is not a scheme to teach young Māori how to hammer nails or hold a paint brush. We want our Māori students to understand the whakapapa of the programme, the history of Ngāi Tahu and the land, and to understand the importance of a site."

"We are saying to our Māori youth: 'We'll provide you with this training so that you can become the foreman, or engineer, or city planner'. It's about leadership."

Hawkins Construction came on board as a partner last year to create work experience opportunities for He Toki students at some of their project sites.



Steve Taw, South Island Manager says Hawkins is proud and excited to be part of a programme providing direct benefit to the local community and iwi.

"We recognise that our support to the programme will have positive outcomes for all its stakeholders as we work collectively to rebuild Canterbury."

Visit www.hetoki.co.nz for more information. 🌐

SCIRT: Repairing the city's veins and arteries



SCIRT's budget for the five year infrastructure rebuild is more than \$2 billion.

Underneath Christchurch are extensive networks of infrastructure, the city's veins and arteries. Pipes and pumps carry fresh water to our homes and businesses and take away wastewater. There are also storm water pipes, which channel the rain water that falls on our rooftops and roads to streams and rivers.

These engineering channels provide the core civic services that allow us to get a drink from the tap, turn on the washing machine, flush the toilet, have a shower, and live in a street that doesn't flood every time it rains hard. Rebuilding this infrastructure is a mammoth task. The Stronger Christchurch Infrastructure Rebuild Team (SCIRT) has until 2016 to do it.

Wastewater fixed first

Because wastewater management is crucial to a healthy

city, replacing broken wastewater pipes is a high priority.

- More than 500km of wastewater pipes were damaged of a total of 1,700km total - close to 30%.
- About 100 wastewater pumping stations need to be rebuilt or repaired.

Many of the city's wastewater pipes were made of earthenware. These were easily broken when the ground shook and liquefaction forced its way in, creating blockages and more damage.

These pipes are also likely to be buried the deepest, so have to be re-laid first. Before the earthquakes, gravity was the main way to get wastewater from homes to the trunk sewer collecting point. This meant some pipes would be buried several metres deep before the wastewater was pumped up again.

Taking into account ongoing aftershocks, gravity is now a less reliable system, especially around the rivers, due to ground conditions. These areas will be getting pressure sewer systems which are a more resilient wastewater system. Other areas will get an enhanced gravity system, with plastic or PVC pipes and more lift stations, pumping gravity-piped wastewater to a higher level along the route.

Freshwater - less damage

Fresh water supply pipes are much less damaged than wastewater pipes. This is largely thanks to a Christchurch City Council programme of upgrading and replacement with plastic or PVC pipes which started years before the earthquakes. The current assessment is that around 50km of fresh water pipes are damaged. Some reservoirs were damaged by the earthquakes but can still be used. In the long term, they need to be restored. Huntsbury reservoir,

our city's biggest, was seriously damaged, and has had to be fully replaced.

Storm water pipes – least damage

Storm water pipes are largely functional with more damage in the city centre and eastern suburbs. However, broken sumps and hollows along streets will reduce storm water draining away quickly.

This won't be fixed until the road is repaired. In general, SCIRT is repairing and replacing storm water systems to get the level of protection that existed before the earthquakes, and where justified, also making them stronger and easier to maintain.

Final icing on the cake

Once all the pipes under the road are replaced or repaired and, wherever possible, once the telecommunications lines are also in place, the road will be repaired or permanently rebuilt. Until everything is fixed, and no more digging is anticipated, roads will be temporarily mended and patch-fixed.

Learn more about SCIRT: www.strongerchristchurch.govt.nz 🌐



SCIRT

Phone: 03 941 8999

Email: info@strongerchch.co.nz

Web: www.strongerchristchurch.govt.nz

Apportionment given priority

The Earthquake Commission has prioritised the apportionment of building claims with more than \$80,000 of damage, says Bruce Emson, EQC General Manager Customer Services.

Apportionment is the process EQC uses to allocate damage across multiple claims from different events.

"For example, if a home was damaged in the September, February and June earthquakes and a claim was made each time, EQC needs to determine what damage was caused in each individual quake," Mr Emson says. "The proportion of cover coming from EQC or the insurer may be higher or lower, depending on how damage is apportioned between claims."

"We are very aware that the need to attribute the damage to each event through apportionment can slow the processing of some claims so EQC is pushing through as many apportionment settlements as we can

every week. EQC has processed nearly two-thirds of those claims which need apportioning," he says.

"All the remaining high-priority claims will be apportioned for settlement within nine months.

"In addition to this apportionment activity, Mr Emson reaffirmed EQC's commitment that all repairs under the Canterbury Home Repair Programme (CHRP) as well as cash pay-outs will be completed by December 2015, as stated by EQC last year when CHRP was launched."

The apportionment process is necessary because the High Court last year clarified in a declaratory judgement that cover begins afresh after each earthquake event. 🌐



EQC
Phone: 0800 Damage
(0800 326 243)
Web: www.eqc.govt.nz

Cathedral conversations

How could the use of light define the ChristChurch Cathedral? Which unique values should be embodied in the cathedral? These are just two of questions being asked in a new book "Cathedral Conversations."

Bishop Victoria Matthews said, "We want to invite everyone to take part by considering the questions in this book and thinking about what inspires a sacred place to truly give glory to God and lift our hearts towards heaven."

The book conveys the information gathered from a study tour by a small group including the Bishop, Acting Dean Lynda Patterson, Project Manager, Marcus Read, of RCP, and architects, Bill Gregory and Blair Johnston, from Warren and Mahoney.

The feedback received will be used, with all that has already been received, as part of the concept design process. This is the very first phase in thinking about the future cathedral. "The feedback "builds a picture," said architect Blair Johnston. "We are asking how a physical environment might respond to the questions raised in the document."

It is hoped to have possible concept design options drawn up by the end of year.

"This resource is part of what the Cathedral Project Group have been working towards over the months since the March decision," said Marcus Read. "We want as many people as possible to be included in the conversation."

The entire book can be downloaded at <http://blogs.anglicanlife.org.nz/cathedral/cathedral-conversations/>

Email and postal submissions are readily received or comments can also be left on the blog pages at the above address, that follow the book's eleven questions. 🌐

Painters keen to keep it clean and out of the stream

Painters and householders around Christchurch are being reminded to do the right thing when they clean paintbrushes or dispose of paint to avoid polluting local streams and rivers.

A recent survey of 400 Christchurch residents commissioned by Environment Canterbury has found a majority of people are aware of the correct ways to clean paintbrushes.

"Around 70% of respondents said washing paintbrushes over the grass is acceptable," says Kim Drummond, Environment Canterbury's Director of Resource Management.

Washing paintbrushes over grass is a good way for householders to clean equipment as the chemicals from paint are absorbed by the ground and do not contaminate waterways.

"It does concern us, however, that more than one-quarter of respondents thought it was acceptable to clean brushes or paint near an outside drain.

"If people wash brushes and leftover paint down driveways, outside drains, or near stormwater grates, the waste essentially flows untreated directly to streams and can kill fish, plants and insects."

Mr Kim says, "We are reminding householders who are

doing a spot of DIY painting the best way to wash their brushes is on the lawn."

Using the laundry sink is acceptable for one or two brushes as the water goes via the sewers to the Bromley wastewater plant.

Businesses are also being encouraged to develop waste management plans to inform employees of the correct disposal methods for all waste in order to mitigate their risk.

It is estimated there will be up to 6,000 painters working in the Christchurch area when the earthquake rebuild and repair programme reaches its peak.

The survey showed 44% of respondents thought they would do, or organise, some painting work in the next two years.

"Thousands of houses are being painted as part of the Christchurch rebuild. Many people are intending to do the work themselves so it is important people are aware of how clean equipment and dispose of paint in the right way."

"The stormwater system is for rainwater only: nothing else should be flowing into our local streams and rivers," says Kim Drummond.

Environment Canterbury is targeting all painters – whether professionals or DIY masters – and has prepared point-of-sale posters and pamphlets, as well as information on websites and a Facebook page: www.facebook.com/christchurchcleanwaterways 🌐



ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY
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Southshore residents take the lead in their own recovery

The Southshore Residents' Association is among many groups of people in greater Christchurch who are taking the initiative in recovery.

The Southshore area is made up of about 650 properties which are home to around 2,000 residents. One in four of those properties has been zoned red and most of the remainder are in Technical Category 3 or green blue.

Chairman of the Southshore Residents' Association Bill Simpson says one lesson he's learnt from the earthquakes is that the community needs to be more self-sufficient or self-dependent.

He's doing his part by keeping the lines of communication open.

The Association has been able to secure funding from the Todd Foundation and from the Tindall Foundation to support their work keeping the community connected.

Some of the funding will be used to hire a part-time recovery coordinator and to rent a house for use as a community hub for about seven months.

Bill Simpson says the aim is to get social networks going again.

"About a quarter of Southshore residents have been red zoned so they are focused on where to next for them. The rest of the neighbourhood is TC3 so they have a different set of issues but they all want to keep talking to each other. A big part of the new hub will be to get small informal neighbourhood meetings going again. But we will also be able to host more formal community meetings where specialists such as lawyers, finance brokers or real estate agents can come in and talk to residents from targeted clusters of properties or streets."



Chairman of the Southshore Residents' Association Bill Simpson in front of the Avon-Heathcote Estuary/Inutai. Lateral spreading has resulted in the red zoning of many properties close to the estuary.

Bill Simpson says a recent survey carried out by the Residents' Association highlighted that a lot of people still weren't aware of the assistance available to them.

"It's hard because people are in different stages of grief; some are in the very early stages and others have almost come through it. That means people aren't always in the right space to take in all the information. We have to find new ways to keep reaching out to people and I think the best way is to take a personal approach."

The Residents' Association publishes a monthly newsletter and has set up a website and Facebook page to keep Southshore residents informed.

For more information visit: www.ssra.org.nz



The Shopping Channel helps kick-start Canterbury businesses

Quake-affected Canterbury businesses will get a helping hand with the launch of the Shopping Channel in a few weeks' time.

The Shopping Channel launches nationally on 1 October and Chief Executive Officer Alistair Duff says they want to help 'Kick-Start Canterbury' by offering some affected businesses free spots on the channel for the month of October.

"The spirit in which this programme was established is to kick start Kiwi businesses in the Canterbury community by generating awareness, sales and revenue that will have a positive effect on progressing recovery after the earthquakes."

"We have already had calls from some of the businesses who are going to be a part of this telling us how grateful they are for this opportunity and it is really humbling that we are able to provide it." says Alistair Duff.

Central city punting returns



Christchurch Mayor Bob Parker with Managing Director of the Wood Scenic Line Ltd Michael Esposito.

Visitors and locals alike are taking up the chance to see Christchurch's central city red zone from a different view point.

One of Christchurch's most identifiable tourist attractions, Punting on the Avon, has started again in the central city.

Punting rides at the Antigua Boat Sheds recommenced at Easter last year but the city branch spent a year and a half off-limits inside the red zone.

Punting began again from the Worcester Street Bridge in the middle of last month.

Michael Esposito, Managing Director of the Wood

Scenic Line Ltd which owns Punting on the Avon, says business has been steady so far. When the sun shines, tourists and locals are taking the opportunity to see inside the red zone by punt.

"The feedback from the customers is that it is a really interesting perspective of the city. The mixture of history, earthquake information and future plans makes for a good overview of the city's current situation."

Mr Esposito says it's been a challenging time since February 2011 but it is fantastic to now be in a position to start again.

Free professional financial advice for residential red zone property owners

- Do you want to talk through your financial options?
- Do you need an action plan to help you achieve your financial goals?

Make an appointment today with a local professional financial adviser.

For more details of the free financial advice available to you and to book an appointment - call:

CERA Avondale Earthquake Assistance Centre:
0800 RING CERA (0800 7464 2372)

Kaipoi Earthquake Hub: 0800 639 000

For more information visit www.sorted.org.nz/redzone

Selwyn's building consents increase dramatically

Building consents for new dwellings are in big demand in Selwyn District and the vast majority are being turned around within 20 days.

In the year to the end of June, the council processed 616 building consents for new dwellings, 94.64% of which were turned around within 20 days. The previous year 354 new dwellings were processed. In July this year, 56 new dwelling building consents were issued.

Building Manager Ian Butler says Selwyn had been growing over the past few years, but the recent steep increases in numbers of new dwellings reflected the choice many city people had made to move to the district.

"It's great that we've been able to provide options for people who have lost their homes in the earthquakes. There are a lot of new homes going up around Selwyn," Mr Butler says.

Council Chief Executive Paul Davey says contingency plans put in place after the September 2010 earthquake have proved beneficial in enabling the building team to keep up with demands of an increasing workload. ♻️



SELWYN DISTRICT COUNCIL
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Antarctic Superstars to feature at new NZ IceFest

Over 100 big-name guests ranging from scientists, artists, international negotiators and heritage conservators will be participating in this year's NZ IceFest.

The festival opens on 14 September for a month and will see Hagley Park Events Village transformed into Hagley Park Ice Station. The festival's official programme on www.nzicefest.co.nz reveals the large scale of the event.

Mayor Bob Parker says that the positive response of so many featured guests to the invitation to take part shows the strength and significance of the New Zealand – Antarctica relationship.

"This demonstrates that our city is ready and able to launch a brand new biennial festival on a large scale. People who are regarded as Antarctic superstars are more than ready to support Christchurch, to lead the way in demonstrating what Christchurch is capable of a year-and-a-half after the Canterbury Earthquakes."

"The festival will be an injection of fun, energy and pure celebration into our city, bringing Antarctica to Christchurch."

Hagglund rides, a themed outdoor ice-skating rink and an Antarctic Field camp will provide plenty of fun for families, particularly during the school holidays.

A highlight will be the sensory exhibition experience STILL LIFE, where visitors will step inside a 10-metre white cube and will be immersed in the projected images of Jane Ussher's evocative photographs of the first Antarctic explorers' expedition bases. These iconic buildings, now cared for by the Antarctic Heritage Trust, are associated with some of the most inspirational and harrowing stories within polar history.

NZ Icefest will literally cater for everyone's tastes, says NZ IceFest Director Jo Blair.

"Antarc-tucker will be the catch-phrase on everyone's lips whether they are sampling a NZ IceFest cocktail, an Antarctic fluffy or tucking into hot food based around Hagley Park Ice Station."

"Devoted foodies will love the 100 year Antarctic dinner. We've got renowned local chefs Jonny Schwass, Andrew Brown and Richard Till setting out on a culinary mission of epic proportions."



CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL
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The Waimakariri District Council's Earthquake Recovery Programme is progressing and regular updates are available in the local papers and on the New Foundations website at newfoundations.org.nz

Community facilities

Kaiapoi Community Centre – Following its partial closure in June, the Kaiapoi Community Centre in Sewell Street has had \$200,000 from Council's Earthquake Recovery Loan approved for earthquake strengthening work. The building consists of two different constructions – the newer part of the building which houses the Kaiapoi Service Centre and was built in 2004, and the older side of the building, which has closed.

Earthquake strengthening work will begin in the next few weeks and will be completed by the end of October. This work will bring the building up to 100% of New Building Standard (NBS).

Kaiapoi Library/Service Centre/Museum – Deconstruction of the old Kaiapoi Library/Service Centre is underway and started with a soft strip-out of the internals and removal of the roofing. Deconstruction works will be completed by 7 September 2012 and Warren and Mahoney Architects has appointed its sub-consultants for the design of the new building which includes geotechnical, structural, building service, acoustic and preliminary design considerations.

As part of a geotechnical site assessment, Council has also been undertaking some drilling around the perimeter of the site and the riverbanks.

Rangiora Library (Chamber Gallery/Meeting Room/Citizens Advice Bureau) – Council worked with the Historic Places Trust (HPT) to carry out the earthquake strengthening and repair works for the Rangiora Library Chamber Gallery/Meeting Room/ Citizens Advice Bureau offices.

These areas of the library are part of one historical building which is a Category Two Heritage Listed Building. The work took six months to complete and each area is now open to the public. ♻️



WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL
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