

Media Release

Christchurch lures migrants as rebuild opportunities grow

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The growing Christchurch rebuild is proving attractive to migrants, with new records being set for the number of people moving to the city from overseas.

Latest figures show that 636 people moved to Greater Christchurch from overseas in June – the biggest number for the month of June since Statistics New Zealand began publishing data in 1990.

In the six months to June 30 this year, 4409 people have migrated to Greater Christchurch – equating to almost 25 people every day.

In addition, the number of people leaving is down – 150 people left Christchurch City for Australia in June – the lowest amount for any month since November 2009.

Acting CERA chief executive Warwick Isaacs says the job opportunities in construction and trades, as well as the supporting industries, make Christchurch an attractive proposition.

"I think people are also seeing the chance to be a part of something quite special in Christchurch. It's not often you get to rebuild a city into something new and world-class," Mr Isaacs says.

"We are seeing evidence of the rebuild picking up pace in the suburbs, and with the cost sharing agreement between the Crown and Christchurch City Council now in place, the design and planning for the central city's anchor projects is also ramping up."

"Along with the rebuild and replacement of Christchurch's horizontal infrastructure such as roads and underground pipes, where close to \$40m is being spent every month, there are plenty of opportunities being created."