

# Media Release

## Extension for red zone property owners in the Port Hills

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Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority Chief Executive Roger Sutton has announced an extension of almost six months for the owners of eligible Residential Red Zone properties in the Port Hills to consider a Crown offer to purchase their properties.

"Feedback from owners of properties in the Port Hills red zone who have not accepted a Crown offer is that there are a number of evolving issues to consider and they would appreciate more time," Mr Sutton says.

"There are still insurance issues being worked through and matters to be resolved in the courts, and some property owners in the Port Hills red zone are also awaiting more information from Christchurch City Council on issues like mass land movement."

"It's important the owners have the time they need to make an informed decision, and that is why we are extending the deadline for acceptance of the Crown offer from August 31 this year, through to February 27, 2015."

Of the 475 insured residential red zone properties in the Port Hills known to be eligible for a Crown offer, 132 are yet to accept an offer.

An offer has not yet been made to the owners of uninsured, insured commercial or vacant land properties in the Port Hills red zone.

Letters will be sent to all affected property owners, where their addresses are known, to advise them of the changes. More information is available at [cera.govt.nz/port-hills/red-zone](http://cera.govt.nz/port-hills/red-zone), or by phoning 0800 RING CERA (0800 7464 2372). The campaign will later be extended to offer a chance for people to make suggestions on the future use of the residential red zones within Christchurch.

"Christchurch city has a much bigger job on its hands making decisions about remaining horizontal infrastructure and flood mitigation," Mr Brownlee says.

Mayor Lianne Dalziel says this work is a priority for the council.

"We want to ensure residents' groups and others with an interest in how the red zone is used are fully involved in the public engagement and we're working to get that conversation started as soon as possible.

"We're anxious to capture the collective community knowledge that exists about this land so we can ensure it becomes a major asset to the city as a whole," she says.

CERA chief executive Roger Sutton says he has received a lot of informal feedback and suggestions from a wide range of people and groups, and that having a vast range of ideas will be very exciting.

"I'm confident this process will provide us with even more to think about.

"We look forward to hearing from everyone who wants to be part of shaping the future of our region, and again showing that our community is a world leader in recovery from natural disaster."