



Youth in the recovery



Tayla Reece (19)

Tayla joined the WAIYouth action group in Waimakariri as a founding member in 2011. She's studying a Bachelor of Social Work at the University of Canterbury, and is focusing on helping young people's voices be heard through engagement with councils.

What motivates her to help out in the recovery?

"I love being local. Going to the supermarket in Kaiapoi and knowing people by name. Realising Waimakariri youth needed somewhere to hang out and working to do something about it. Developing a youth council, going round schools, engaging with the decision makers around greater Christchurch and actually having an effect on things is very rewarding."

What's her vision for greater Christchurch?

"For young people to continue to have real input into the rebuild. For councillors, leaders and everyone in the older generation to listen properly to youth voices and understand their perspective. After all, young people will be living with the consequences longer than anyone!"



Harry Knight (21)

CPIT music student Harry joined the board of Festival of Transitional Architecture (FESTA) last year after becoming involved in LUXCITY in 2012. He's also worked on Art Beat and SCAPE 7 Biennial which involved bringing temporary public art to the central city. Another focus has been on projects to provide temporary venues for local musicians.

What motivates him to help out in the recovery?

"I like to see so much collaboration; talented people mentoring younger people and working together to bring life and energy to the central city. That's why I love the transitional art structures and music venues - they are ways for people to come together and engage, and for people to get back into the city and enjoy it."

What's his vision for greater Christchurch?

"I'd like to see youth themselves actually get a bit more active rather than complaining there's nothing to do. And perhaps more education in schools, for example, about what is happening in the recovery. I'm also interested in seeing how the transitional now, can translate into the permanent in the future city."



Alice Ridley (17)

Alice joined the Christchurch Youth Council in 2013. She's involved with the White Elephant Trust, putting on alcohol- and drug-free events for young people, and is a youth advisor to 298 Youth Health.

What motivates her to help out in the recovery?

"I think one of the biggest things I learnt when I was growing up is that I actually can do something. The Youth Council plays a role in giving youth more of a voice in the recovery. I guess for me it's about having some ownership over your community - it sounds really cheesy but it's really heart-warming."

What's her vision for greater Christchurch?

"I want this to be a city we can be proud of. Christchurch is getting so quirky with all the little pop-up things and art works and I want it to continue to be quirky. Everything is just evolving around us and it's amazing to see it happening."

Alice also wants to see lots of central city apartment buildings and rooftop gardens everywhere!

The future of greater Christchurch: youth in the recovery

Disaster recovery experts around the world agree the best way to recover from a disaster is to do it together as a community. Youth are an important part of the greater Christchurch community and its future. Many young people are trying to find their place in the recovery as it moves into its fourth year.

The actions of Christchurch's youth were well documented immediately after the earthquakes with the social media mobilisation of thousands of young people to help out in the clean-up through the Student Volunteer Army. Around 7,000 young Cantabrians from pre-school to high school age took part last year in the BNZ Amazing Place competitions aimed at encouraging young people to engage with future plans for the central city.

Recent research carried out by the *All Right?* campaign found that whilst Canterbury's young people experience the same challenges as all young people, they are also still experiencing some sadness about what's happened and they are worried about friends and family. Young people miss the social life and night life available to them prior to the earthquakes. On the other hand, they are thankful to be alive and are optimistic about the future of greater Christchurch.

Young people reported feeling a greater sense of community and deeper bonds with friends and family following the earthquakes.

The study found the following factors are the most important to greater Christchurch's youth:

- having fun right now
- having family together and getting on well
- close friendships
- a good future.

CERA also carried out a Youth Wellbeing Survey in the latter part of last year which was responded to by over 3,000 young people. The results of that are expected in the next few months.

Meanwhile, collaborative work is underway on a Youth Charter. The charter aims to tap into the vision youth have for a future greater Christchurch and develop a youth-friendly region. Its goal is to empower everybody to make that happen. ♻️



Hon Gerry Brownlee
Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery

2014 marks a turning point in Canterbury's recovery story. As I mentioned in the last Update, international experience suggests the third year after a disaster is often the toughest: but having gotten through that, things can often move forward with renewed energy.

I want 2014 to be the year of certainty around the rebuild. Economic, employment and other indicators are all pointing upward. There is a massive amount of construction and development work coming down the pipeline, with nine of the 16 anchor projects starting construction in some form over the next twelve months.

The Justice and Emergency Services Precinct is one of the first cabs off the rank. The initial stage will see more than 20,000 cubic metres of soil excavated – equivalent to eight Olympic-size swimming pools – mixed with 2,500 tonnes of cement and placed back in the ground to support a heavy duty foundation.

Once completed, the precinct will house staff from eight organisations. There is enormous value in sharing space and services this way, and the precinct will help bring people and a solid economic base back into the central city.

Other projects are moving ahead at speed. Roughly three-quarters of the land required for the Convention Centre Precinct has now been purchased by the Crown and the intention is to have that area cleared by August. Demolition is progressing well on the Bus Interchange; detailed design plans are being developed and early construction works are expected to start by the second quarter of the year.

There have also been exciting developments with the Retail Precinct, following Christchurch Central Development Unit's appointment of a consortium led by Athfield Architects to produce a Retail Precinct Plan. Te Papa Ōtākaro/Avon River Precinct progresses with the start of in-river works that will see gravel washing and silt removal carried out as a way of re-generating the river's health. The North and East Frames took a big leap forward recently too, with the grassing of five large sites in the CBD.

All this is excellent news and should give everyone confidence. I am very aware, though, that the recovery story extends well beyond the central city, and that 2014 must be a year of progress across all our communities. The youth leaders profiled in this Update are a great example of the types of energy, enthusiasm and optimism that will carry greater Christchurch forward into this next chapter. 🌟

Canterbury residential

Progress report from IAG

How many new houses and how many repairs were completed in 2013?

IAG has completed 335 new home builds and 208 major repairs (over \$100,000). In addition it has reinstated over 5,000 paths and driveways, and cash settled a further 4,671.

What was the value of that work in 2013?

To date the company has settled \$1.056 billion in residential claims.

How many repairs and how many new house builds are targeted for completion in 2014?

Currently 738 new homes and 949 major repairs are in construction, with around 1,500 more to go.

What will be the value of that work for 2014?

IAG expects its reinstatement programme costs to be in the vicinity of \$500-\$600 million this year.

What percentage of claims by value has been completed now? What have customers done once their claim has been settled?

Over 2,835 customers have had their over-cap claims

settled. Of these, 24 per cent have purchased an existing house and a further 57 per cent have chosen to cash settle their claim. Many of these customers are original residential red zone home owners who chose to purchase an existing home, settle with the Crown or cash settle their claim to enable them to move forward with certainty before their red zone offer expired. The remaining 19 per cent of those customers who have settled their claim to date have reinstated through IAG's Repair and Rebuild Programmes. The company expects these percentages to even out as it progresses, as many of those customers planning on taking a cash settlement will have done so by now.

IAG has settled over \$1.056 billion in residential claims and has \$1.6 billion to go.

For more information, go to: www.iag.co.nz



Progress report from Lumley Insurance

2013 was a busy year for the Lumley Earthquake team, who completed 462 repairs/rebuilds and cash settlements and 1,839 path, driveway and fence (PDF) repairs. More than 700 of the PDF claims were completed between June and September alone.

This progress means that by 31 December 2013 Lumley had completed 59.2 per cent of its domestic claims in terms of payment progress, and continues to remain ahead of the industry as a whole which is currently on 46.6 per cent.

Lumley expects 2014 to be a year filled with even more activity. It is aiming to repair/rebuild more than 750

properties and complete the remainder of its PDF claims. Lumley aims to have the vast majority of its customers with a signed building contract in place, or cash in their bank, by the end of 2014.

This intense focus throughout 2014 should ensure the insurance company will be able to meet its promised delivery date of October 2015.

For more information, go to: www.lumley.co.nz



Progress report from TOWER

TOWER continues to lead the industry in the settlement of its claims related to the Canterbury earthquake events, with 78 per cent of all claims now settled and closed. To date, it has received claims covering 10,482 properties.

The insurance company's programme of work accelerated in the second half of 2013 and will continue to gain momentum this year.

"Over the past six months we have undertaken a number of initiatives to ensure we continue to deliver to our customers," says David Ashe, Manager – Earthquake Recovery, TOWER. "We have increased our community and stakeholder engagement, ensuring we are well connected with those impacted by the earthquake events, and are planning ahead to ensure that we have building capacity available in 2014 when it is likely to be stretched.

"Canterbury continues to be a major focus for TOWER and we have a dedicated team of more than 50 people working with our customers to resolve and close their claims. This is complemented by more than 70 staff at our project management office, Stream Group.

"We have committed to substantially completing claims settlement by the end of 2015, with a small tail of more

complex claims likely to take longer than this," says Mr Ashe.

During 2013 TOWER observed a trend towards cash settlements, which provide customers with the ability to manage their own rebuild or repair, or purchase a new home. The company expects this to remain a popular option, as it provides customers both flexibility and certainty.

78% of all claims settled and closed

83% of rebuilds settled or underway

85% of major repairs settled or underway

85% of minor repairs settled or underway

You can see TOWER's progress on its Canterbury earthquake claims at: www.tower.co.nz/company/canterbury-earthquake



insurance update

Progress report from Southern Response

Southern Response Earthquake Services Ltd is the Crown-owned company responsible for AMI customers' claims for the Canterbury earthquake damage that occurred before 5 April 2012 (the date AMI was sold to IAG).

"As we start 2014 there are great positives for getting people in Canterbury back into their homes," Peter Rose, Chief Executive of Southern Response, says.

"We are committed to our important role. Our 'Cantabrian' house design competition for an affordable, safe, energy-efficient set of houses, and the building of these houses, is just one piece of evidence to confirm our goal to leave the region and our city better than when we started. We want to leave a positive legacy and we are determined to ensure that people receive their fair and reasonable entitlements under their original AMI policies," says Mr Rose.

"Of the claims for the 6,765 over-cap properties damaged, 2,730 or more than 40 per cent are fully settled. Another

3,205 are either in design, under construction or in the process of a cash settlement. That's 60 per cent in total, with another 60 [claims] moving into this build cycle each month on average.

"Additionally, we are through inspection of 70 per cent of our 22,200 out of scope claims, and have resolved 53 per cent by repair or cash settlement.

"Our current target is that over 90 per cent of our customers' builds and other forms of settlement will be completed by the end of 2016."

Southern Response figures are online at: www.southernresponse.co.nz



Roger Sutton
CERA Chief Executive

This is shaping up to be another busy year. Like you, I have great expectations that the recovery will move more quickly in 2014 with tangible progress evident across the greater Christchurch area. To ensure this happens our priorities will be focused on housing, the future of the residential red zone areas, the rebuild in the city centre and the ongoing need for support services.

A roam around the outskirts of Christchurch these days shows the huge development occurring in the north and south-west. However, the housing situation remains challenging as we have seen, with those in the residential red zones moving out of their properties and incoming workers needing temporary accommodation. Last year the insurers rebuilt 700 houses and we expect three times that number to be built this year and next year.

The clearance of Crown-owned properties in the flat land residential red zone around the Avon River is also top of mind now that most property owners have moved on. There are several issues here as there have been considerable shifts in land levels. In fact, in many areas one-and-a-half to two metres of fill would be needed to ensure this land is above flood levels. Remember that the residential red zone flat land area is four times the size of Hagley Park so has both challenges and opportunities.

The rate of demolition of residential red zone houses has been speeding up and we now have huge areas that have been cleared so it is only natural that questions about future use are being debated. This year we intend to have a really wide discussion and maybe make some decisions on what we might do here. We already have some interesting ideas to work with so you will hear more about this process in the next few months as we will also want to hear your ideas.

The rebuild in the city centre is also moving along apace, with the construction of a number of key anchor projects getting underway this year. That includes seeing a start made on the Metro Sports Facility which will bring all-important community and competitive sporting facilities into the central city. And it is great to see the real progress being made on Antony Gough's building site – the Terrace.

I also want to see more of our community facilities re-opened this year, especially facilities such as swimming pools which are used by so many families.

Please don't forget that while all this activity ramps up, we continue to provide support services for those of you who have unresolved and ongoing earthquake-related issues. I encourage you to contact us if you need information on services available or practical assistance through our Residential Advisory Service or Make It Right programme.

And remember to keep an eye out for family, friends and neighbours.

Kia Kaha. 🌟

Southern Response progress statistics as at January 2014

Claim status summary	Number as at 31 Dec 2013	Percentage of claims notified
Over-cap claims notified to Southern Response	6,765	
Claims assessed and costed	6,621	98%
Offers presented to customers	6,329	94%
Customer decisions made	5,935	88%
Settlements complete	2,730	40%

Status breakdown	Settlements complete		In progress		Forecast construction starts for 2014	
Totals at 31 Dec 2013	2,730		3,205		1,090	
	Purchasing another house	1,520	Cash settlements in progress	559	*SR managed repairs	630
	Cash settlement	547	In design	2,298	*SR managed rebuilds	460
	Customer managed rebuild	372	<i>Site considerations being reviewed, geotechnical, engineers, planning, design underway</i>			
	<i>Southern Response construction complete (rebuilds and repairs)</i>	<u>291</u>	Under construction	348		
	<i>Subtotal rebuilds and repairs</i>	663	<i>Construction contract signed, consent approved</i>			

*SR = Southern Response

- Total value of construction completed to date **\$95 million (291 rebuilds and repairs)**
- Estimated value of construction forecasted for 2014 **\$300–\$350 million (1,090 rebuilds and repairs)**
- Demolition progress to 31 December 2013 is **2,054 properties demolished**, of which **1,380 are in the residential red zone**

Updates from other insurers will be included in the next edition of the Greater Christchurch Recovery Update

Work in progress on the CTV site

Work is now well underway to make the site where the CTV building once stood more welcoming.

The site is where 115 people lost their lives in the 22 February 2011 earthquake. The current work is to provide a more welcoming environment for remembrance of those who lost their lives there, ahead of the three-year anniversary.

City Care is donating its time and machinery, and will work with CERA to complete the work, ahead of any longer-term plans for the Crown-owned site.

"In the longer term, we have committed to ensuring this special site remains a place within the new East Frame that people can visit and reflect on what occurred there,"
- CERA Chief Executive Roger Sutton.

"However, the message to us has been clear that the site needs to be made more welcoming and accessible in the interim for people to come and pay their respects, and we are responding to that."

Christchurch Central Development Unit Development Director Rob Kerr says the Ministry for Culture and Heritage and other partners have set up a process of communication with victims' families from here and overseas through various means. Some overseas family members recently attended a meeting organised by Maan Alkaisi who lost his wife in the building collapse.

"That's allowed us to get more feedback," says Mr Kerr. "It's the start of a long dialogue."

Some of the families have asked that the building's foundations remain in place for the time being.

An Earthquake Memorial for all affected by the earthquakes is being planned quite separately from the work at the CTV site. 🌱



Work in progress at the CTV site. Improvements include the grassing of some of the site, removing the high fencing and replacing it with a low post and chain fence, placing planter boxes on the perimeter and installing a sign that recognises the site's significance. Terranota has donated the timber for the planters.

Recycled bike project breathes life into the central city

A central city Christchurch initiative aims to get old dunger bikes that might have been headed for the dump back on the road.

RAD (Recycle a Dunger) Bikes community bike shed is a Gap Filler project based out of a temporary structure currently located on High Street just to the east of Re:START Mall.

It is a workshop space where anyone can build or repair their own bicycles or help restore bikes for ICECycles to give away. ICECycles or Inner City East Cycles aims to get people on low incomes biking by fixing up their old bikes for free and giving away restored bikes.

RAD volunteer Richard Sewell says there are about eight core volunteers who run the community shed and about 50 people worked on building the shed and help out casually.

He says the space is available for people with any level of ability to come in and use the equipment, tools and skills of the volunteers to fix up their old bikes.

"It's empowering people. It's great to have a place where people can come in and do it themselves, and get into the central city to see all the things that are going on."

He is passionate about cycling.

"Projects like this bring some energy into the central city - cycling is a vital part of the future of the central city and Christchurch." 🌱

Richard Sewell at the RAD Bikes community shed made almost entirely out of recycled materials which he says were headed for the dump.



Getting amongst it: Prime Minister John Key and Minister of Justice Judith Collins turn the first sod on the Justice and Emergency Services Precinct.

First sod turned on new Christchurch precinct

Last month, Prime Minister John Key and Minister of Justice Judith Collins turned the first ground on a key anchor project, the Justice and Emergency Services Precinct.

Once completed, the precinct will be the regional headquarters for the Ministry of Justice, New Zealand Police, Department of Corrections, New Zealand Fire Service and St John. It will also house civil defence and emergency management teams of the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management, Christchurch City Council and Environment Canterbury.

"It's fantastic to see the largest multi-agency government project in New Zealand's history kick off."

- Justice Minister Judith Collins.

The precinct will house approximately 1,100 workers and accommodate 900 visitors every weekday. It will incorporate modern systems like audio visual links, sophisticated security monitoring and a purpose-designed Emergency Operations Centre.

Downer has been appointed to complete the ground improvement work, in preparation for the start of construction mid-year. The precinct should be fully operational in mid 2017. 🌱

Zoning milestone for the flat land residential red zone

The last day of January marked a significant milestone in the flat land zoning process, as the final day for flat land residential red zone agreements to be settled.

A total of 7,349 properties across suburbs including Avondale, Brooklands, Dallington, Bexley and Kaiapoi were zoned red due to the level of land damage caused by the earthquakes. Property owners were given the option to sell their property to the Crown as a way of moving on from the damaged areas.

There are just 136 properties where the offer has been declined and property owners have opted to retain ownership of their property.

CERA Chief Executive Roger Sutton says this means more than 6,732 residential red zone property owners in the flat land have moved on by taking up the offer.

“Some people accepted the offer as quickly as the process allowed, others took more time. But we need to remember that for many people we have been working with, the devastation was actually caused almost three-and-a-half years ago in the September earthquake.”

“CERA didn’t come into existence until after the February quake in 2011, so for many people the residential red zone

process and the offer to buy their property was a long time coming. I am very glad to be able to have helped those people – the people who were so badly affected so long ago,” Mr Sutton says.

By the time all flat land settlements are completed nearly \$1.5 billion will have been spent by the Crown to purchase the properties. The cost of keeping services running to homes is approximately \$500 per week per occupied house, and at present the estimated upkeep will cost just under \$1 million each month. That will reduce as homes are vacated.

For those property owners who were unable to meet their final settlement date penalty interest is now being charged, though in extenuating circumstances the fees have been waived.

The Port Hills process follows a slightly different model, as the issues in those areas are related to life risk. Property owners who take up the Crown offer must vacate their homes six weeks after signing the sale and purchase agreement, but they have until 31 August 2014 to make their decision.

Mr Sutton says that means by the end of 2014 all property owners in all residential red zones across the Christchurch

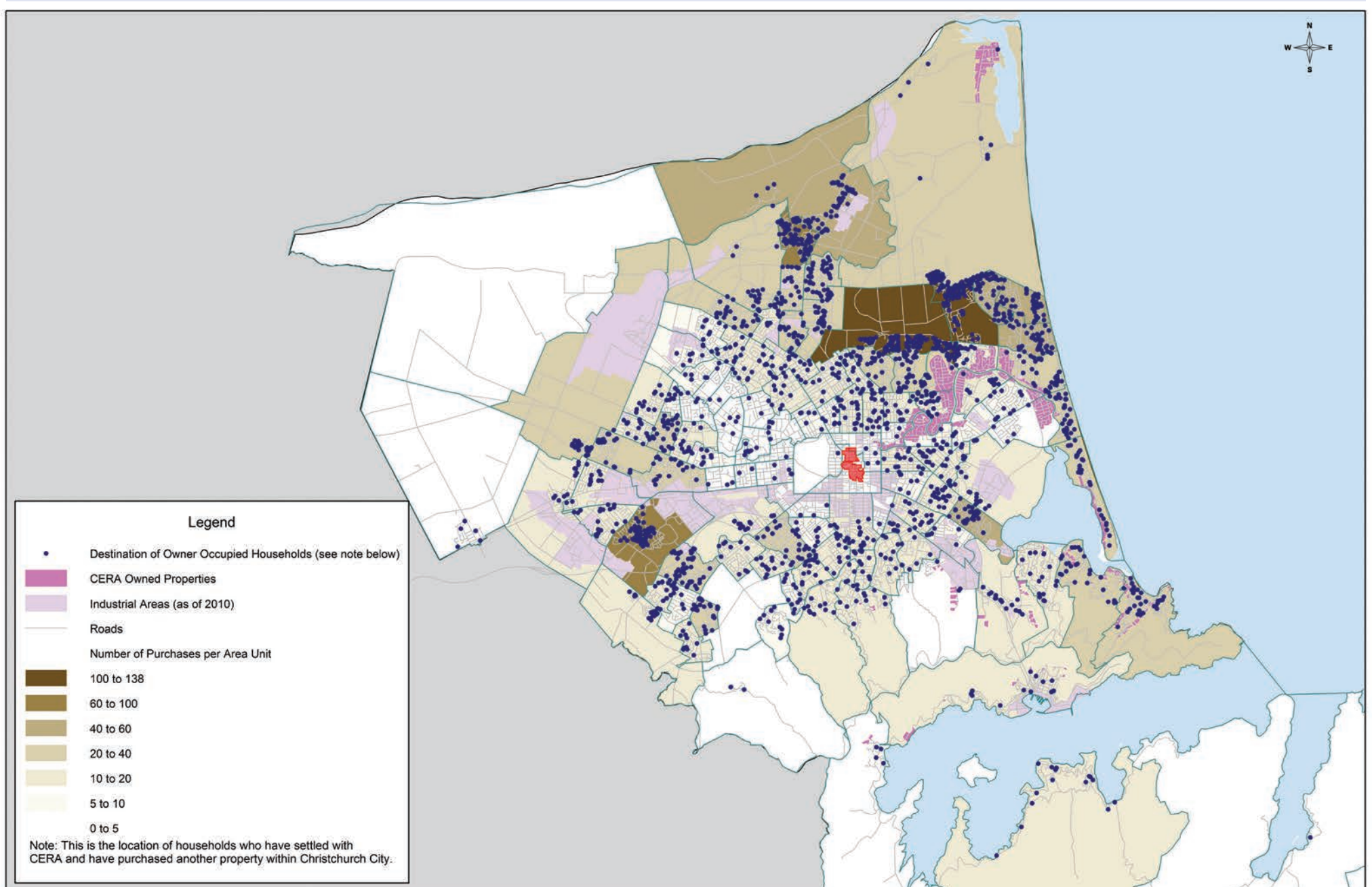
city and Waimakariri regions will have made their choice and moved on from the worst-affected areas.

“CERA has so much more to do as the lead agency in this recovery, but as always supporting the people making their life-changing decisions is our key focus, and we will continue to do that throughout 2014.”
- CERA Chief Executive Roger Sutton.

“When we announced the land zoning process in 2011 we knew this would be the most important step in our community’s recovery. It has taken a long time to get to this point, but I am very pleased that we have been able to give so many people the opportunity to move on from the aftermath of the earthquakes,” says Mr Sutton.

For more information, go to: www.cera.govt.nz

Christchurch City Council has collated data on the movements of flat land residential red zone property owners in Christchurch after they have settled with the Crown. See the graph below for details.



Post Earthquake Movement of Residential Red Zone Movers as of August 2013.

Source: Christchurch City Council (CCC), District Valuation Role.
Prepared by the Monitoring and Research Team (CCC), August 2013.



Young women engineering central city infrastructure rebuild

Visitors to the Christchurch central city who look at the pipe work happening on Colombo Street, near Ballantynes, might spot some young engineers hard at work, including three young women in their 20s.

Engineers Ingrid Cooper, Kimberly Jupp and Sarah Stevenson, together with Greg Valentine, make up SCIRT's McConnell Dowell city team, overseeing repairs to wastewater, stormwater, water supply and roading. This infrastructure is a prerequisite for the construction of buildings in the central city and the big anchor projects.

Kimberly Jupp says it is a unique situation to have so many women in an engineering team. About 13 per cent of New Zealand's professional engineers and 16 per cent of engineering technicians are women. McConnell Dowell construction manager Rick Grobecker, who set up the central city team, says all three women were appointed for their technical abilities as well as their broad range of knowledge and communication skills.

"The central city is a much different environment to most big projects because it's happening in the midst of a densely populated area," he says. "It's not a case of liaising with other workers on some remote site but with designers, business owners and people who all have an investment of some kind in a future Christchurch and great hopes for the city. Female engineers are helping, I believe, in bringing a slightly different and more complete perspective to the rebuild."

Reversing the earthquakes' domino effect

Sarah Stevenson, senior site engineer, says one of the rewards of the job is helping phase in the whole central city rebuild by "clearing the way", especially for anchor projects. "It has taken a lot of planning but we're really committed to doing all we can to make the rebuild flow. Hopefully, as we gradually fix the infrastructure, central Christchurch will be like 'reverse dominos' and will pop up pretty quickly."

Ingrid Cooper, site engineer, seconded from design company Pattle Delamore Partners, has been identifying and mapping existing underground services in the central



Engineers Sarah Stevenson, Ingrid Cooper and Kimberly Jupp, left to right, in Colombo Street, Christchurch. Many busy central city streets are getting heart surgery from SCIRT this year.

city from March 2013. Given the complex sites, with contradictory or incomplete records due to the age of the central city streets, it is impossible to plan for everything, she says, so keeping the lines of communication open is vital.

Kimberly Jupp, stakeholder coordinator, sums things up: "We're constantly coming up against constraints and new information. We all know it's a critical development for New Zealand and we want to do our best. It's not an easy job, but I love it." ♻️



Phone: (03) 941 8999
Email: info@scirt.co.nz
Web: www.strongerchristchurch.govt.nz
Twitter: @SCIRT_info

Fix. Fasten. Don't Forget.

Summer is the season for DIY. Long daylight hours and warm weather make the prospect of repainting the fence, or putting on a deck, much more enticing.

However, even in Canterbury, where the memories of the earthquakes of 2010 and 2011 are fresh, many households need another DIY task on the list – quake-safe the home.

Research shows that Cantabrians are better prepared than people in other parts of New Zealand. Even so, there is still a lot more to do as less than half say they have taken measures to secure tall furniture in their homes.

Here are some simple steps you can take to quake-safe your home.

Secure ornaments and small objects

You can use plastic putty such as Blu-Tak or quake wax or non-slip mats, available at hardware or homeware stores, to secure items to surfaces.

Bookshelves and latches

Use angle brackets or tall cupboards to secure bookshelves to the wall and use cord, nylon or curtain wire to secure books on shelves to lessen chances of them falling off in a shake.

Use latches in cupboards and drawers to keep items from falling out.

Fasten appliances and heavy furniture

Stabilise small appliances, such as microwaves, with non-slip mats, velcro pads and rubber caps which are available from local hardware stores or specialist safety stores.

Use straps for larger appliances such as fridge/freezers.

Secure tall or heavy furniture with brackets, screwed into the wall stud.

There are more practical tips to help quake-safe your home at www.eqc.govt.nz or visit your nearest Bunnings store for advice and the items you need to get the job done. ♻️

Positive work practices

Environment Canterbury is working with Fletcher EQR and other key industry figures to promote positive rebuild sector work practices. This is being done by assessing worksites across greater Christchurch to establish current level of compliance, risk factors, and encourage the use of preferred environmentally sustainable worksite behaviour.

There is a strong focus on paint wash water management and disposal, along with erosion and sediment control of worksites. These have been highlighted as elevated risk factors which need to be monitored through the initiative. It is anticipated this will help build relationships through closer industry liaison.

The initiative supports the objectives of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS), aligning to key components of the Christchurch West Melton Zone Implementation Plan (ZIP) to improve water quality in urban waterways. It also supports key principles of the Natural Environment Recovery Programme (NERP) to sustainably manage the environment during the Canterbury Rebuild Programme.

Contractors are being encouraged to talk to residents and explain how they will be managing the potential environmental risk and impact of the work they do. However, if there are concerns about the washing of brushes into drains, hosing down recently cut concrete or any other discharge into gutters, drains, rivers and streams, contact Environment Canterbury's Pollution Hotline on **0800 76 55 88**. ♻️



Phone: (03) 353 9007
Web: www.ecan.govt.nz



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

Summer of Fun is proving to be just that... great fun!

Families are making the most of the warm weather and fun activities at the Summer of Fun events being held throughout greater Christchurch. Among these many and varied events are neighbourhood fun days, a teddy bears' picnic, pool parties and even a family fun day at the Willowbank Barnyard.

At the free community events, you'll find bouncy castles, candy floss, face painting, live music and games. There have also been magic shows, clowns, hāngi and slushy machines on offer. At the St Albans Uniting event there were even free vegetables given out from the community garden!

Funded by the Christchurch Earthquake Appeal Trust and supported by CERA, the fun days were set up to help reconnect communities and raise morale following the 2010 and 2011 earthquakes. They continue to give neighbourhoods an opportunity to get together and enjoy themselves in an informal way.

The Teddy Bears' Picnic, held in Rolleston on 15 January, was a great day out for all the kids, parents and teddies. The 300 people who attended enjoyed the sunshine, and the DJ's tunes that pumped throughout the event were a real hit.

The Summer of Fun programme runs until the end of March 2014, with events in Christchurch and the Waimakariri and Selwyn districts. To find out more about specific events in your neighbourhood, go to: www.bethere.co.nz or check out the Choice Chch Facebook page. ♻️



Teddy Bears' Picnic in Rolleston: A young performer wows the crowd.



Teddies, tigers? All best friends on the day.



Everyone gets involved at the St Luke's South New Brighton Fun Day.

Award-winning Canterbury campaign attracts international attention

A homegrown campaign that encourages Cantabrians to look after themselves and each other is ramping up – and it's attracting thousands of followers from around the world.

All Right? was born after advice from the Prime Minister's chief science advisor, Sir Peter Gluckman.

"Basically, Sir Peter said that if we encouraged people to do little things to improve their wellbeing, then fewer people would need ongoing psychological support to deal with the earthquakes and their aftermath," says Sue Turner, *All Right?* campaign manager.

So far *All Right?* has used advertising, billboards, websites, social media and community partnerships to spread its message.

The most recent campaign – based around giving compliments – was incredibly well received. It involved billboards and posters that had tear-off compliments people could give each other.

"Many people received the compliments from complete strangers. They've been doing the rounds in workplaces and we know of a six-year-old who collects the tear-offs and gives them out to friends and family on the proviso they pass them on to someone else," says Sue Turner.

Interest in *All Right?* is growing internationally with elements of the campaign being presented to the United Nations.

"We've also featured in the Huffington Post and have had preliminary discussions with the Australian Red Cross about



Big headed *All Righties* have helped share the love this summer at *Outrageous Bursts* and at the *SCIRT World Buskers Festival*.



all right?
allright.org.nz

using a similar campaign there in the wake of the bushfires," says Sue Turner.

All Right? undertakes regular research into how Cantabrians are coping – the next phase will be released in coming weeks.

"Our first round of research told us that nearly 70 per cent of Cantabrians were grieving for the 'lost Christchurch' and early indications from our latest research are that many are still struggling."

The next phases of the campaign will continue to focus on encouraging people to do things to boost themselves and others.

"We know we can't solve all of the difficult issues people are facing but it's amazing the little things we can do – from helping a friend, to learning something new or noticing good things around us – that can bring us enormous joy," says Sue Turner. ♻️

UPDATE FROM THE SELWYN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A new library for Lincoln

Lincoln has a new \$3.3 million Library and Service Centre. The new building replaces the old library and service centre and is more than three times larger.

Lincoln has been one of the fastest-growing areas of Selwyn and the old library did not have enough space to host larger events or for the library collection to be expanded.

The new building has plenty of space which allows more books to be displayed, and has a bigger space for events and activities like storytime sessions. It also has comfortable seating for people to relax and enjoy a book, historical images of Lincoln on glass display panels and more backroom space for library staff. The building meets all seismic design standards.

Residents from across Selwyn are invited to visit the new library. Anyone who is a member of any Selwyn library is able to check out and return books to the library. If you're not a member of the library, it's easy to join – just bring along a form of photo ID (like a driver licence or passport) and proof of your address (such as a bill with your name and address on it). 📍



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UPDATE FROM THE CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

Young building consent officer comes home to make her mark

Coming home to help with the rebuild has seen Lisa Bennett land firmly on her feet as a building consent officer at Christchurch City Council.

It was hard not to be able to help at the time of the Canterbury earthquakes, says Lisa, as she was completing a Bachelor of Building Science at Victoria University of Wellington.

With good experience at the Council already under her belt, she has hit the ground running in 2014. Changes under the Crown Manager's Action Plan mean she now sits in a new team where she is even more determined to do all she can for customers and the rebuild.

"In our team we are all really aware that our job is to get building consents out the door. Part of our ongoing training has been to understand how frustrating it must be for our customers if things drag on."

Lisa says she has been impressed with her colleagues' knowledge and approach to their work.

"They don't pretend to know everything, but we all work together to put each other in touch with the right people."



New Director Peter Sparrow and building consents officer Lisa Bennett.

New Director prioritises customer focus and common sense

Director of Building Control and City Rebuild Peter Sparrow is clear that common sense will be at the heart of building consent activities at Christchurch City Council.

"I have very high expectations of staff, not just for 2014 but for what has to be achieved in the long term. We must regain IANZ accreditation but we have to have everything in place to retain it."

His priorities include:

- working closely with the Crown Manager and the Council to bring about a strong customer focus and a significant culture change
- improving processes and practices – 'keep the rebuild moving'
- regaining and retaining IANZ accreditation
- establishing the Council as a leading Building Consent Authority in New Zealand
- leadership – walking the talk.

For more information on building consents, visit: www.ccc.govt.nz 📍

Christchurch
City Council 

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UPDATE FROM THE WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL

WAIYouth: bringing young people together in the Waimakariri district

WAIYouth is a group of young leaders who look to give other youth a sense of achievement and a voice that allows them to express themselves in the Waimakariri community after the earthquakes.

This initiative has created opportunities for young people to play an active role in the community, including in the development of the Youth Charter for Greater Christchurch, the CERA Youth Wellbeing Survey and shaping plans for Kaiapoi Skate Park – a post-earthquake improvement project near the Kaiapoi Town Centre. They have also had opportunities to take part in leadership training and have run a variety of youth-led events.

"These young people have grown in ways they wouldn't have, had they not been involved with these groups. They show solid commitment to their community and

peers through the WAIYouth programme, and have been able to build positive relationships with Council staff and representatives," says Hannah Dunlop, Youth Development Coordinator for Waimakariri District Council.

Next steps for the WAIYouth programme include establishing a Waimakariri Youth Council and continuing to look for opportunities for young people to come together in a positive way. See the Council website at: waimakariri.govt.nz for more information on WAIYouth. 📍

Right: Some WAIYouth members gathered at the Waimakariri District Council chambers



WAIMAKARIRI
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Phone: (03) 311 8900
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