



Greater Christchurch RECOVERY UPDATE



We are fast approaching the end of another year in our journey to recover from the earthquakes that have had such an enormous impact on our lives. It is a year, however, where we in greater Christchurch can mark real progress.

The economic indicators are looking positive. Consents for new homes have almost doubled in greater Christchurch in recent months and construction activity is on the rise.

The central city Blueprint Plan is out there now and we're asking people to give us some feedback on its most recent chapter – the draft Transport Plan. The Christchurch Central Recovery Plan will see us living in a vibrant, people-friendly central city in years to come. We are making good progress in the demolition of earthquake-damaged buildings and the cordon around the central city has reduced by 90 per cent. That includes the recent reopening of Victoria Square.

Local favourites like Alice in Videoland and C1 Espresso, as well as a new Dux de Lux restaurant on Riccarton Road, are back in business too, marking progress from the ground up. You'll see below we've given you a fleeting glimpse into recovery, Canterbury-style 2012.

CERA Chief Executive Roger Sutton.

2012 – The recovery, Canterbury-style

We're fixing it

The Stronger Christchurch Infrastructure Rebuild Team (SCIRT) is well into its work repairing the horizontal infrastructure in greater Christchurch. SCIRT's work programme is expected to cost \$2 billion over five years.

Did you know?

- 223 projects totalling \$91 million dollars are completed
- 90 projects totalling \$228 million dollars are under construction
- The first stage of the Southern Motorway, a \$140 million project from the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA), is set to open this month

We're rebuilding it

In July this year the Christchurch Central Recovery Plan was released by CERA's Christchurch Central Development Unit (CCDU). It describes the form in which the central city can be rebuilt as a whole and defines the location of 17 'anchor projects'.

Building and construction activity is on the rise. According to Statistics New Zealand, during the first six months of 2012, nearly \$1 billion of building work was granted consent in Canterbury. This is quickly approaching the consents for work totalling \$1.2 billion over the whole of last year.

Did you know?

- In the year to October 2012, 3,784 consents for new homes in Canterbury were issued (up by 56 per cent from 2,419 in the year to October 2011)
- For the same period, new non-residential consents went from 1,069 to 1,381 (source Statistics NZ)

We reached out for support

Times have been tough for a lot of greater Christchurch residents but many have accessed the support that is out there.

Since the earthquakes:

- Close to 10,000 people have been through the Earthquake Assistance Centre in Avondale, and almost 2,500 through the Kaiapoi Earthquake Hub
- The Earthquake Support Coordinator service has assisted 6,098 households
- CERA has held over 170 public meetings and stakeholder and resident workshops with a combined attendance of over 15,000 people
- Relationship Services Aotearoa has received more than 15,000 calls from residents
- More than 200 households have transitioned through the Temporary Accommodation Villages
- \$366,905 is paid weekly in temporary accommodation assistance

Our economy is picking up

The Canterbury rebuild is credited with contributing to the 3.3 per cent growth rate of the South Island economy – the greatest pace of growth seen in eight years.

- The latest figures from the National Bank show that regional gross domestic product (GDP) for Canterbury grew by 4.4 per cent in the year to June 2012
- Jobs advertised in Canterbury rose 25.8 per cent in the 12 months to August this year

We gathered together

More than 1,600 community events have been listed so far this year on the BETHERE.CO.NZ website.

Some highlights included:

- Christmas in the Park which was attended by more than 100,000 people in the last weekend of November
- Cup and Show week attracted tens of thousands to the various racing events and 123,000 people attended the 150th A&P Show – many hoping for a glimpse of Prince Charles and his wife Camilla
- Community-generated events like Spring River Festival also encouraged people to gather together

Our sports and culture are thriving

Our cultural and sporting icons have taken a knock due to the earthquakes but we've now seen the opening of temporary performance venues in the Court Theatre's Shed and the Dux Live in Addington. The new AMI Stadium, also in Addington, is providing a temporary home to the Crusaders and Canterbury rugby teams.

The Christchurch Central Recovery Plan has provision for a Performing Arts Precinct in the vicinity of the Convention Centre Precinct and planned Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu Te Puna Ahurea Cultural Centre.

Our sporting successes included a fifth consecutive provincial title for the Canterbury rugby team and six medals for Canterbury swimmer Sophie Pascoe, at the London Paralympics.



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Gerry Brownlee
Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery

As Christmas approaches, it is natural to look back over 2012. I think in many respects 2012 has been a year of contrasts, of frustrations but also of great progress.

International experience of disaster recovery tells us that this is not surprising.

We must not let our frustrations cloud the significant progress we have made nor preclude us from taking some pride in how far we have come on our road to recovery.

There have been some significant achievements in 2012, such as the completion of the process of zoning land and the Crown offer to purchase, enabling people to move off substandard land and establish new homes on land they can have some confidence in; the establishment of the Christchurch Central Development Unit and the launch of the Central City Blueprint reflecting the ideas so many of you contributed through the Share an Idea campaign and representing a rebirth of a central city which is vital to the ongoing economic and social health of our city; the release of the Recovery Strategy Mahere Haumanutanga, to provide a vision, goals and a road map for ensuring the success of greater Christchurch; the considerable progress of the infrastructure rebuild team SCIRT in restoring necessary infrastructure; the impressive economic activity in the region despite the challenges; the opening of the AMI stadium and reopening of so many businesses, cafes and restaurants.

Another key achievement I think we underestimate is the continuing improvement in the availability of insurance. We have committed significant resource to helping the insurance industry understand the seismic risk and the process of land zoning, to restore their confidence and understanding of their ongoing risk. Increasingly, insurance companies are writing insurance in the residential and commercial markets, enabling new buildings to commence. It's exciting to see significant increases in the number of building consents being issued as a result.

I know many of you remain frustrated with insurance but I am confident that progress will continue to be made.

I know also that for some of you living with foundation damage on land designated Technical Category 3, there are ongoing frustrations. CERA has worked hard with the building industry, the engineering profession, and consenting authorities, to address the issues to give confidence to rebuild projects.

The Government is committed to its part in a \$30 billion rebuild, to restoration of the infrastructure and facilities integral to a thriving, vibrant, exciting city to live in, to keep our children here.

So as we deal with some ongoing frustrations and perhaps some fatigue, we must keep reminding ourselves that we are making tremendous progress and doing all we can to rebuild Christchurch as the best small city in the world.

2013 may also be a year of some contrasts, but I truly believe we will see fewer frustrations and more progress with much of our thinking, talking and planning come to fruition.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and a positive and productive 2013. ☺

Gerry Brownlee

Have your say on transport planning for the central city

The public is invited to have a say on *An Accessible City*, the draft Transport Plan for the new central Christchurch.

The Christchurch Central Recovery Plan (CCRP) approved on 30 July 2012 contained limited information on transport. It was intended that more detailed work would be done to design a transport system to support the recovery of the central city. That new chapter of the CCRP has now been released for the wider community to comment on and contribute towards.

Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Gerry Brownlee, says the draft plan prioritises streets for buses,

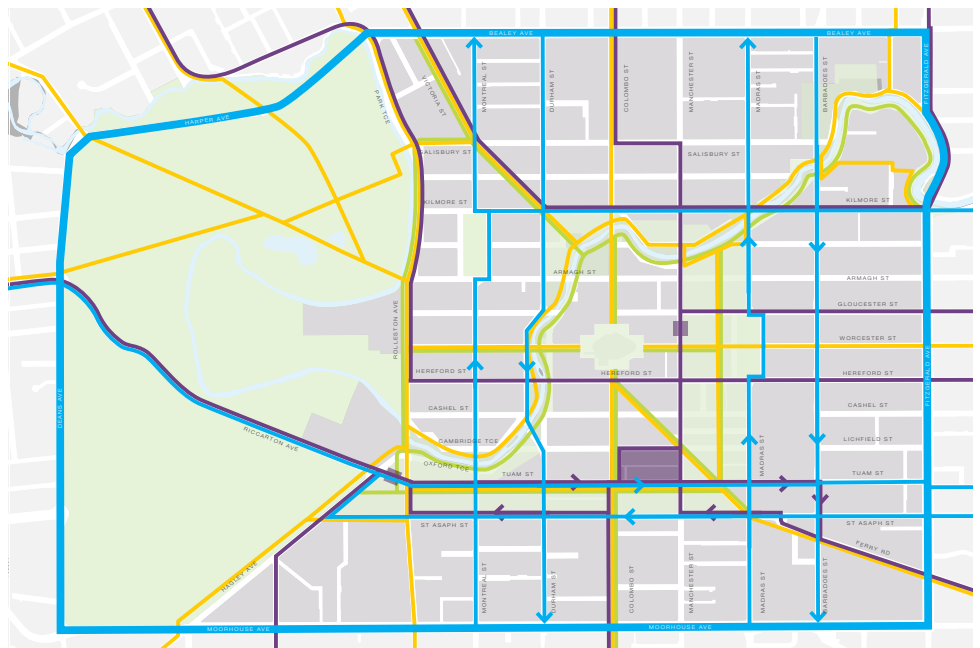
cycles, pedestrians and private vehicles as a way of improving travel across the city.

Among the proposals, the Square would become largely pedestrian only, and the overall speed limits within the CBD's core would be reduced to a maximum of 30km/hr.

Mr Brownlee says the speed reduction in this central area will improve safety for both pedestrians and cyclists.

The draft plan is now open for consultation. You have until Friday 1 February 2013 to make a submission through the CCDU website: www.ccd.govt.nz or by collecting a form from Christchurch City Council offices. ☺

Central city road use hierarchy



Cycling Car travel Walking Public transport Diagram shows prioritised routes for different travel modes

A New Year message from Christchurch Mayor Bob Parker

A prevailing mood of optimism has swept across the city in recent months as we run up to the end of the year.

The exciting mid-year launch of the CBD Blueprint Plan brought into focus the opportunities that are before us, and the recent announcements from local developers in response to a call for development plans underscore the faith our people have in Christchurch.

Recent milestones such as the successful hosting of the Royal Tour, the launch of the inaugural New Zealand IceFest, the opening of the central city EPIC innovation campus, ongoing work of the Volunteer Army, Gap Filler, Greening the Rubble, and Re:START, launch of the Urban Design Project, the city being named as a winner in the IBM Smarter Cities Challenge and the successful staging of the New Zealand Golf Open, all augur well for the future. ☺

A New Year message from the Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu Kaiwhakahaere Mark Solomon

The regeneration of greater Christchurch is about carrying the hearts, minds and stories of our people into the future.

The past year has shown, when people work together, we achieve together. Already there is evidence of renewal as plans are agreed upon, repairs are completed and new structures rise from the rubble.

Through our contributions we are finding new ways to

celebrate our collective past so it will be reflected in our collective future.

For Ngāi Tahu, we wish to retain the stories of our tīpuna in the landscape and create a future where our children can play once again by the rivers and in the parks. At the heart of this rebuild must be the people, for it is people that matter most. Mō tātou, ā, mō kā uri ā muri ake nei. For us and our children after us." ☺



Typical Main Street

A brief summary of *An Accessible City*, the draft Transport Plan

Main Streets

Key entry points to the central city – Victoria, Colombo and High Streets – will be redeveloped as “Main Streets”, with enhanced streetscapes that support retail and mixed-use development.

These streets will be prioritised for walking and cycling. Traffic will be slowed to a maximum of 30km/hr. Main Streets that are public transport routes will contain appropriate measures to prioritise public transport. Vehicular through-traffic will be discouraged.

Walking

Pedestrian facilities will be improved across the central city, and particularly in the Core, on Main Streets, within the Frame and within Te Papa Ōtākaro/Avon River Precinct.

Creating better streets for pedestrians will help attract shoppers, residents and visitors, and support businesses to re-establish themselves in the central city. Lower speed limits (maximum 30km/hr) within the Inner Zone will help keep pedestrians safe.

CCDU Director Warwick Isaacs, says the plan has its roots in the Share an Idea campaign run by the Christchurch City Council.

“We’ve tried to make it reflect what the community wanted in terms of a pedestrian-friendly central city which is safe and easy to get around on foot. The river park and the Frames are great opportunities for really lovely walking routes.”

– Warwick Isaacs

Cycling

Cycling will be encouraged in the central city. Routes for both commuter and recreational cyclists will offer good connections from the wider city into the central city and the Core.

Te Papa Ōtākaro/Avon River Precinct and the Frame will provide a safe, attractive cycling route. Where necessary, roads that are prioritised for cycling will have separated cycle lanes.

Public transport

Public transport routes and infrastructure will encourage bus travel to and from the central city. They will also support a significant increase in bus use in the future.

A new central Bus Interchange is the anchor of the public transport system. There will be fewer bus routes feeding the central city but they will be serviced more frequently. ‘Super stops’ will also be established near Christchurch Hospital and in the East Frame to provide shelter, quality information and dedicated cycle parking facilities nearby.

Car travel

Vehicles travelling into the central city and the Core will be encouraged onto distributor streets that lead off the avenues (Bealey, Fitzgerald, Moorhouse, Hagley and Deans). The five avenues will continue to act as major arterials and will be enhanced over time to cater for increased traffic volumes.

Vehicle speeds will be slowed to a maximum of 30km/hr in the Inner Zone. For the rest of the network, speed limits will remain at 50km/hr. Some changes to one-way streets are proposed.

Parking

Well-located car parking will be readily accessible off distributor streets without dominating city streets. That is essential to an accessible city.

Within the Core and Frame, access for service vehicles will be encouraged via dedicated service lanes where possible, and not favoured on pedestrian priority streets. Taxi facilities will be provided as part of the development of key anchor projects.

Wayfinding

New bilingual signage (in English and te reo Māori), wayfinding systems, interpretation mapping and information on car parks available will be developed to assist motorists, cyclists and pedestrians find their way around the central city. ♻️



Roger Sutton
CERA Chief Executive

We’ve recently launched the draft *Accessible City* chapter of the Christchurch Central Recovery Plan – focused on how people travel into and around the city, and how the streets will look as the central city redevelops

We want to make sure that Christchurch central is an accessible city that is pleasant to be in, affordable, resilient, environmentally sustainable and practical.

CERA would like your ideas about the draft chapter, by 1 February 2013. Visit the www.CERA.govt.nz website, or ring our contact centre **0800 RING CERA (0800 7464 2372)** if you need a submission form. Copies of the plan are available for viewing at library/ service centres.

You may have read about Housing New Zealand’s recovery efforts – they have met their target of repairing 212 damaged properties by 31 October, costing \$19.1 million. As at 16 November, 162 houses had been re-tenanted, with the balance under offer to families in need.

It was great to hear that a “Strengthening the Youth Sector Group” has been established, led by a Youth Council representative, to monitor the progress of capacity building, recovery planning, youth participation and youth employment, all identified workstreams from the recent youth hui. We need to hear the youth voice and this gives us a way to get their input on the recovery and how it’s affecting our young people.

CERA is bidding farewell to two senior staff that have played an instrumental role in helping establish the organisation and set up Canterbury for recovery.

After a year at the head of CERA’s Infrastructure team, Richard MacGeorge has returned to his consulting practice, Ridgway Capital Projects, and plans to pursue a PhD in recovery at Canterbury University.

Richard’s role was to ensure the right systems and plans were put in place as quickly as possible so that the physical infrastructure work could be carried out.

The Infrastructure team has been instrumental in the implementation of the Stronger Christchurch Infrastructure Recovery Team (SCIRT), as well as the Christchurch Central Development Unit (CCDU) – two groups which are now progressing well with their own work programmes.

Steve Wakefield has also spent a year with CERA, heading its Economic Recovery team. Steve will be returning to Deloitte Christchurch, from which he took a leave of absence to play his part in the rebuild of the city.

Steve’s able to leave behind economic indicators which show that what we have been working hard to put in place is now making a difference.

Just a reminder as Christmas approaches to keep an eye on your neighbours, particularly if they’re frail, elderly or infirm in any way. It can be tough enough for people who are alone or in difficulty, without the added stress that greater Christchurch residents are all under. ♻️

To find out more about *An Accessible City*, the draft Transport Plan, or to make a submission, go to www.ccdugovt.nz

You can also collect a hard copy of the submission form from Christchurch City Council offices

BRIEFS

Red zone statistics

Total number of red zoned properties in greater Christchurch: **7,860**

Red zoned property owners who've returned a sale and purchase agreement: **6,315**

Number who've settled with the Crown: **5,064**

(Of those, 1286 selected option 1 where the Crown buys the land and improvements, 3778 selected Option 2 where the Crown purchases the land only)

Some important things to bear in mind this holiday season

- **Give** the gift of **connecting**, with friends, whānau, neighbours.
- **Give** your 'presence' as your present!!
- **Be active** with your friends and family; enjoy summer activities as a whānau. Remember the **simple things** that give you joy.

Many events of all shapes and sizes are also coming up. They include Art Beat in Re:START Mall, Christmas on Latimer – a Very Christchurch Christmas (7–24 December), YMCA Carols by Candlelight (24 December) and the Court Theatre's Summer Season of Grease.

SummerTimes and Choice Christchurch are also offering a range of summer community events and activities. Go to: www.bethere.co.nz to find out more.

Residential land zoning complete

The green zoning of eight properties on Lucas Lane in Hillsborough has marked the last of the residential land zoning decisions for greater Christchurch.

Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Gerry Brownlee, says the zoning of the final eight Port Hills properties signals the end of an unprecedented programme of Government assistance in natural disaster recovery.

"All 190,000 residential properties in greater Christchurch now have a zoning which gives their owners the ability to move on with their lives," Mr Brownlee says.

Most of the Lucas Lane properties are currently at risk of landslip. A work programme will remove almost 40,000 cubic metres of unstable land above the properties to make the area safe.

Results are expected this month from the Port Hills zoning review. A total of 132 applications were received from property owners in 14 suburbs across the Port Hills. 📍

Security and safety in the residential red zone over the holidays

Security cameras are now part of a suite of security and reassurance tools helping CERA and partners safeguard people and property in the residential red zone over the holiday season.

These motion-triggered cameras are installed in Crown-owned residential red zone homes. They are playing an important role in helping police identify unauthorised visitors to the empty properties. The cameras are deployed to 'hot-spots' to reduce instances of burglary and vandalism.

CERA Residential Red Zone Security Manager Brenden Winder, says CERA has a range of security measures already in place, in addition to the cameras. These include security cars which patrol the residential red zone 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They will continue to do so throughout the Christmas and New Year period.

Mr Winder says CERA has settled with about two-thirds of the residential red zone home owners but a number of properties are still occupied.

"We keep a close eye on areas where pockets of population remain, or where there are only one or two individuals left on a street, and target patrols and reassurance in these areas to make sure people don't feel isolated or unsafe

"We keep in close contact with police, Neighbourhood Watch, community groups and other agencies and keep the exchange of information up around areas of concern," says Mr Winder.

Meanwhile, construction companies working in the CBD red zone will be encouraged to down tools over the holidays.

Mr Winder says work can continue but he would rather see construction teams take some time with their families and recharge their batteries.

On average, around 2,000 people are working inside the red zone cordon every week. The red zone cordon has now shrunk by 90 per cent from 390 to 39 hectares.

Safety first over the holidays

- Never enter a fenced or vacant site. We will take all practical steps to ensure properties are safe, but there will still be hazards.
- Talk with children and teenagers about staying clear of sites and taking care around heavy vehicles travelling through the area. Consider new routes. Supervision is important. 📍

Important contacts:

- In the case of an emergency, call 111
- Information is also available from CERA at www.cera.govt.nz or by calling **0800 RING CERA (0800 7464 2372)**.

Support services will still be available over the Christmas and New Year period

- The Canterbury Support Line **0800 777 846** - is open seven days a week from 9am to 11pm. It can provide information, connect callers with free and confidential counselling services and support organisations that can offer practical support, information or advice.
- Earthquake Support Coordinators are available to help households directly affected by the earthquakes. To request an Earthquake Support Coordinator, call **0800 777 846**. This service is free and confidential. There is ESC staff available on call over the Christmas New Year period.
- The Canterbury Earthquake Temporary Accommodation Service (CETAS) is available on **0800 673 227** or www.quakeaccommodation.govt.nz. All services will be available on normal working days throughout the Christmas/New Year period. If you require assistance on other days please contact **0800 777 846**.
- The Earthquake Assistance Centre at the Avondale Golf Club on the corner of Breezes and Wainoni Roads will close over the Christmas New Year holiday at 1pm on 21 December 2012 and will reopen on Thursday 3 January 2013 at 10am.
- The Kaiapoi Earthquake Hub at 11 Cass Street will close on 20 December 2012 at 5pm and reopen on Monday 14 January 2013 at 9am. 📍



Lyttelton retaining walls rebuilding progress for 2012

Despite torrential spring weather, the SCIRT crews working on retaining wall rebuilds in Lyttelton have made good progress in recent months.

Many of the town's publicly owned retaining walls support roads and underground infrastructure. They also have significant heritage values. Walls connected to essential

services such as wastewater and water supply or those which have a risk of failure that could cause public safety or access issues are being rebuilt first.

All SCIRT crews have appreciated the kindness of local people in and around their work sites. Work crews will be packing up on Friday 21 December and restarting 7 January, 2013. ♻️



It's tough work rebuilding Lyttelton's retaining walls, but the setting for these SCIRT workers is hard to beat.

UPDATE FROM ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY

Awards presented for industry environmental leadership

Environment Canterbury presented the inaugural Kāraara Awards at the end of October, celebrating industrial sites that have shown leadership in achieving best-practice on-site environmental management.

The awardees were Hesson and Bowry Collision Centre, Raxworthy European Ltd, Mazline PartsWorld, Plating Solutions and Tip Top Bakery.

Environment Canterbury Director Resource Management Kim Drummond, says it was difficult choosing the five winners as there were many worthy recipients of the awards.

"A growing number of companies are working proactively with Environment Canterbury and our Pollution Prevention Programme," he says. "It is heartening to see the increase in businesses reflecting the environmental ethic."

Paul Gofton, Team Leader - Implementation and Pollution Prevention, believes it is important to recognise the effort of those who do the right thing.

"Every day the actions of businesses can impact on the environment. The industrial sector is just one part

of the total pollution risk to our environment, but because many industrial materials have the potential to cause environmental damage, they have an important responsibility to help prevent pollution," he says.

Environment Canterbury set up its Pollution Prevention Programme six years ago to proactively engage with industrial sites in the region. It has made significant progress in helping industry to improve environmental awareness and compliance.

"This has resulted in improved waterway health, reduced compliance costs and an improved, more collaborative relationship with industry," says Mr Gofton. ♻️



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

SCIRT's first full year as the infrastructure rebuild team

Duncan Gibb, SCIRT General Manager

The Stronger Christchurch Infrastructure Rebuild Team (SCIRT) completed the first full year of its five-year infrastructure rebuild programme in September. Around 90 SCIRT work sites were active by the end of this year. Next year, there will be up to 150 work sites operational at any one time, so things are only going to get busier on our roads and in our neighbourhoods.

Safety for road users, residents and our rebuild crews is our priority as we do this important work. We appreciate that it's a long haul and your vigilance and patience are much appreciated.

A huge thanks to all of you who are leaving early for work or school and checking the www.transportforchch.govt.nz website for road closures before you head out the door.

Some major infrastructure projects got underway this year. Large wastewater pipe rebuilds continued to tunnel under the city, new networks of pipe replacements expanded particularly in the east, the bridge repair and rebuild programme has begun. Retaining wall work in Lyttelton is on track and brick barrel pipe relining through the central city and Moorhouse Avenue advanced in all directions.

In the midst of all this activity, it's easy to overlook the importance of one of the symbols of the rebuild – the orange road cone. Along with other traffic management tools, these so-familiar cones are there for the protection of all of us, including our road crews, all of whom have families who want them home safely every day.

On behalf of all the SCIRT crews on the streets and staff working behind the scenes, I wish you all a safe holiday break. SCIRT is building resilient infrastructure for the city and its people but we can only do it with your help.

For background stories on the work SCIRT is doing across the city, or to track a project in your area, go to www.strongerchristchurch.govt.nz ♻️



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

Land acquisition

Late last month, the first Notices of Intention to Take Land were sent to affected landowners in relation to the North Frame, the northern part of the East Frame and the Bus Interchange.

The notices have also been published in the Gazette and local papers. Issuing the notices is part of the compulsory acquisition process. However, CCDU General Manager Christchurch Central Project Delivery Greg Wilson, says this step is by no means a barrier to purchasing land by mutual agreement.

"This is an important step should the acquisition by agreement process fall down but it doesn't mean that we aren't working extremely hard to reach agreement with affected landowners."

Mr Wilson says if the Crown and landowners cannot agree on a purchase price, the next step is the compulsory acquisition and compensation process.

"There will be cases where the current property owners' valuation advice is at odds with the Crown's valuation advice. If the difference in valuation advice cannot be reconciled, I expect the Crown's Agent (The Property Group) and the property owner to leave the negotiation table with professional relationships intact, ready to proceed with the next step in the process," says Mr Wilson.

The timing of negotiations for land and the issuing of Notices of Intention to Take Land will be staggered depending on the

priority of the anchor projects involved.

Convention Centre Precinct

The market has shown strong interest in one of the CCDU's priority anchor projects – the Convention Centre Precinct.

In October, Expressions of Interest (EOIs) were called for, with a presentation to almost 150 interested investors following later in the same month. On 9 November, EOIs closed and they have now been evaluated.

CCDU General Manager Christchurch Central Project Delivery Greg Wilson, says the EOIs have provided a whole raft of options for what the market can do.

"We intend to incorporate the EOIs into a detailed brief and business case by the end of the year. Respondents will be updated on the outcome by February 2013 and a procurement model will be announced next April," says Mr Wilson.

The Convention Centre is scheduled to be open for business by March 2017.

Te Papa Ōtākaro/Avon River Precinct

Te Papa Ōtākaro/Avon River Precinct will be the first CCDU anchor project to get off the ground. The process of EOIs and Request for Proposals has already been completed and the successful respondents are currently being notified. Substantive work is expected to get under way early in the New Year.

Metro Sports Facility

The Metro Sports Facility will provide aquatic and indoor sports facilities for the community on a day-to-day basis, as well as at an internationally competitive level. CCDU and the Christchurch City Council are working together on a detailed design brief. ☺

What is the Christchurch Central Development Unit (CCDU)?

CCDU is part of CERA. The unit is tasked with implementing the Christchurch Central Recovery Plan which outlines the future development of central Christchurch. Invest Christchurch is the investment arm of CCDU and facilitates private investment in the Christchurch rebuild by helping potential investors to access information, identify opportunities and overcome regulatory hurdles.



**Christchurch Central
Development Unit**

Phone: (03) 354 2600

Email: info@ccdu.govt.nz

Web: www.ccdu.govt.nz

What EQC is doing to settle land claims

The Port Hills

For the past few weeks, the Earthquake Commission (EQC) has been working through high-priority land claims on the Port Hills (where the land repair is needed to make safe house repairs or rebuilding possible). There are about 7,000 Port Hills claims to settle, and EQC aims to have them all done by April 2013.

Flat land

EQC still has to assess the estimated cost to repair damage in many areas of flat land before these land claims can be settled. Some of the damage types are uncommon and the required information (e.g. about the expected cost to repair) is still being gathered.

In January 2013, EQC will mobilise 100 teams of assessors and move roughly east to west assessing the estimated cost of repairs to land with a valid land claim. The assessment process will carry on through 2013. Settlement usually occurs around two months after the assessment. All land claims are expected to be settled by the end of 2014.

'Increased risk' damage

EQC has identified two categories of land damage rarely applied in New Zealand before. The categories are: land with an increased risk of liquefaction causing damage to a property, and land with an increased risk of flooding.

EQC is currently gathering the information it needs to identify which land fits into these categories. Some further drilling work is needed in some areas to help with the assessment. Areas already drilled by EQC for TC3

foundation design purposes, will not need to be redone.

What land does the 'increased risk' category apply to?

Land that has dropped in height as a result of the quakes and is at increased risk of flooding or damage caused by liquefaction in a 1-in-100 year event may fit into one of these new land damage categories. Land owners do not need to do anything at this stage, as EQC is gathering the information it needs from drilling and other sources. There is more information on the EQC website about these two categories of land damage at www.eqc.govt.nz/canterbury-earthquakes/land-claims

Generally, land that was already flood-prone or liquefaction-prone before September 2010 will not qualify. This is because the basic utility of the land is unchanged, unless the risk has materially worsened as a result of the subsidence caused by the earthquakes.

All land claims are expected to be settled by the end of 2014. It is likely that EQC will make cash settlements for land assessed as being at increased risk of liquefaction damage or flooding. With these categories of damage, it will often be impractical or undesirable to reinstate the land. ☺



Phone: 0800 Damage

(0800 326 243)

Web: www.eqc.govt.nz

Global opportunity to find solutions for Christchurch

Christchurch is one of 21 cities taking part in the Living Labs Global Awards - Cities Pilot the Future programme this year. It has been chosen from 350 cities.

The competition invites groups and industries from around the world to come up with a solution to a particular challenge. In Christchurch's case, the focus will be on transformational lighting for the central city. A panel selected by CCDU will choose the winning entry at a summit in San Francisco next May and the city will fund the logistical requirements to get the pilot scheme up and running.

"The inclusion of Christchurch in the global solution-finding competition will ensure the very best minds in the world contribute to regeneration of the city."

Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority Chief Executive Roger Sutton

For full details and contact information in regard to the challenge, go to:

<http://ccdu.govt.nz/living-labs-global-awards>.

For more information on the Living Labs Global Awards programme, go to: www.liga.org/pilots.php ☺

Community recovery in Lyttelton

The port community of Lyttelton is taking a united approach to post-earthquake recovery.

Project Lyttelton is one of the groups rooted in the community that is part of making that recovery happen. The non-profit group's behind a range of projects including Lyttelton Timebank, Lyttelton Farmers Market and Lyttelton Community Garden.

Chairperson Margaret Jefferies, says the earthquakes have brought the Lyttelton community even closer together.

"We've heard people in Christchurch say they got to know their neighbours for the first time after the quakes – but we already knew each other. What's happened though is the relationships that already existed are even stronger now, and that's helped us grow as a community."

Timebank, for example, is something Project Lyttelton already had in place before the earthquakes but numbers have increased by about 20 per cent to 450 participants. It involves people gaining credits for carrying out tasks for one another – that can be anything from helping out at the local school to building a hen house.

"Time banking builds relationships and trust in a community. Everyone has something they can contribute to the wellbeing of the whole," says Margaret Jefferies.

She says the quakes also taught the residents of Lyttelton they could be cut-off from the rest of greater Christchurch. That has led to a food sustainability initiative – the Harbour Resilience project. The Community Garden and Farmers Market, established some years ago, also build on this theme. The Lyttelton community, under a Community



House initiative, has also been doing its own Meals on Wheels since the quakes using mostly home-grown food and donated time.

"We aren't the only group working for the Lyttelton community – those such as the Lyttelton Information Centre and Community House are also heavily involved and I think that's what makes it special. What's important is that all the groups work together. We each have a distinct flavour or focus – but everything links in and we all work closely together to make recovery happen," says Margaret Jefferies.

Project Lyttelton also publishes a local newspaper supplement 'Lyttelton News' and organises a range of community events. Go to: www.lyttelton.net.nz to find out more. ☺

A new beginning for New Regent Street

A collaborative repair programme will soon see Christchurch's much-loved New Regent Street, reopened to the public.

The terraced shopping street, designed in the 'Spanish Mission' style, stood up to the quakes but incurred some damage. The majority of the street's 38 shop owners have joined together to employ construction company Naylor Love in a substantial restoration project. It's hoped most of the structural repairs will be completed by Christmas. Then, after shop fit-outs and infrastructure work, the plan is to open the street for business in February 2013.

Chair of the New Regent Street Committee David Manning, says all but three of the owners have joined together on the project.

"We're thrilled with how the repairs are progressing and that we've been able to work together for the benefit of New Regent Street. The other three owners who chose to do their own thing are also restoring their shops so ultimately progress is being made all round," says Mr Manning.

Naylor Love Project Manager Ed Leeson, says the work has involved significant structural changes, including pouring new concrete floors and adding steel reinforcing. These changes will take the structure to above 67 per cent of the Building Code.

"Importantly, the heritage look and feel have been retained and we have also reused as much of the original heritage material as possible," says Mr Leeson



Now that the project is nearing completion, David Manning's attention is turning to the future.

"Some of the shops are owner-occupied but we have recruited a real estate agent to find new tenants for some of the remaining units. I expect initially the area will have more of a food and beverage theme but we've also had interest from some of the former Arts Centre tenants.

"We're glad we got the project underway when we did as everyone is so busy now. It's a good example of collaboration on such a difficult project and it's just amazing how well it has gone. Our aim is to have New Regent Street so that when you walk down there next February, it will be like it was in the 1930s, when it was built," says Mr Manning. ☺

AN UPDATE FROM THE COMMISSION FOR FINANCIAL LITERACY AND RETIREMENT INCOME

New resource to assist Cantabrians with financial issues

Understanding Your Financial Situation and Options - after the Canterbury Earthquakes is a new booklet from the Commission for Financial Literacy and Retirement Income. It follows on from the Red Zone Financial Decision Guide launched in October last year for red zone residents.

The new booklet is designed to help earthquake-affected Canterbury residents clarify their financial issues and work through their options. It provides tools, information and quick tips from the experts. It also gives guidance about who to talk to and where to get financial advice.

You can pick up a copy of the booklet at the Avondale Earthquake Assistance Centre or Kaiapoi Earthquake Hub. For more information visit www.sorted.org.nz/canterbury.

Free professional financial advice

To support the new booklet, the Commission is extending its free financial advice service, which it established in February 2012 to assist red zone residents. It now offers free one-on-one financial advice to all Canterbury residents affected by the earthquakes.

A group of experienced, local professional advisers are donating their time to provide this service. They're all Authorised Financial Advisers from a number of well-known and reputable organisations and don't represent the Commission. They are there to provide advice and not to sell products.

Make an appointment today – phone: **0800 RING CERA (0800 7464 2372)** for the Avondale Earthquake Assistance Centre or contact the Kaiapoi Earthquake Hub on **0800 639 000**. You can also visit www.sorted.org.nz/canterbury for further information.

Commission for
Financial Literacy
and Retirement Income

A top accolade for a Christchurch design firm

Christchurch firm Plato Design was among the winners at the AUT Excellence in Business Support Awards last month.

The local firm took out top spot in the IDEALOG - BUSINESS <5M Turnover, Sales and Marketing section. The AUT accolade adds to its recent Deloitte Fast 50 award.

John and Lisa Plato say they are incredibly proud of the Plato team which has shown a dedication, loyalty and professionalism directly related to the ongoing growth and success of the business. ☺

UPDATE FROM THE SELWYN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Substantial increase in building consents for Selwyn

Momentum in the building industry is gathering in the Selwyn District, with the Council receiving a significant increase in the number of building consent applications since July.

Selwyn District Council Building Manager Ian Butler, says he expects about a 30 per cent increase in consent applications for this financial year to 1 July 2013, compared with the previous year.

"Activity in the building industry has been increasing since the start of 2011 but it's taken a big jump since July, with 901 building consents received."

For the 1 July to 1 October 2012 quarter, the Council has undertaken around 3,800 inspections and expects to do between 12,000 and 13,000 for the full year. This compares to 9,500 building inspections from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012.

Mr Butler says this large number of inspections is requiring nine inspectors to be on the road full-time, plus additional staff when required.

Mr Butler says in spite of the significant increase in workload, the team is managing to keep the average turnaround time for building consents to 13 to 15 working days.

"I'm incredibly proud of our team and their commitment and effort towards this important role of rehousing people in our region. Our focus is to reduce the turnaround time even further."

"We're in the process of recruitment and hope to have additional staff in the New Year. Another way we're looking to get the turnaround time down is to make greater use of technology. We're introducing a digital system in January, where everything can be done electronically. Essentially, we've become smarter about the software and how we use it, which makes everything more efficient," says Mr Butler. ☺

Total number of building consents received 1 July to 31 October (2012)	901
For the same period last year	609
Expected number of building consents from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013	3,000
Total number of new dwelling applications 1 July to 31 October (2012)	373
For the same period last year	180



SELWYN DISTRICT COUNCIL
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UPDATE FROM THE WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL

Community facilities

Repairs to old Waimakariri Bridge to start soon

Work will soon be underway to repair the old Waimakariri Bridge near Kaiapoi, which was damaged in the earthquakes.

The repairs, which are a joint project between Waimakariri District Council and Christchurch City Council, will be undertaken by Fulton Hogan. Repair work includes new piles, a pile cap beam and concrete encasement to pier 29, as well as reinstatement of the damaged back wall and wingwalls to the southern abutment.

Most of the work will be under the bridge. Efforts will be made to retain access for pedestrians and cycling traffic, subject to safety conditions. Staff from the Waimakariri District Council, Christchurch City Council and Fulton Hogan are aware of the potential impact of traffic disruptions on the bridge and will be working to minimise them.

A seven day bridge closure is scheduled at the end of the work when Fulton Hogan is working on the southern abutment. This will most likely be at the end of March 2013.

Kaiapoi Aquatic Centre

Since work began two months ago on the earthquake damaged Kaiapoi Aquatic Centre, significant progress has been made towards the new facility.

Work has been largely focused on demolishing the existing roof and wall structures, which were badly damaged, as well as the stripping of internal soft furnishings. This work was very extensive and required careful consideration due to the nature of damage to the building.

During the demolition phase, project engineers had the opportunity to look closer at building details not previously visible, which enabled them to confirm proposed design solutions for the rebuild are appropriate.

All demolition work has now been completed and the contractor, Higgs Construction, has all required scaffolding in place and the pool tub protection erected. The focus will now turn to the preparation and build of foundations for the new roof and wall structures.

At the same time, work will be undertaken onsite on preparing structural materials and inside furnishings for the new building. These will be brought to site at appropriate times throughout the programme.

Higgs Construction has worked diligently to ensure physical works onsite are still to schedule and as a result, Council still forecasts a July 2013 opening of the new Kaiapoi Aquatic Centre.

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 ☺

UPDATE FROM THE CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

Resource consents heading in the right direction

Christchurch City Council's efforts around resource consents are paying off with 99 per cent of all resource consent applications processed within statutory timeframes.

Resource Consents & Building Policy Manager Steve McCarthy, says this high level of efficiency will have a positive effect on the rebuild.

"The changes we have been putting in place in response to the Canterbury earthquakes show that we have been preparing well for the rebuild.

"The key to issuing 99 per cent of our resource consents on time is linked to our excellent track record in efficiently receiving, processing and issuing over 90 per cent of resource consent applications electronically. The figures show we are leaders in New Zealand on this front.

"We are ready to meet the Government's recent announcement of a six month time limit for processing medium sized projects."

Mr McCarthy says that he has been encouraged by the number of customers requesting pre-application meetings as they help customers find out what is needed to submit complete applications.

"The Council is helping our customers understand that submitting a complete application can make a real difference to processing times." ☺

Resource consents - making a difference

- More complete applications are being submitted. The number of applications where further information was requested reduced from 41 per cent in February to 28 per cent in September
- More than 500 temporary accommodation permits have been issued since 22 February 2011 helping displaced businesses to get going
- During July to September, 458 resource consents were granted. Many of these were for large developments or new Greenfield (formerly agricultural or amenity land) subdivisions. Since the start of the financial year (from July), applications for this type of resource consent are on average 50 per cent higher than they were for the same period in the 2010/11 and 2011/12 financial years

Christchurch City Council

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