

# Media Release

## Small number of properties remain white zoned

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Of the 1558 Port Hills properties awaiting land zoning decisions today, 166 will still need further assessment before a decision can be made, and will stay zoned white, Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Minister Gerry Brownlee says.

The land in question is potentially at risk of landslip and rock roll.

In particular this involves eight properties in Lucas Lane where the ground is at risk of land slip and requires further work. It is expected this information will be available and assessed by the end of October.

The remaining 158 properties are at risk of rock roll, and before a final decision can be made, further discussion is needed between CERA officials, geotechnical engineers, the Port Hills Geotechnical Group and the Christchurch City Council.

A decision for this group of properties will be made by 17 August 2012.

"I know that this will be a huge disappointment to those land owners, as it is to me and the team that is working hard to find answers for everyone affected by the earthquakes. But in these instances there are varying degrees of damage to the land and we really need more time to ensure each area is zoned correctly," Mr Brownlee said.

"We are doing this out of fairness to the residents involved, so that they can be confident and secure in the knowledge that the science provides. It is in the best interests of these people that we take more time to look at the land and ensure we are getting the right answer."

Mr Brownlee says geotechnical engineers have been working up until early this week to assess these areas in question, but there is still too much work to be done to provide a decision at this time.

"I know a lot of people will be feeling disheartened by this announcement, and we would give an answer if we possibly could. The issues faced in these particular areas are extremely complex and only time is going to ensure that the science is sound."

Homes on the land that will remain zoned white may already be subject to a Section 124 notice from the Christchurch City Council, and if so this will remain in place.

The Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA) will be holding community meetings next week to outline the ongoing work in this area.

## Related information

- [Port Hills information](#)
- [Port Hills white zone information](#)
- [Port Hills community meetings](#)
- Media release: [285 Port Hills properties zoned red](#) - 29 June 2012
- Media release: [Over 1100 Port Hills properties zoned green](#) - 29 June 2012