Fourth Annual Report

on the

Operation of the Christ Church Cathedral Reinstatement Act 2017

1 December 2020 to 30 November 2021

Presented to the House of Representatives by the Associate Minister of Finance pursuant to section 24 of the Christ Church Cathedral Reinstatement Act 2017

Report on the Operation of the Christ Church Cathedral Reinstatement Act 2017

Purpose

As the Minister responsible for the administration of the Christ Church Cathedral Reinstatement Act 2017 (Act), I am required under section 24 to present a report on the operation of the Act to the House of Representatives within 12 months of the commencement of the Act (and every 12 months thereafter). These reports must include a list of the Orders in Council made under the Act during that period and a brief description of those Orders.

This is the fourth report under the Act, covering the period from 1 December 2020 to 30 November 2021.

Background

The Act formed part of the Crown's agreement with the Christchurch Anglican Diocese, owners of the Christ Church Cathedral (the Cathedral), to reinstate the Cathedral. The Cathedral was significantly damaged in the 22 February 2011 earthquake but there was disagreement between its owners and heritage advocates over its future. This led to litigation deadlock for several years which was remedied by support from the Crown and Christchurch City Council to help reach agreement on the reinstatement of the Cathedral. The objective of the legislation is to facilitate reinstatement by creating Orders in Council which allow for temporary exemptions from, modifications, or extensions to any provisions of certain enactments.

Orders in Council

As at the date of presenting this report, no Orders in Council have been made under the Act within the period covered by this report.

Progress in the Cathedral reinstatement

During the reporting period, stabilisation of the main cathedral building has continued to progress well. The Reinstatement Resource Consent was granted by the Christchurch City Council and the milestone of enclosing the West wall were both achieved by Christmas 2020. Enabling works for the temporary roof over the Crossing, and the foundation work for the east end Apse support structure continues as does the stabilisation of the nave via the aisle wall capping beam connections to the west.

Developed design has been completed and approved and detailed design which commenced in early June 2021 is at its peak with building consent lodgement scheduled for December 2021 for strengthening and reinstatement for the main Cathedral and Tower.

The three project partners Church Property Trustees (CPT), Christ Church Cathedral Reinstatement Trust (CCRT) and Christ Church Cathedral Reinstatement Limited (CCRL) continue to work towards restructuring the governance of the project. This included the appointment of a Restructure Manager to develop the restructure proposal. As Settlor of the trust, I have approved CCRT's request to be disestablished with its fundraising responsibility transferred to CCRL in December 2021. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between CPT and CCRT has been agreed and preliminary asset transfer work has started.

Stabilisation remains on schedule for completion by Q3 2022 and early strengthening is poised to commence in early Q2 2022 once building consent is obtained. The estimated projected cost remains at \$154.3 million, with a fundraising target of \$51.2 million and completion in mid-2027. Further assessment of risk, programme and escalation will be carried out once detailed design is completed.