



Greater Christchurch

R E C O V E R Y U P D A T E



Triumphant return home

Hundreds turned out at Christchurch Airport to give Canterbury's Paralympic swimming champion Sophie Pascoe a hero's welcome home.

The 19 year old returned home from London last month with six medals – three gold and three silver - to her credit. She waded through the throng of young fans happily signing autographs and posing for photographs. ♻️

THE GREAT CHRISTCHURCH SPRING CLEAN 2012

WWW.CHRISTCHURCHSPRINGCLEAN.CO.NZ

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

THE CONCERT | **THE BREEZE** | **Kiwi bank.** | **Mainland Press** | **skinny Mobile**

A re-call to spades and wheelbarrows for willing and able Cantabrians

The Volunteer Army Foundation, an offshoot of the Student Volunteer Army, is back with a new initiative to help out quake-weary people in greater Christchurch.

Led by Sam Johnson, the Volunteer Army Foundation is putting on The Concert, the largest music event in Christchurch in 2012, on 3 November at the new AMI Stadium. The Concert aims to help re-create greater Christchurch and support volunteering. It will feature more than a dozen artists including Katchafire, Che Fu, Scribe, Avalanche City, Hollie Smith, Goodshirt and many more. There will even be a special appearance by the Christchurch Pops Choir.

The Concert is designed to encourage more people to volunteer in their communities and to revive the sense of community felt following the earthquakes.

The price of admission to The Concert is just volunteering for four hours or more in the community. The Volunteer Army

Foundation is holding the Great Christchurch Spring Clean 2012 on 13 October to make it easy for people to put their good intentions into action.

Co-founder of The Concert and Projects Director at the Volunteer Army Foundation Jason Pemberton, says the Great Christchurch Spring Clean will focus on public spaces and private homes and properties. Work in public spaces will include removing all rubbish from the beaches, rivers, parks and streets starting in the New Brighton area. A revamp will also be offered for the private homes and gardens of people who have not been able to take care of them in the past two years.

Mr Pemberton says the work on properties doesn't have to be earthquake related.

"It can be for anyone - someone who is elderly, sick, disabled or who simply just needs a hand. Some people who have worked hard for Christchurch have also let their

own gardens or properties get out of control and could use an extra pair of hands."

People can volunteer for the Spring Clean or can nominate someone to receive help by going to www.christchurchspringclean.co.nz

The Volunteer Army Foundation aims to get 10,000 people to do 40,000 hours of volunteering in Canterbury – the equivalent of one person working full time for 20 years. So far, The Concert has over 17,000 hours pledged but it needs more. The Volunteer Army Foundation would love to break the world record for the largest volunteer concert in the world by getting more than 13,000 people to attend The Concert so they're urging people to sign up now.

To find out more, go to: www.theconcert.co.nz ♻️

CERA Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority
ISSUE 14 October 2012

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Gerry Brownlee
Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery

Looking through the content for this CERA newsletter, it's hard not to be impressed with the level of activity detailed, and the overall positive nature of this activity.

It's easy sometimes to become so focussed on a single issue, or a small number of issues, which can be difficult to understand or resolve, to overlook how much is happening to restore our city to a vibrant place to live and work again. And how much progress we are making.

I'm delighted to see the work of the Central City Development Unit (CCDU) proceed positively and at pace, with a significant level of interest from investors here and abroad in the anchor projects which will restore to the city key civic and public structures.

We can look forward to early progress of Te Papa Otakaro/Avon River Precinct, with the Request for Proposals document for detailed design about to be released. I'm sure we will see some outstanding concepts for a precinct we can all enjoy. That work should begin early in 2013.

The recent announcement of the SCIRT five-year programme is very positive. This street-level "horizontal" infrastructure is largely invisible; it's easy to underestimate but it is fundamental to recovery. Resilient roading, fresh water, waste water and storm water systems are vital, and provide confidence and security for the rebuild.

The health sector too is well on the road to recovery with the announcement of the largest hospital build in New Zealand's history. Our health services have done a great job continuing to deliver top quality services in our region since the earthquakes began but we must ensure the facilities are in place to enable ongoing service delivery now and in the future. Government expects to see the final business plan by the end of this year.

I know some of you are endeavouring to deal with issues relating to the TC3 technical category of your land. CERA has been hosting a number of briefings around the city for TC3 residents and has identified a need to develop further a greater understanding about the technical issues relating to TC3 between the engineers who develop the appropriate solutions and insurers and financiers. I welcome CERA's proposal to host a technical workshop for these people early in October and I expect this will assist working through some of the "roadblocks" to progress for those of you on TC3 land.

This is traditionally a positive time of year for Cantabrians. Spring has arrived, and there is a large number of events to enjoy; the great IceFest in Hagley Park; a number of arts events, including programmes from the Canterbury Symphony Orchestra and the Christchurch School of Music's Youth Orchestra, both of whom lost their homes in earthquakes; increasing numbers of cafes and clubs are reopening in new venues; the artisan and farmers' markets are pretty much all restored; and more besides. And don't forget The Concert on November 3rd being organised by Sam Johnston and his Volunteer Army.

We can also look forward to Cup and Show Week and the events and activities which are associated with that.

We have much to do in this city to ensure everyone is a part of the recovery journey, but we should not forget that we have already come a long way, have much to celebrate, and much more to look forward to. 🌟

Gerry Brownlee

A big step forward for a key central city anchor project

A decision will be made this month on which firm is to design Papa o Ōtākaro/Avon River Precinct.

The Papa o Ōtākaro/Avon River Precinct is a key anchor project in the Christchurch Central Recovery Plan and the first to get under way.

Greg Wilson, Manager Implementation in the Christchurch Central Development Unit (CCDU), says the call went out late last month for Expressions of Interest in this project as well as in the North Frame and a portion of the East Frame. A range of design, quantity surveying and project management professionals responded.

"From that, we've selected a small group of design consultants and sent them a Request for Proposal. We will decide by the end of this month which of them has come up with the winning design for the project."

Papa o Ōtākaro/Avon River Precinct will flank the winding central city pathway of the Avon River, creating people-focused walkways, cycleways and landscaped areas linking the city to the river.

The north section of the East Frame will be developed into a large-scale urban children's playground.

CCDU Director Warwick Isaacs, says Papa o Ōtākaro/Avon River Precinct is being prioritised because people have said they want a place in the central city where they can have



respite from the construction activity, which will be going on for quite a long time.

"Part of the vision from the Christchurch City Council's Share an Idea is that people want to see green; they want to be able to cycle and have family picnics and enjoy. We also want to be able to deliver something to the people of greater Christchurch that isn't just about business and building stuff," says Mr Isaacs.

Two parcels of land will be acquired to implement the Papa o Ōtākaro/Avon River Precinct: the former site of the Oxford on Avon and the former Plunket Rooms on Oxford Terrace.

Construction on the Papa o Ōtākaro/Avon River Precinct is expected to begin this summer. The entire project will need to be delivered in stages by 2014. 🌟

Invest Christchurch update

The Invest Christchurch service was established to facilitate private investment in the Christchurch rebuild by helping potential investors to access information, identify opportunities and overcome bureaucratic roadblocks. It is part of CERA's Christchurch Central Development Unit (CCDU).

The manager of Invest Christchurch, Sheila McBreen-Kerr, says since the launch of the Christchurch Central Recovery Plan investment facilitators have engaged with around 250 potential investors – local, national and international. Enquiries have come via email, phone, walk-ins and the CCDU website.

Invest Christchurch facilitators are also engaging directly with targeted groups of central city land owners and other interest groups to provide additional support and information.

Planning is under way for greater engagement in the fourth quarter with the international investment community. The aim is to stimulate the investment needed for a successful recovery.

In addition, through a Request for Proposal, relevant groups or consultants have been invited to explore and capitalise on interest from local, national and international philanthropic organisations wanting to help the recovery. 🌟

Land acquisition update

CERA's Christchurch Central Development Unit (CCDU) is close to finalising the first deals for land needed to implement the Christchurch Central Recovery Plan.

CERA is working with land owners who've been directly impacted by anchor projects in the Christchurch Central Recovery Plan. The aim is to reach a mutually acceptable sale and purchase agreement rather than to compulsorily acquire the land, as can happen under CERA legislation.

CCDU Manager Implementation Greg Wilson, says agreements are nearing completion for about half a dozen cases although formal settlement is still to take place.

"The acquisition by agreement process has been very positive with many property owners keen to engage early with the Crown's agent, The Property Group Limited."

Greg Wilson says about 30 per cent of the questionnaires that were sent out to affected land owners have been completed and returned to CERA. Where land owners have responded, CCDU can issue instructions for a formal valuation to be carried out, ahead of the negotiation process.

Letters have been sent to 884 land owners in relation to more than 1,300 separate land parcels affected by anchor projects. 🌟

Online Wellbeing Survey goes live soon – have your say

How do you feel about the progress of recovery in your day-to-day life?

The self-select version of the Wellbeing Survey, which goes live online on 15 October, will help CERA and other agencies working on recovery to better understand people's perceptions and experiences.

From 15 October to 2 November all residents can take part in the survey by visiting www.cera.govt.nz

Nielsen is currently undertaking a Wellbeing Survey of 2,500 greater Christchurch residents aged 18 years and over, who were randomly selected from the Electoral Roll.

The second stage of the Wellbeing Survey is the self-select version which will give all residents the opportunity to provide insights and feedback.

CERA General Manager Community Wellbeing Michelle Mitchell, says all residents of greater Christchurch are

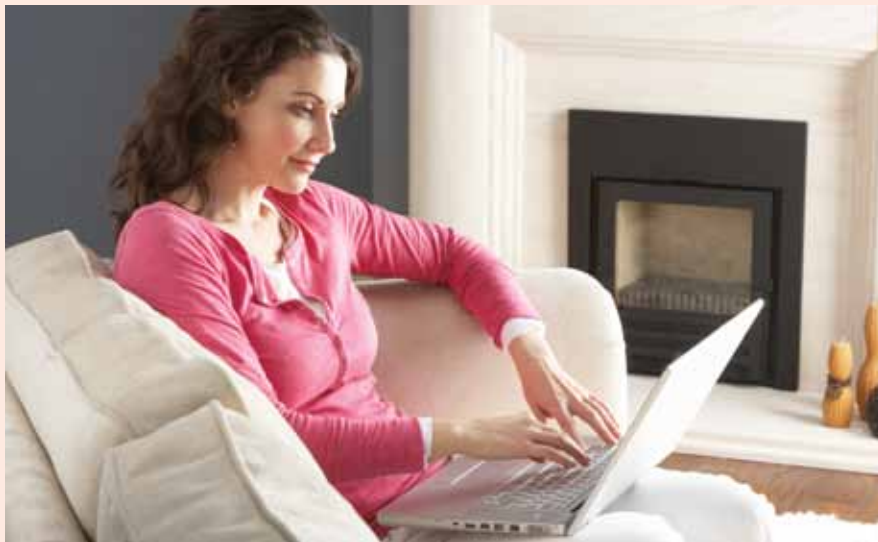
encouraged to participate in the online survey.

"It is open to everyone, as we want to understand everyone's experiences not just those who have been most affected. This is an important opportunity for people to tell us what they think about how things are going."

Survey questions cover issues like quality of life, stress, satisfaction with the recovery and the positive impacts people are experiencing.

CERA and its partner agencies will use the Wellbeing Survey results to identify where more support, assistance and resources may be needed and to enhance areas that are going well.

Results will be presented on the CERA website in early 2013. 🗳️



The last of the rockroll zoning decisions for the Port Hills announced

The final Port Hills zoning decisions were announced last month for properties at risk of rockroll. All 37 have been zoned red and eligible owners will receive a residential red zone offer from the Crown.

The properties, in the Horotane Valley and on Bridle Path Road, were previously zoned white due to the risk from rockroll or cliff collapse. They were the last of the Port Hills properties in this category to receive a zoning decision.

Eight properties in Lucas Lane that are at risk from landslip are still zoned white. A decision on their final zoning is expected this month.

Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery, Gerry Brownlee, says he appreciates that the long wait for a decision has been extremely difficult for residents.

"After consideration of a range of factors including feasibility, complexities around land ownership, cost-effectiveness and timeliness, we have concluded it is not practicable to implement major area-wide mitigation," Mr Brownlee says.

As it did with flat land residential properties, CERA will be announcing a zoning review process for Port Hills residents.

Crown offers to owners of uninsured, vacant and commercial/industrial land within the Port Hills residential red zone will be addressed at a later date.

Property owners have until 31 August 2013 to accept the current offer and must settle within six weeks of accepting. 🗳️



Roger Sutton
CERA Chief Executive

Over the past six weeks well over 3,000 people have attended community meetings all over greater Christchurch, for green zone flat land residential homeowners.

The meetings, with representatives of CERA, Building and Housing, insurers, councils and EQC, wrap up this week with attendance numbers so far ranging from 120 to 530 people at a time.

I think some people were asking whether there was going to be any benefit for them in these meetings and I hope they can now say there was.

We asked people to let us know what they thought of the meetings and 70 per cent of those who responded with feedback forms felt the meetings were positive and constructive. They also felt the meeting format, particularly the information booths, was useful.

A key thing for me is to give people a sense that everything we are doing is about trying to speed things up for people in the TC3 or Technical Category 3 areas. While some people have found it frustrating to end up in that zone, it's enabled us to concentrate geotechnical resources where we know the most intensive and careful checking is needed, before we rebuild houses.

While we want to do our best for residents, we also need to make sure the insurance companies have faith that if we are rebuilding houses in greater Christchurch on TC3 land, they will withstand future shakes. Obviously there's frustration with the amount of time it's taking to fix people's houses but the bigger picture is keeping insurance in the long term. To do that, we need to demonstrate to insurance companies and their experts that we're doing this properly.

Another significant thing that's come out during the meeting process is firm timeframes from insurance companies on the repair and rebuild of Christchurch properties. That includes a focus on the elderly and most vulnerable and people who are out of their homes. It's the first time we've had firm time-frames like this and it's a really, really positive and concrete step forward.

People I spoke to who attended the meetings say they found them useful. Others left feeling reassured that progress is actually being made.

This series of meetings isn't the first or the last time we'll be talking with the people of greater Christchurch about the recovery, and planning around future engagement is already under way. 🗳️



SCIRT Progress Statistics

Completed

194

projects totalling \$74 million dollars

19km

fresh water pipe

48km

wastewater pipe

92,000sqm

road pavement

1.4km

storm water pipe

Current

1,105km

of the 1,610km wastewater network needing assessment (over 100 mm diameter) completed using CCTV and multi-criteria assessment

580km

of 1,080km of storm water network needing assessment (over 100mm diameter) completed using CCTV and multi-criteria assessment

2,000

face-to-face interactions about our work

530

work notices distributed to 116,000 residents

87

projects totalling \$207.6 million dollars under construction

In pipeline

29

projects totalling \$123 million dollars being estimated

133

projects totalling \$1 billion being designed

\$1.2 billion

total value of work within the SCIRT rebuild programme

Road to Recovery – SCIRT Rebuild Works Schedule

SCIRT is rebuilding the city's earthquake-damaged horizontal infrastructure (fresh water, wastewater, storm water networks and roads), bridges and retaining walls.

The SCIRT five-year rebuild works schedule sets out the broad timeframes of planned works based on location.

The rebuild is a huge task and not everything can be done at once. Determining the rebuild schedule is a complex and important task. There is a well-thought-out prioritisation process in place to drive the schedule.

Prioritising our work

Priority will be based on most need first. When we're not urgently restoring an essential service, we try to identify which infrastructure is most needed and provides the greatest benefit. The aim is to first fix the worst-affected areas that impact on the most people.

Factors that are taken into account when deciding priority:

- Operational priorities** - e.g. reducing sewage overflows or fixing major roads.
- Interdependencies** - e.g. repairing downstream wastewater lines before upstream ones.
- Key services** - e.g. maintaining access to emergency, medical and educational facilities and major transport networks.

- External factors** - e.g. rebuild plans of other utility service providers (for example power), and other recovery projects (for example housing rebuild programmes).
- Constraints** - e.g. the availability of resources and materials.
- Common sense check** - SCIRT reviews the decision and decides 'is this the right thing to do now?'

The process will help deliver the rebuild as quickly as possible. It provides a strategic city-wide perspective to minimise the impact on the people of Christchurch and create value for money.

For more information go to

www.strongerchristchurch.govt.nz and open the Road to Recovery SCIRT Work Schedule button. 



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

SCIRT: Up and through, as well as under and along

Many people in Christchurch associate SCIRT with roadworks and pipe replacements – the horizontal rebuild. But on the southern side of the city, around the Port Hills and Lyttelton, SCIRT is more likely to be connected with the up-and-down of hillsides - rebuilding publicly-owned retaining walls.

Many of the Port Hills' historic, red volcanic rock retaining walls collapsed during the earthquakes and need to be rebuilt. It's a massive job which will span the full five years of the SCIRT rebuild programme.

If you are visiting Lyttelton, there are signs of progress everywhere. There's a strong sense of goodwill and energy from people committed to getting their town ship-shape and buzzing with activities. So it was with much relief that SCIRT work crews were recently able to resume work on a number of retaining walls and start work on some fresh sites close to the centre of town.

Each site is different

Each retaining wall site requires its own design based on its geotechnical features.

Most retaining walls have to meet the new design standards which have increased in Christchurch, as a result of the earthquakes. Some new walls have to be built so they are anchored to the land behind them, using ground anchors.

- Ground anchors are horizontally-drilled steel pins encased in grout. They provide increased strength to the retaining wall to meet the new standard



Cunningham Terrace, Lyttelton: the retaining wall is being rebuilt using ground anchors to increase its strength.


- Designing ground anchor systems and gaining permission from land owners to drill the anchors in place beneath their land takes time and negotiation for everyone involved: SCIRT and its delivery teams, the Christchurch City Council's property team, the land owner and their lawyer. Easement agreements must be in place before ground anchors are drilled on private property

What comes first?

The first walls to be rebuilt will be those which directly affect roads, underground services, (for example, wastewater and water supply), or have a risk of failure that could endanger the public or create access issues.

Who will rebuild these walls?

In general, SCIRT retaining wall rebuilds in Lyttelton will be undertaken by City Care and Fulton Hogan; work in other areas of the Port Hills will be undertaken by SCIRT partners Downer, McConnell Dowell and Fletcher.

SCIRT's six-month schedule lists the projects being rolled out now: <http://strongerchristchurch.govt.nz/work/schedule> 

An economic recovery update

One of CERA's key responsibilities under the Recovery Strategy is to monitor and report on recovery in the region across six main components: leadership and integration; economic recovery; social recovery; cultural recovery; built environment recovery; and natural environment recovery.

In order to do this effectively, CERA has been developing a monitoring and reporting plan, which is due to be released in the coming months after receiving feedback from strategic partners and government agencies involved in the recovery, as well as the Community Forum.

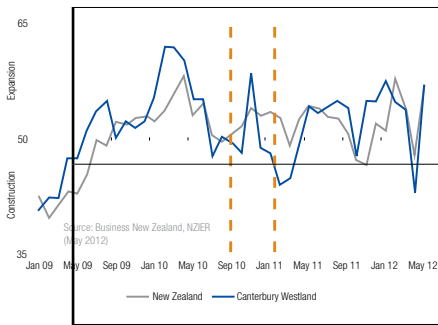
A number of the components of CERA's monitoring and reporting plan are already under way. These include the Canterbury Wellbeing Index and Wellbeing Survey and the Canterbury Economic Indicators Framework.

The Canterbury Economic Indicators Framework utilises a set of more than 100 regional indicators that paint a broad picture of economic recovery in the region. CERA will use this framework to inform decision-making. It will also be used to allow the public to track the economic aspects of recovery.

Having established the Canterbury Economic Indicators Framework, CERA is now developing its public reporting on economic recovery. A dashboard of economic indicators can be found on the CERA website: www.cera.govt.nz - follow the link to Recovery Strategy/economic-indicators. The Canterbury Economic Recovery Dashboard provides a snapshot of the latest information on a range of important measures including housing, employment, consumer spending and construction. Here's a sample of the kind of indicators you'll find on the dashboard:

Manufacturing

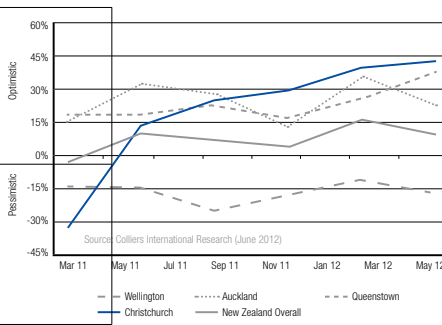
Performance of Manufacturing Index



While the manufacturing sector was affected by the earthquakes, it is showing strong signs of resilience. Despite considerable building damage to many factories, production and sales have continued positively.

Investment

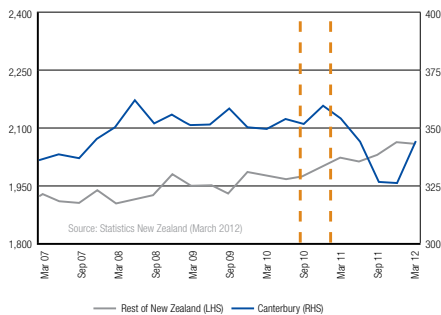
Commercial property investor confidence



Firms and commercial property investors are exhibiting very positive investment confidence sentiments, some of which are at levels not seen in the last five years.

Employment

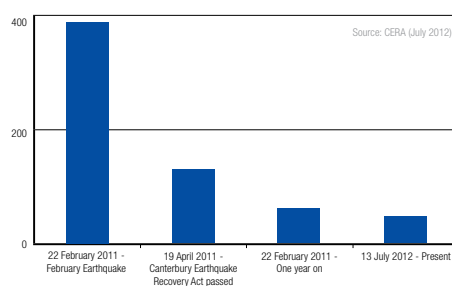
Total labour force - thousands



The labour market is showing signs of improvement with total labour force on the increase and unemployment below national trends. At the same time, however, sourcing skilled and unskilled labour is becoming more difficult and requires monitoring.

Central Business District

Central city red-zone cordoned area (hectares)



The size of the central city red-zone cordoned area is rapidly reducing and numerous employers have made at least a verbal commitment that they will return to the area. CERA is in the process of developing further metrics in this area.

BRIEFS

Red zone statistics

Total number of red zoned properties in greater Christchurch: **7,859**
(as at the end of September 2012)

Red zoned property owners who've returned a sale and purchase agreement: **5,965**

Number who've settled with the Crown: **4,684**

Property clearances completed: **1,132**

Community meetings wrap up

Almost six weeks of community meetings for green zone flat land residential homeowners are now wrapping up.

The meetings have been an opportunity to hear from, and talk with, representatives from CERA, Building and Housing, insurers, councils and EQC on the latest information around flood risk, insurance processes and land damage assessments, including the issues facing property owners in Technical Category 3.

Overall, well over 3,000 people have attended the meetings, with the attendance numbers ranging from 120 to 530 people at different venues around the city.

Information booths were also set up, giving members of the public the opportunity to discuss their individual situations with the representatives of the organisations present.

Further red zone properties eligible for Crown offers

The Government has announced its offers to owners of uninsured, vacant and commercial/industrial land within the residential red zone on the flat land of greater Christchurch.

A number of parcels of vacant land are uninsured and therefore not eligible for the Crown's original residential red zone offer. The owners now have the option of selling their land to the Crown at half the most recent rateable value.

The same option is being offered to uninsured residential property owners.

The owners of insured commercial/industrial buildings in the residential red zone have two options, similar to those of the owners of insured residential properties.

The other category in the flat land zone addresses insured homes on leasehold land owned by the Waimakariri District Council.

Government offers to owners of uninsured, vacant and commercial/industrial land within the Port Hills residential red zone will be addressed at a later date.

More details can be found on the CERA website: www.cera.govt.nz

The Canterbury home repair process

The Canterbury Home Repair Programme was established to project manage the repair of homes damaged by the Canterbury earthquakes. The Earthquake Commission (EQC) has contracted Fletcher EQR as its project manager and the repair work is carried out by local contractors, sourced mainly from Canterbury.

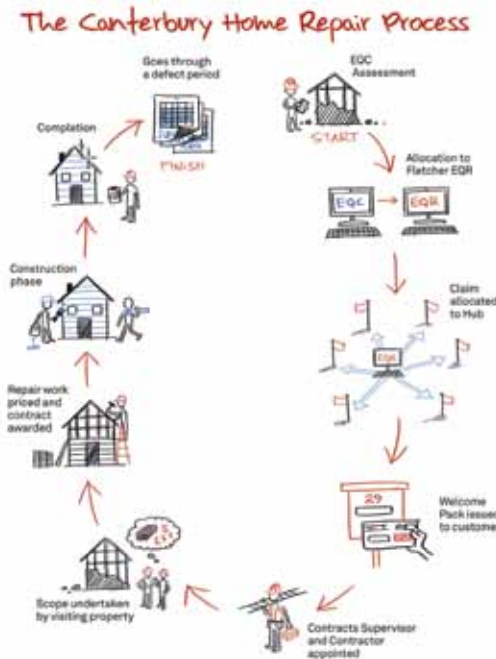
EQC has already completed more than 23,000 repairs and has committed to fix all homes with damage over \$50,000 by the end of 2013 and homes with damage between \$15,000 and \$50,000 by the end of 2015.

Project management and support staff are based in hubs located throughout the community. Your key Fletcher EQR contact is a contracts supervisor based at your local hub. That person has the primary responsibility for managing your repairs.

Contractors who wish to work on the programme must undergo an accreditation process that takes account of experience, qualifications and other factors relevant to the repair work. Home owners can nominate their own contractor as long as they are accredited to Fletcher EQR.

The Canterbury Home Repair Programme team is ready to support you throughout the repair process. We look forward to working with you while repairing your home.

This graphic explains how the repair process is working for the 100,000 homes in the Canterbury Home Repair Programme. ♻️



EQC Phone: 0800 Damage
EARTHQUAKE COMMISSION (0800 326 243)
Kōwhiriwhiri Rōwhenua Web: www.eqc.govt.nz

Hospital redevelopment plans bring boost to planned Health Precinct

The largest hospital build in the history of New Zealand's public health service has been approved for Christchurch.

The half billion dollar plans involve significantly redeveloping Christchurch Hospital and extending Burwood Hospital with a purpose-designed older person's facility. A detailed business case will be developed by December for final approval early next year, and work has been fast-tracked on the designs for Burwood Hospital.

Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery, Gerry Brownlee, says many of the facilities of Canterbury District Health Board (CDHB) were damaged in the earthquakes. About 200 buildings and over 12,000 out of 14,000 require repairs.

"The final business plan will establish the best option to build additional operating theatres, replace around 500 beds including purpose designed space for children, an expanded intensive care unit and emergency department at Christchurch Hospital and a new hospital for older people's health at Burwood."

Mr Brownlee says the Government has appointed a steering group to work closely with CDHB to develop the final business case.

Members of the hospital redevelopment partnership group include Mr Evan Davies (Chair), Mr Bruce Matheson (Chair of CDHB), Mr Tony Sewell and Dr Margaret Wilsher. In addition, the Group will include ex officio members representing the Ministry of Health, Treasury, CERA and Canterbury District Health Board.

Mr Matheson says a new hospital complex in the city is a key component of Christchurch's future and both projects are very good news for the people of Canterbury.

The redeveloped Christchurch Hospital will also form part of the Health Precinct in the Christchurch Central Recovery Plan. That will see the creation of a world-class hub for health education, research and innovation – within walking distance of the main hospital site. ♻️

Living with demolition dust in Christchurch

Although a certain amount of dust in the air will be a fact of life in Christchurch over the next few years as buildings are demolished and vacant sites are yet to be built on, a variety of measures are in place to ensure irritation from dust is kept to a minimum.

CERA, Christchurch City Council and Environment Canterbury are actively monitoring across the city.

Some dust is produced during the demolition process and measures to mitigate that form part of the demolition contract. These plans are monitored by CERA Project Management Officers and include sprinkler systems, hoardings,

water trucks, atomisers and traffic management plans. Dust also results from truck movements during roading. That is monitored by CERA which regularly has sweepers and water carts sweeping up sediment from roadways. Truck washes have been set up to water down trucks prior to leaving the cordon. Dust from cleared sites is the responsibility of the owner to control.

Brett Aldridge, Environment Canterbury's Regional Manager RMA Monitoring and Compliance, says "While many dust-control measures are in place at these sites, the sheer size and number of the sites means realistically there will be dust."

Some people may find they react to dusty conditions and it is suggested they seek advice from a medical professional about what extra precautions they can take. ♻️



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

Community support for Burwood residents

The doors of the Burwood Christian Centre (BCC) are wide open for local residents in need of some post-quake comfort and support.

The centre on Bassett Street is flanked by red zone and Technical Category 3 properties. It became a lifeline for the local community in the immediate aftermath of the February quake, getting up and running within a couple of days with a borrowed generator. Meals, water and a comforting smile were handed out to those in need.

Now 18 months on, BCC senior leader Pastor Nigel Ripley says he wants residents in the Burwood/Avondale area to take advantage of the community support that's still out there for them.

The centre, which has three full-time and three part-time staff plus a small army of volunteers, runs LIVE community drop-in sessions from 10am to 12.30pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during term time.

"It is a no pressure environment. It's a place where people can get out of the house and connect with others. There are things you can do if you want to – crafts, sports and so on - but if you want to just sit down and have a cup of coffee, that's fine," Pastor Ripley says.

He says the open sessions are about community looking after community with local people connecting at a neighbourhood level. He's concerned some people are getting worn out and want to shut themselves away.

"We need to get the message out that there are a lot of programmes in the community that say, 'There's life, there's



activity, there's people.' It's free, it's easy, just wander in and you've got good people to look after you."

Pastor Ripley says a number of the Burwood churches are planning a door-to-door residents' survey next month to check up on how people are getting on.

"It will have a wellbeing or pastoral care element to help us work out how to support people but we also want to get an idea of what people are looking for, in terms of life in Burwood in the future and how they can be part of it.

"There's a significant level of red zone around us so it will be good to get people thinking forward. We can then take those ideas to CERA and other agencies and better communicate the needs of the local community," Pastor Ripley says.

The Burwood Christian Centre is planning more community events, such as fairs and picnics, going into the summer season. 🔄

West Coast Whitebait Festival comes to Christchurch



The Great West Coast Whitebait Festival is a celebration of the best of Kiwi hospitality – with a dash of Kiwi ingenuity thrown in.

It's food. It's fun. It's gourmet nosh-ups; it's classic Coast on a plate; it's more 'bait cooked up in more styles than you can poke a stick at. And it's all happening on Labour Weekend – Saturday 20 October at Cranmer Square in Christchurch.

One member of the team behind the event, the same team that put together the iconic Wildfoods Festival, is Westland District Council marketing manager Sonya Matthews. She says there are all kinds of tastes to accompany the little fishies – wild food, fine food, seafood and game – all washed down with a variety of beverages including local brews and quality wines.

Entertainment will be provided by live bands and the first ever Great 'Bait Debate with Gary McCormick, Joe Bennett, Jim Hopkins and David Round arguing, 'Is West Coast whitebait overrated?'

Sonya Matthews says some of the proceeds from the Great West Coast Whitebait Festival will go to the quake charity Rebuild Christchurch.

"It's our way of saying thanks to our staunchest supporters over 23 years of the Wildfoods Festival."

The Great West Coast Whitebait Festival is being held at Cranmer Square from 10am to 5.30pm on Saturday 20 October.

Tickets on sale from www.whitebaitfest.co.nz 🔄

NZ IceFest the best school holiday destination

NZ IceFest's holiday fun and the Antarctic Season Opening are both well under way.

NZ IceFest has already enjoyed fantastic crowds and will continue offering events, exhibitions and family fun until Sunday 14 October.

The Antarctic Season Opening began last weekend and included NZ IceFest supporting Christchurch Airport's Antarctic Air Day. Christchurch has a vital role as one of the world's best Gateways to Antarctica.

NZ IceFest director Jo Blair says families should make the most of the school holidays at NZ IceFest.

"Talking live to Scott Base, skating on the outdoor rink, the Antarctic Centre Field Camp, virtual tours of Antarctica, the Passport to Antarctica and investigating science stations in the UC Geo Dome will keep kids busy and happy."

Meanwhile, significant financial support from the Government and the business community has made sure the new biennial event has not only launched successfully but will grow into an internationally recognised iconic event on the festival calendar, says Ms Blair.

The government, through New Zealand Major Events has committed NZ\$800,000 to the New Zealand IceFest over its 2012 and 2014 events.

Find dates and times at www.nzicefest.co.nz 🔄



Talking live to Scott Base has to be one of the best things you could do these holidays at NZ IceFest. Daylight savings means you can skate all day and into the evening's Skate Night events. There's free family fun including the Antarctic Centre Field Camp, virtual tours of Antarctica and a chance to complete challenges, collect your own Passport to Antarctica and be in to win. Activities in the UC Geo Dome mean NZ IceFest is worth a visit rain or shine. Visit www.nzicefest.co.nz

A Masterplan in the making for Rolleston

Rolleston residents have been having their say about what they think the town centre should look like, as the Selwyn District Council plans for exponential growth.

Over the next 30 years it is expected that Rolleston will grow from around 8,000 people to between 18,000 and 22,000 people.

In September, the Council held two popular drop-in days and posted information asking for feedback on the future town centre on the Council's website, Facebook page (Future for Selwyn) and through feedback forms.

Strategic Policy Planner Cameron Wood says the current town centre is dominated by large format retail and car parking with poor connections between them.

"The centre does not have an identifiable heart and is not considered a key destination for people," he says.

Improvements to the town provide the opportunity to:

- Introduce a greater mix of uses to support the existing retail and community facilities
- Ensure good access and linkages both within the centre and to the wider town

- Develop a more pedestrian-friendly centre with a focal point for community gathering
- Make it distinctive from other towns in the district and a desirable place to visit

Following the collation and analysis of ideas, the Council will formulate options for the town centre and these will go out for public consultation around the end of this year. A public hearing is scheduled for March next year, followed by preparation of the Masterplan for consideration by the Council in May next year.

To find out more, visit:

www.selwyn.govt.nz/rollestontowncentre



SELWYN DISTRICT COUNCIL
Phone: (03) 347 2800
Web: www.selwyn.govt.nz

Community facilities

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

Traffic moves a bit more freely along Rangiora's High Street

Since the closure of a number of dangerous buildings and the subsequent placement of a protective container wall and fencing in Rangiora's High Street, traffic, both pedestrian and vehicular, has been severely restricted. At the beginning of September, following the deconstruction of the Lambert's Building, the containers were removed and a section of the fencing re-aligned. This has since allowed for extra car parks to be marked out in High Street, leading to some relief for both pedestrians and motorists.

Kaiapoi town centre repairs and improvements

In early September the Waimakariri District Council approved a tender from City Care Ltd for earthquake repairs and improvements in the Kaiapoi Town Centre, the Williams Street bridge and the area north of the bridge. The work will involve water mains and sewer mains replacement, kerbing and channelling replacement, some road reconstruction, footpath repairs in Charles Street and street layout and landscape repairs associated with the town centre upgrade.

The work will be carried out in two stages, the first focusing on Charles Street and Davie Street and the second centred on Williams Street and Smith Street. The project is expected to be completed by late May 2013.

Kaiapoi Aquatic Centre

Work started on Monday 3 September in the reconstruction of the Kaiapoi Aquatic Centre. The centre was closed immediately after the September 2010 earthquake with minor damage caused to the ducting. It re-opened in December 2010. However, the centre was closed again after the February earthquake last year with major damage to the roof structure – damage which made the facility unusable.

The reconstruction project is scheduled to be completed by the end of June 2013.



WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL
Phone: (03) 311 8900
Web: www.waimakariri.govt.nz



New Zealand Cup and Show Week

Spring is finally here and Cantabrians are looking ahead to festival week. Canterbury's favourite spring festival, New Zealand Cup and Show Week will run this year from Saturday 10 until Saturday 17 November.

It will feature a range of fashion events, a taste of rural life, a chance to try your luck at the races and entertainment throughout the city. Cantabrians are being encouraged to take time out to celebrate.

Christchurch Mayor Bob Parker says the city is vibrant and buzzing during festival week.

"There are events happening all around the city. New Zealand Cup and Show Week will be a chance to enjoy all that the city has to offer and to come together as a community for a week of spring festivities," he says.

The key events are:

- The festival will launch on Saturday 10 November with Sothys New Zealand 2000 Guineas Day at Riccarton Park.
- A highlight of the week is the prestigious Christchurch Casino NZ Trotting Cup Day at Addington Raceway on Tuesday 13 November.
- The 150th Canterbury A&P Show will run from Wednesday 14 to Friday 16 November.
- 'Ladies' Day' Couplands' Bakeries Mile at Riccarton Park on Wednesday 14 November is a fantastic day out for the ladies.
- The best in greyhound racing action will take place at Addington Raceway on Thursday 15 November with the Buy Sell & Exchange NZ Greyhound Cup.
- Lindauer Race Day at Addington Raceway on Friday 16 November is a great day out for everyone.
- The final event of the week is the popular Christchurch Casino NZ Cup and New Zealand Bloodstock 1000 Guineas Day at Riccarton Park on Saturday 17 November.

Tickets for New Zealand Cup and Show Week are now on sale and sales are currently tracking in line with previous years.

For more information visit:

www.nzcupandshow.co.nz



CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL
Phone: 03 941 8999
Web: www.ccc.govt.nz
Email: info@ccc.govt.nz