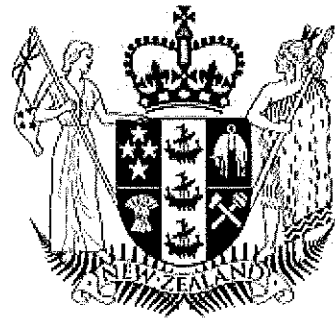


Hon Gerry Brownlee
Minister for Canterbury Earthquake
Recovery



18 May 2012

Media Statement

Flat land residential zoning now complete

Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Minister Gerry Brownlee has today announced the final decision in almost 11 months of flat land residential zoning in Canterbury.

"Today's news delivers certainty to the owners of 401 properties in Southshore West, following a long and frustrating wait," Mr Brownlee said.

"It brings the number of residential properties zoned red because they are unsuitable for residential occupation to 7256."

The first of eight zoning decisions (including today's) affecting over 150,000 houses on flat land in greater Christchurch was made on 23 June 2011.

"We always said the final zoning decisions would be the most difficult, because the nature of the damage and options for remediation were less clear cut than in the areas zoned earlier, but Southshore West has proved particularly challenging.

"Southshore West suffered major lateral spreading along the edge of the estuary in last February's quake, in some places over a metre.

"For that reason, and because treatment to prevent future lateral spreading would be invasive for people already living in damaged homes and take a number of years, 198 of the 401 properties in Southshore West closest to the estuary have been zoned red.

"The owners of these properties are now eligible to receive a Government offer of purchase," Mr Brownlee said.

A recently announced change to the offer period means the owners of today's red zoned properties will have 12 months from the date on the offer letter accept an option and return a sale and purchase agreement to the Crown.

The last date these people in Southshore have to settle with the Crown is 30 June 2013.

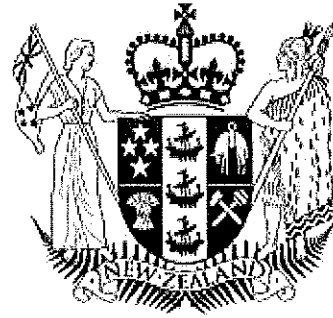
The remaining 203 properties in Southshore West have been zoned green, in Department of Building and Housing (DBH) Technical Category 3. Owners of these properties can now begin the process of making necessary repairs or rebuilding on their land.

The Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA) will now hold community meetings to help all affected residents understand what the announcement means and their options.

“Earthquake Support Co-ordinators and the Red Cross will be visiting every property rezoned in the Southshore West area today, and will leave further information at those properties where no one home is when they visit,” Mr Brownlee said.

Media contact: Nick Bryant 021 245 8272

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Media Statement

421 Port Hills properties zoned green

Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Minister Gerry Brownlee has today announced the green zoning of 421 residential properties in the Port Hills, leaving 1679 houses still under review.

“This announcement is part of an ongoing programme of technical modelling and mapping work to determine risks from rockfall and cliff collapse, and the feasibility of addressing those hazards,” Mr Brownlee said.

Parallel workstreams by the Christchurch City Council (CCC) and the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA) are progressively creating a clear picture of where the greatest risks to habitation in the event of major earthquakes exist, and how those risks might be mitigated.

CCC-commissioned work by the Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences (GNS) and the Port Hills Geotechnical Group of engineers is complementing a CERA-commissioned three-dimensional rockfall study by Christchurch company Geovert, support from Austrian rockfall specialists, and advice from experts at Italy’s University of Milan.

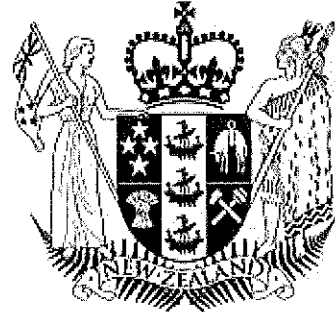
“The picture in the Port Hills is becoming clearer,” Mr Brownlee said.

“As more information becomes available we’ll be able to announce decisions for the remaining properties in the white zone.”

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Media Statement

Parklands East stays green TC3

Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Minister Gerry Brownlee says a thorough review of the state of the land in Parklands East following the December 23 earthquake has shown the original decision to zone the area green remains appropriate.

530 properties in Parklands East were zoned green in Department of Building and Housing (DBH) Technical Category 3 (TC3) in [month] last year.

“Analysis shows Parklands East’s original zoning is consistent with the approach used in all of the flat land zoning, and despite further liquefaction in December it does not meet the criteria to be zoned red,” Mr Brownlee said.

Geotechnical analysis has shown Parklands East responded as TC3 land is expected to, given the size and proximity of the December 23 event, but that does not mean it is unsuitable for residential occupation.

“It is possible for houses in Parklands East to be repaired or rebuilt on an individual basis; there is no need for area-wide land treatment.

“Technical guidance on appropriate foundation treatments for TC3 properties has been prepared by DBH and should be followed,” Mr Brownlee said.

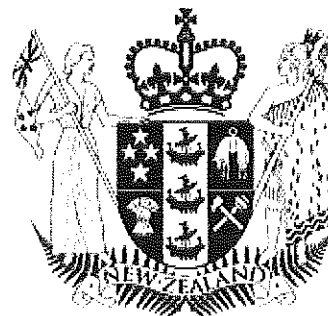
Christchurch City Council has also advised CERA that repair of horizontal infrastructure in Parklands East is feasible.

“Further information about building and repairing properties in TC3 areas will be delivered to Parklands East residents today and tomorrow, and two community meetings will be held next week to further inform residents of their status and options,” Mr Brownlee said.

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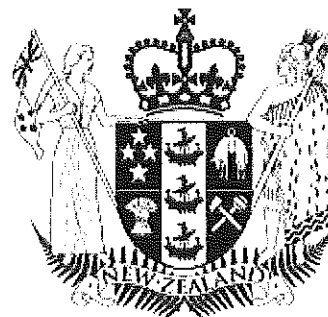
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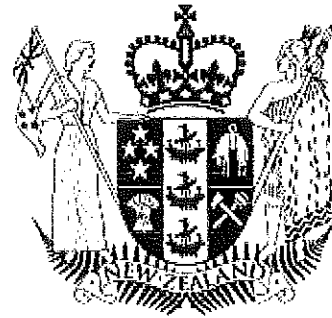
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