

## FACT SHEET

# Earthquake-Prone Buildings Programme



### CANTERBURY EARTHQUAKES

- The Canterbury earthquakes of 2010/2011 and the ensuing Royal Commission enquiry resulted in public scrutiny of the adequacy of current policies and regulations for addressing earthquake prone buildings.

### EARTHQUAKE-PRONE BUILDINGS PROGRAMME

- The Whakatāne District Council's earthquake-prone buildings programme is a response to proposed Government legislation covering the identification, assessment and strengthening requirements for earthquake-prone buildings.

### IDENTIFICATION OF EARTHQUAKE PRONE BUILDINGS

- Once the new legislation is enacted, local Councils will have five years to identify all buildings within their territorial boundaries that provide less than 34% of the earthquake resistance offered by a new building, built to current codes.

### INITIAL EVALUATION RESULTS

- Initial evaluation procedures (IEPs) carried out on buildings within the Whakatāne CBD area indicate that 67% are likely to be earthquake-prone, meaning that those buildings may not meet 34% of the New Building Standard (NBS).

### WDC'S PROPOSAL – COLLABORATIVE APPROACH

- WDC has offered to fund the ground study of the Harbour Board land within the Whakatāne CBD, and project-manage detailed seismic assessments on behalf of participating building owners, provided that the owners of at least 50% of the buildings on Harbour Board land commit to carrying out a detailed seismic assessment of their buildings within 12 months of the ground study.

## REGISTRATION OF INTEREST

In the event that the Whakatāne District Council agrees to carry out and fund a ground study of the land at:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Building Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
I/we commit to carrying out a detailed seismic assessment of my/our building, at my/our cost, within 12 months of the date of the ground study report, subject to agreement being reached on the terms of such a commitment and the price of the detailed seismic assessment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name/Company Name of Building Owner)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)



## Advantages of the collaborative approach

- Considerable savings due to economies of scale.
  - » Ground study: individual cost likely to be between \$11,500 and \$20,500 per property. For those building owners on Harbour Board land, there would be no cost.
  - » Detailed seismic assessments: estimated cost of \$12,000 per assessment (for a single storey structure assessment) which would equate to a saving of approximately 15%. Note that WDC has yet to confirm actual costs.
- Utilises WDC's project management expertise in contracting and managing the engineering assessment process.
- Enables building owners and investors to make informed decisions about strengthening or redeveloping their buildings.
- Preserves the vitality and viability of Whakatāne town centre by facilitating the timely and cost-efficient upgrade of our building stock.

## Next Steps in 2014/15

**EARLY 2014:** Garry Pellett (Consultant) to meet with individual building owners to discuss the earthquake-prone building programme and obtain registrations of interest.

**END OF FEBRUARY:** WDC to obtain accurate costings for ground study and detailed seismic assessments.

**MARCH:** WDC to decide whether to proceed with ground assessment, based on the number of registrations of interest received. WDC may also invite other landowners to participate, at their cost, by instructing the engineering consultancy.

**MARCH:** WDC to engage an engineering consultancy to undertake the ground study.

**MARCH – MAY:** Garry Pellett to seek a commitment from building owners to translate their initial registration of interest into a binding agreement (to be supplied by Council).

**AUGUST 2014 – MAY 2015:** WDC to engage an engineering consultancy, on behalf of building owners, to undertake the detailed seismic assessments at the building owners' cost.

**FOR FURTHER  
INFORMATION  
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