

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 18 August 2011



Mayor says zoning clarity is welcome

Following today's Government announcement on the clarification of Kaiapoi's orange zone into red and green, Waimakariri District Council Mayor David Ayers says he is pleased that Kaiapoi people have more clarity on their situation.

"This allows people to now make definite decisions. We understand that there will be some residents who are happy and some who are not, regardless of the fact that their zone classification has now been confirmed."

Of the 1330 residential properties zoned orange for further investigation on 23 June 2011, 860 in Kaiapoi and 80 in The Pines Beach have now been zoned red, 220 in the northern part of Kaiapoi have been zoned green and a further 70 in the western part of Kaiapoi will remain in the orange zone for the time being for further investigative work.

The Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA) says a decision on the 70 orange zoned properties should be made within the next few weeks.

While residents are accepting offers and relocating, Waimakariri District Council Chief Executive Jim Palmer says the Council will be maintaining and repairing services to households in the red zone.

"Community meetings are being planned to hear views and concerns once people have received letters from the Government next week. The Council will be writing to affected residents to advise them once the dates and venues have been confirmed."

"Today's decision gives us confidence that the areas of Kaiapoi that have been confirmed as green zones can be built back safely and in a way which will minimise damage in any future event," Mayor Ayers says.

Waimakariri residents zoned orange before today can begin checking the www.landcheck.org.nz website or phone 0800 RING CERA (0800 7464 2372) to learn of their new zone. Personalised information packs advising affected residents of the reclassification of the orange zone and what it means for them will arrive in the mail over the next few days.

The Waimakariri Earthquake Support Service (WESS) will also run a temporary drop-in centre for affected residents. The service will be operating out of the front portacom at the Kaiapoi Earthquake Hub, 24 Sewell Street. Hours of operation will be today until 6 pm and Friday until approximately 5 pm. The drop-in centre will also be open Saturday and Sunday this weekend from 10 am-1.30 pm and further hours will be assessed next week.

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For more information contact:

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