

# MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 23 June 2011



## Council Responds to Government Earthquake Land Decision

*Following the Government's release this afternoon of the latest earthquake affected land information and its subsequent categorisation of Kairaki as a 'red' zone, Waimakariri District Mayor David Ayers says he and the Waimakariri District Council are working to achieve the best possible outcome for affected residents and to help them through the impact this might have.*

Like Christchurch, Waimakariri District has been divided into zones – red, orange, green and white – signifying the extent of land damage. Currently, Kairaki is the only area in the District classified as a red zone – unlikely to be suitable for continued residential occupation for a prolonged period of time.

Kairaki residents, in common with those in the red zoned areas of Christchurch, have been made an offer by the Government to purchase their homes and/or land. Mayor Ayers says that the Government's nine month period for residents to consider the offer of purchase also provides an opportunity for the Council to take stock of the situation and assess what actions to take.

The Council is organising support teams for Kairaki from today to help people understand what the decision means and to find further information and will be arranging a community meeting early next

week at which Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA) Chief Executive Roger Sutton will be available.

In addition the Council hopes to hold a meeting with Kairaki motorcamp residents tomorrow morning to address their specific situation.

Until the balance of 'orange' zones – those areas where engineers need to undertake further investigations in order to provide residents with more certainty – is assessed, Mayor Ayers says it is still too early to speculate on what this means for Kaiapoi. "Understandably, those people classified in the orange zone in Kaiapoi will be disappointed," he said, "This classification leaves them with a similar, or in some cases greater, level of uncertainty than they experienced prior to the Government requesting a delay in the rebuild programme a couple of weeks ago. We will be working very hard to with the Government to bring greater levels of clarity and certainty to the process".

The Government has organised a website for residents to ascertain what zone their address is in at [www.landcheck.org.nz](http://www.landcheck.org.nz)

For more information contact:

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