



Media release
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Earthquake Repairs on track for completion

Earthquake repairs in Selwyn District are well on their way to completion.

\$8.9 million has been spent in Selwyn on repairing earthquake damaged council assets following the 2010 and 2011 Canterbury quakes, around 75 percent of the total expenditure needed for repairs.

The magnitude 7.1 earthquake which occurred in September 2010 was centred near Darfield in Selwyn.

Selwyn Mayor Kelvin Coe says that while there was considerable damage to personal property, the district was reasonably fortunate that there was not widespread damage to Council infrastructure. "The main areas of damage were to community centres and halls, cemeteries, roading, water and waste water systems," he says.

The majority of earthquake damaged roads were repaired by the end of June 2011. The Sabys Road bridge replacement on the boundary of Christchurch City was started in October 2012 and completed in February last year.

Repair work to quake damaged water and waste water systems was completed by the end of 2010. Damage to these systems was not significant following the February 2011 quakes.

Six cemeteries that sustained significant damage in the earthquakes have been repaired – the most recent site to be repaired is Lincoln. Other cemeteries where work has been completed include Greendale, Ellesmere, Springston, Weedons and Dunsandel. Work was delayed for the Brookside cemetery following the September 2013 wind storm which damaged trees at the site. Repair work is now underway again.

Following the earthquakes, repair work or complete replacements were necessary for 69 community centres, halls, toilet blocks or swimming pools. 74 percent of these repairs or replacements have been completed.

The last of the earthquake repairs to community buildings will be to Southbridge Hall and Glentunnel Library and are expected to be completed by the end of July.

The Lakeside Hall suffered extensive damage and was demolished. A community survey has been completed on what needs to be included in a new facility and planning is underway for the construction of this. The Council has requested tenders from contractors to replace Greenpark Hall which also had to be demolished.

The estimated final cost of earthquake repairs to council assets is around \$12.1 million.

Funding for repairs has come from a number of sources including insurance (for wastewater systems, water systems, buildings), the Earthquake Commission (for properties), New Zealand Transport Agency (for roading) and Central Government (for welfare and recovery).

“The cost of our rebuild was aided by the \$135 earthquakes rates levy which was added to Selwyn residents’ 2011/2012 rates and totalled close to \$2 million. This has helped contribute to 16 percent of the estimated total cost for earthquake repairs in Selwyn which could not be met from other sources,” says Mayor Coe.

“Selwyn is fortunate to now be in a position where most earthquake repairs to Council infrastructure have been completed, which enables the Council to focus on delivering services for residents,” he adds.

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