

Media Release

Geotechnical work continues in orange zones

Release Date: 13 September 2011

Property owners in orange zone areas waiting for rezoning decisions are being assured by the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority that a great deal of work is underway to give them certainty as soon as possible.

CERA chief executive, Roger Sutton, says rezoning decisions have already been announced for a significant number of people, but he is aware others are also anxious for news.

"We had hoped to be able to let people in Spencerville, Brooklands, Southshore and west Kaiapoi know this month what was happening for them. Unfortunately, it's taking longer than expected and we will be back in touch with them next month with an updated timeframe."

Mr Sutton says he has written to all the affected property owners to apologise for the delay and explain the reasons behind it.

"Essentially it's very complex geotechnical work and more information is needed before decisions can be made to ensure that they are well considered and robust."

"One of the really important tools for assessing land is the aerial LiDAR surveying, and that was interrupted by snow dumps meaning that we had to get additional ground surveys done."

"We understand these delays are frustrating for residents and I can assure them that as soon as the geotechnical work is completed, findings will be passed on to the Government to make the zoning decisions."

"I know people have been incredibly patient and I want to thank them for that. We appreciate how tough it is for them, but we've got to get the decisions right."