

Fifth Annual Report
on the
Operation of the Christ Church Cathedral Reinstatement Act 2017
1 December 2021 to 30 November 2022

**Presented to the House of Representatives by the Associate Minister of Finance pursuant to
section 24 of the Christ Church Cathedral Reinstatement Act 2017**

Report on the Operation of the Christ Church Cathedral Reinstatement Act 2017

Purpose

As the Minister responsible for the administration of the Christ Church Cathedral Reinstatement Act 2017 (the Act), I am required under section 24 to present a report on the operation of the Act to the House of Representatives within 12 months of the commencement of the Act (and every 12 months thereafter). These reports must include a list of the Orders in Council made under the Act during that period and a brief description of those Orders.

This is the fifth report under the Act, covering the period 1 December 2021 to 30 November 2022.

Background

The Act formed part of the Crown's agreement with the Christchurch Anglican Diocese, owners of the Christ Church Cathedral (the Cathedral), to reinstate the Cathedral. The Cathedral was significantly damaged in the 22 February 2011 earthquake but there was disagreement between its owners and heritage advocates over its future. This led to litigation deadlock for several years which was remedied by support from the Crown and Christchurch City Council to help reach agreement on the reinstatement of the Cathedral. The objective of the legislation is to facilitate reinstatement by creating Orders in Council which allow for temporary exemptions from, modifications, or extensions to any provisions of certain enactments.

Orders in Council

As at date of presenting this report, no new Orders in Council have been made under the Act within the period covered by this report.

Progress in the Cathedral reinstatement

The new governance structure for the Project bedded in before the end of 2021, following the disestablishment of Christ Church Cathedral Reinstatement Trust. Mark Stewart MNZM was appointed Chair of Christ Church Cathedral Reinstatement Limited (CCRL). Other Board appointments included the Bishop of Christchurch, The Right Reverend Dr Peter Carrell and Steve Wakefield from Church Property Trustees; two directors with fundraising skills, Bryan Pearson and Catherine Boyer; and Brian Nightingale a leading New Zealand construction executive.

Stabilisation of the main Cathedral building is all but completed with final tasks due for sign off in early 2023. External steel support structures are in place, with the temporary roof over the crossing allowing for the removal of roof timbers and the deconstruction of the heavy gable arches within the Cathedral. Work to clean up inside the nave using a remotely operated digger was very successful. Early strengthening works have commenced on the north and south porches and the west porch is almost deconstructed with heritage materials catalogued and stored ready for reuse in time.

The early procurement of long lead items such as stained-glass window repair, base isolators and securing the firm to design and rebuild the organ have helped to firm up areas of risk. Wage inflation and escalation continue to be adjusted and remain a 'risk under management' given the unavoidable duration of the project. The project is fortunate in that most of the stone material is already onsite and will be reused. Having completed the main Cathedral detailed design CCRL is confident that the project cost will be in the range of \$155 million - \$160 million. Fundraising is underway with a number of significant pledges received and campaigns launched.