Further to my previous communications:

- 1. You will be aware that we have completed works for the "temporary" solution ensuring that the previously earthquake prone classroom blocks at St Peter's School, Christ the King School, Our Lady of the Assumption School, St Bernadette's School, and St Mary's School (Christchurch) were quickly brought up to a seismic capacity as near as practicable to 67% of the new build standard (nbs).
- 2. The methodology used in this "temporary" solution is explained in this YouTube link ... http://youtu.be/4zU-IF6BV3A
- 3. Opus International is currently finalising the process of providing structural drawings for the Council consenting process (*for these classroom blocks that have undergone temporary repairs*) for the permanent repair solution at the first 2 of the 5 schools. This permanent repair solution will be cosmetically more pleasing whilst affording the same or better % nbs as the temporary repair solution has provided at these 5 schools.
- 4. The Diocese has purchased 3 portable module buildings from Hann Construction and Hann Construction has provided one additional portable module building for lease. The City Council has confirmed acceptance of a temporary concrete block and sleeper foundation system to be used when these portable module buildings are temporarily moved onto a school site.
- 5. These portable module buildings will be delivered to the school and will enable the classrooms that are required to be brought up to as near as practicable to 67% nbs to be vacated. The number of classrooms to be vacated at each school ranges from 2 5 (depending upon the school).
- 6. With 20 classrooms required to be vacated in these 5 schools, clearly we cannot undertake every school at once. We have to stage the works.
- 7. The order in which these permanent repair solutions will be carried out is:
 - (1) St Peter's School (Beckenham) & Christ the King School (Burnside)
 - (2) Our Lady of the Assumption School (Hoon Hay)
 - (3) St Bernadette's School (Hornby)
 - (4) St Mary's School (City)

In other words we will deliver 2 portable module buildings to St Peter's School & 2 portable module buildings to Christ the King School in the first instance. When the work at these first 2 schools is complete we will move all 4 portable module buildings to Our Lady of the Assumption School. When this work is complete we will move all 4 portable module buildings to St Bernadette's School; and when this work is complete will move all 4 portable module buildings to St St Mary's School.

- 8. I cannot put a timeframe on the completion of this process for the above 5 schools, at this point. I can simply and honestly say this work is progressing as quickly as it possibly can in a very complex environment where resources are stretched. That said, once Council consent has been approved, I would anticipate that the physical works at each school would take around 12 weeks.
- 9. The first stage (i.e. *that which did not require Council consent*) of the strengthening work to bring Block 6 at St Anne's School (Woolston) up to at least 67% nbs was completed during this school holiday period. The second stage of this work will commence once Council consent has been provided. Please note, Block 6 St Anne's School is not earthquake prone but is less than our target of 67% of nbs for all diocesan school buildings. The work on Block 6 at St Anne's School does not require classrooms to be vacated ... which is very helpful!

As I have noted previously, we are undertaking a detailed engineering evaluation (DEE) exercise on all school buildings. Clearly this exercise will take some time to complete but please be assured that the buildings most at risk (commencing in greater Christchurch) are being tackled first.

I will provide more detail as and when I have appropriate information to hand – no easy task in this complex environment where resources are stretched and competing demands on professional resources are ever present!

The aim of this process is to ensure the seismic capacity of all diocesan school buildings (in every district of the Diocese) is as near as practicable to 67% of the new build standard.

I trust this background information is of assistance and I thank you for your continued understanding, help and support. I will provide more detail once it comes to hand.

Mike Nolan Manager Catholic Education Office 20 April 2012