

**Date:** 03 August 2012  
**To:** Diocesan School Boards of Trustees  
**From:** Mike Nolan  
**Re:** Christchurch Earthquakes and the Diocesan 5-Year Property Programme (5YPP)

Further to my previous (25/05/12) correspondence (<http://www.chchceo.org.nz/?sid=98>) regarding the 5YPP moratorium, I write to provide an update on the:

- current "state of play" regarding earthquake strengthening;
- detailed engineering evaluation (DEE) process; and
- the commencement of providing a costings framework for the seismic strengthening works.

### Current Situation

As stated previously, the aim 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 Building Standard (NBS). Buildings found to be below 67% of the NBS will be subject to further strengthening work (timetable to be confirmed – see page 3).

We have moved from the desktop evaluation exercise on building types and we are currently engaged in the detailed evaluation phase and (*as per our practice in the desktop evaluation phase*) any buildings that are, after further engineering modelling and analysis, deemed to be earthquake prone (less than 34% NBS) will be closed and remedial actions undertaken as soon as possible.

### Detailed Engineering Evaluation Process

We anticipate that the mandatory DEE process for those schools in the greater Christchurch area will be completed by December 2012.

The Diocese has just received the first 3 of its 33 school DEEs; i.e. the Diocese has just received the DEEs for:

1. Our Lady of the Assumption School (Hoon Hay)
2. St Bernadette's School (Hornby)
3. St Albans Catholic School

I have included the individual classroom block %NBS results of these 3 DEEs in the attached summary spreadsheet.

The DEE reports on each of these schools will be posted to the school's Board of Trustees.

The DEE reports in the greater Christchurch area will also be provided to the Canterbury Earthquake recovery Authority (CERA).

The above process will be followed for all diocesan schools in the Catholic Diocese of Christchurch.

I will populate (i.e. *update*) and publish the summary spreadsheet with the individual classroom block %NBS results as the individual school DEE reports become available from the structural engineers.

At the completion of the DEE process for the greater Christchurch area, the structural engineers will commence the diocesan school DEE process in this (*most likely*) order:

1. Ashburton District
2. Westland District
3. Grey District
4. Timaru District
5. Waimate District
6. Mackenzie District

You will note that Westland and Grey Districts have been moved up the priority order (*from that advertised in my 25 May 2012 letter*) because these districts have a seismic factor 50% greater than the seismic factor for the greater Christchurch area.

We anticipate that the DEE process for the schools in the above districts will be completed by June 2013.

Of course, any further earthquakes would necessarily extend the above timeframes.

### **Towards a Costings Framework**

This is an evolving situation and process.

Much of the substantial and unbudgeted and "necessary" seismic strengthening costs are not covered by insurance.

I say "necessary" not only because the safety of students and staff is the Bishop's priority, but also because increasingly Councils outside of Christchurch are also taking a more proactive policy position to ensure public buildings meet appropriate seismic capacities.

The level of insurance monies that will be provided towards any given situation is yet to be finalised/determined as negotiations and determinations continue in this regard. The exact costings for any given building can only be determined once structural designs have been completed, consent granted and tenders received. Hence my statement, that this is an evolving situation and process.

In order to provide you with an updated "feel" for the magnitude of such costs (*costs incurred by the Bishop following the 22 February 2011 earthquake*), I provide the following information on (*rounded*) costs incurred thus far at those schools who have been "most" affected by earthquakes:

1. The necessary moves of Marian College from the North Parade site to St Bede's College and then to the Catholic Cathedral College site in Barbadoes Street (\$2,980,000)
2. Catholic Cathedral College (\$690,000)
3. St Paul's School (\$93,000)
4. Christ the King School (\$426,000)
5. St Anne's School (\$94,000)
6. St Peter's School (\$117,000)
7. St Mary's School, Christchurch (\$110,000)
8. St Bernadette's School (\$56,000)
9. Our Lady of the Assumption School (\$92,000)
10. All Schools (\$355,000) ... this relates to the 4 prefabricated classrooms that will enable seismic strengthening and remediation works to be carried out (e.g. the current seismic strengthening and remediation works being undertaken on Block 2 at Christ the King School, Burnside)

The DEE reports will provide us with the extent of works required.

Once we have this information we can begin to scope the work required to bring each school building/block to as near as practicable to 67% of NBS.

Once we have scoped the work required to bring each school building/block to as near as practicable to 67% of NBS we will be in a position to have this work reviewed by a quantity surveyor and tendered.

With this evolving process we will be in a position to “build up” (*no pun intended!*) and publish a prioritised budget and timeframe for the required works at all the diocesan schools in the Diocese.

**Please be assured that as DEEs are completed and individual building strengthening projects are finalised, I will provide you with an updated, diocesan-wide and increasingly (*over time*) full picture, project list and costs budget.**

By way of an introduction to this process I provide you with the GST exclusive costings involved with the first two seismic strengthening and remediation projects currently being undertaken on:

School	Block	Budget
Christ the King School (Burnside)	Block 2	\$531,249.60
St Anne's School (Woolston)	Block 6 & Library	\$149,073.74

I also note, for your information, that the seismic strengthening and remediation of:

1. Block 1 at Our Lady of the Assumption School (Hoon Hay) is currently in the consenting process with the City Council; and
2. Block 1 at St Bernadette's School (Hornby) is currently in the design phase.

May God's peace be with you.

Kind regards



**Mike Nolan**  
**Manager**  
**Catholic Education Office**

**PS Would all Principals be so kind as to ensure this information is provided to your school's Board of Trustees ... thanks (in anticipation).**

**PPS** As I noted in my email of 2 July 2012, alongside the current detailed engineering evaluation process we are engaged in, the Catholic Education Office, on behalf of the Bishop, has engaged Opus International to conduct a condition assessment of all diocesan school buildings. This process will be overseen by Elliot Brown (Project Manager) and quality control of the process will be overseen by Matt Kerr (Project Manager). It will take some months to complete.