



## 35. CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL COMMENT ON DRAFT RECOVERY STRATEGY

<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager Strategy and Planning, DDI 941-8281
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### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. This report seeks Council endorsement of draft comments prepared on the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority's (CERA) draft Recovery Strategy. Proposed comments are set out in **Attachment 1**.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

#### *Draft Recovery Strategy*

2. CERA released its draft Recovery Strategy on 10 September 2011. The Recovery Strategy is required by the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Act 2011, and will provide overarching direction for the reconstruction, rebuilding and long-term recovery of greater Christchurch. The draft strategy aims to:
  - Provide direction and clarity to public and private agencies who have a role in recovery activities;
  - Instil confidence in the greater Christchurch community (particularly the business community) that recovery is well planned and progress is being made; and
  - Maximise opportunities for the restoration, renewal, revitalisation and enhancement of greater Christchurch.
3. The draft strategy sets a vision for the recovery of greater Christchurch and supporting goals, identifies priorities and sets an agenda for recovery activities across the economic, social, built and natural environments, including five Recovery Plans. The proposed approach is to undertake recovery at a steady pace with set timelines and milestones and to use, and review, existing strategic directions (including the Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy) as the foundation for recovery. The draft strategy also includes principles to guide recovery decisions, with a particular emphasis on collaboration and engagement, discusses the financial impact and funding, and sets out arrangements for monitoring, reporting and review of the strategy.
4. CERA has invited public comment on the draft Recovery Strategy by 30 October 2011.

#### *Proposed Council comment*

5. Proposed Council comment on the draft Recovery Strategy is set out in **Attachment 1**. The proposed comment is structured as follows:
  - Key issues for the Council.
  - High-level comments on the key components on the draft strategy.
  - More detailed and editorial comments on specific aspects of the draft strategy.
6. The key issues identified in the proposed Council comment are:
  - Obtaining greater clarity around governance arrangements for recovery and the roles and responsibilities of the different agencies involved.
  - Ensuring that the Recovery Plans and programmes are prepared with the involvement of the Council and do not cut across the Council's obligations to prepare its Long Term Plan and make funding decisions in consultation with the community.
  - Ensuring that a coherent approach is taken to district planning and that decisions are made at the appropriate level of government.
  - Putting in place mechanisms for coordination and collaboration in the development and implementation of Recovery Plans and programmes.
  - Resolving issues relating to insurance so that recovery efforts can proceed without undue delay.

**35 Cont'd***Next steps*

7. CERA has indicated that it would like to discuss the Council's comments with the Council in early November as part of the process of revising and finalising the Recovery Strategy. CERA anticipates that the strategy will be finalised early in the new year.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

8. There are no direct financial implications associated with the recommendation of this report. However, the proposed comment on the draft Recovery Strategy notes the need for the Council to be involved in the development of Recovery Plan and programmes, which will have resource implications.

**Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2009-19 LTCCP budgets?**

9. The costs of Council involvement in the preparation of Recovery Plans and programmes will be the subject of separate reporting to the Council.

**LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

10. There are no direct legal implications associated with the recommendation of this report. However, the Recovery Strategy itself, once adopted, will be a statutory document. The Recovery Strategy must be read as being part of, and prevailing over, various council documents, including annual plans, the Long Term Plan and the City and District Plans. Recovery Plans, once prepared and adopted, will also have this effect.

**Have you considered the legal implications of the issue under consideration?**

11. See above.

**ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS**

12. Council involvement in the preparation of the Recovery Strategy, Recovery Plans and programmes contributes to the City and Community Long Term Policy and Planning Activity.

**Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2009-19 LTCCP?**

13. See above.

**ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES**

14. The recommendation of this report is not inconsistent with existing Council strategies. These strategies may need to be reassessed in light of the Recovery Strategy, once adopted.

**Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?**

15. See above.

**CONSULTATION FULFILMENT**

16. Consultation is not required on this matter. The proposed comment on the draft Recovery Strategy reflects input from across the organisation.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Council:

- (a) endorse the proposed Council comment on the draft Recovery Strategy set out in **Attachment 1**.