

Earthquake assessments on track

Council Development Liaison Manager Simon Tonkin has been undertaking inspections of buildings within the City Centre and Bluff to determine whether Council will request an engineer's assessment on the building as per the requirements of the Building Act.

ON July 1, 2017, new legislation came into force which included direction for councils throughout New Zealand on how to undertake inspections, as well as criteria for assessing buildings to establish whether they may be earthquake prone.

With Invercargill considered a medium risk zone for earthquakes, Council needed to consider whether we had "priority areas". Following this process, 23 blocks within the city and Bluff were identified as being priority areas.

Mr Tonkin began assessing buildings within those 23 blocks in August 2018. He has completed initial assessments on buildings within nine of the 23 blocks as of January 2019.

A total of 231 buildings have been assessed, 31 of which were in Bluff.

As a result, owners of 148 buildings, including 20 Bluff buildings, have been notified that an engineer's assessment is required.

The first step is to check information on property files, to consider whether a building has already been earthquake strengthened.

Next, we check each building against criteria for requesting an engineer's assessment, outlined in the Earthquake Methodology documents that all Councils have to use.

The criteria in the Act are:

A - Unreinforced masonry.

B - Pre 1975 buildings of three or more storeys or buildings more than 12m in height.

C - Pre 1935 buildings constructed of other than unreinforced masonry of one or two storeys.

Or some other attribute of the building that may make it potentially earthquake prone.

If Council determines a building may be earthquake prone according to the specific criteria, building owners are notified that they must provide an engineering assessment. This assessment is then provided to Council. If required, Council staff will next issue an Earthquake-Prone Notice.

To date, 15 engineers' assessments have been received, which has resulted in 12 Earthquake-Prone Notices being issued.

There are four different types of Earthquake-Prone Notices, which are differentiated by the colours on their borders. The colours relate to the different assessed ratings of the building:

- **0 to 20 % NBS earthquake rating**

has an orange and black border. This notice is also used where the owner has not provided an engineering assessment by the due date. The risk of failure for a building with this notice is approximately 25 times the risk for a building that is 100 % NBS.

- **20 to less than 34% NBS earthquake rating**

has a black and white

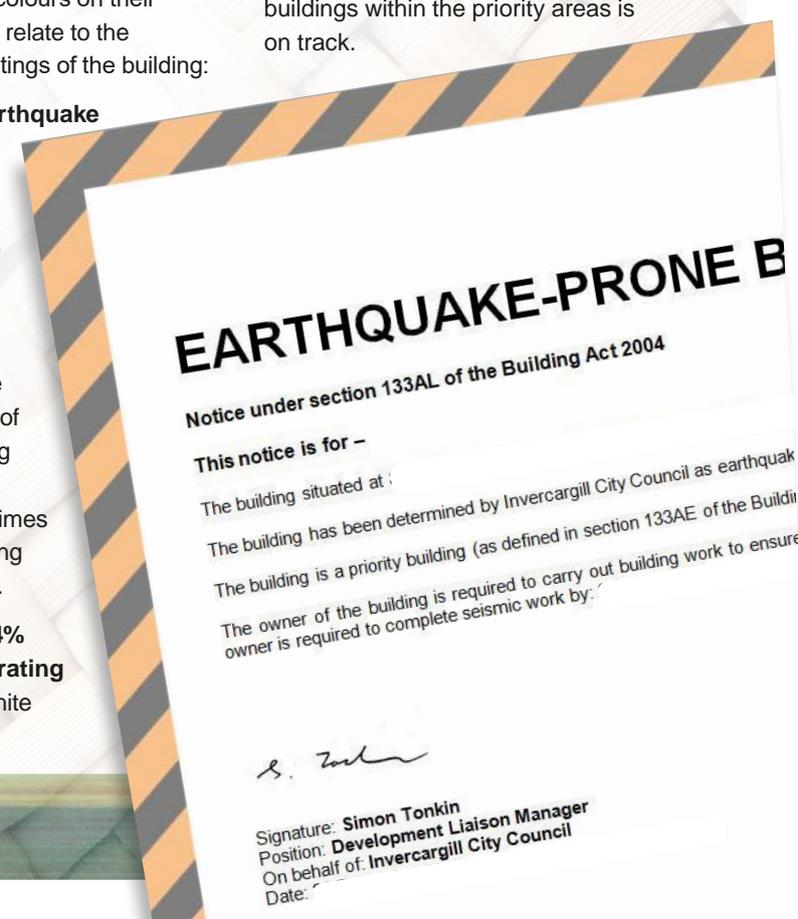
border. The risk of failure for a building with this notice is 10 – 25 times the risk of failure for a building that is 100% NBS.

- **Section 124 before 1 July 2017.**

These notices have a solid orange border. Council did not issue any 124 notices prior to 1 July 2017 so this notice will not be seen in our city.

- **Exemption notices** have an orange and white border. These notices are to be used where a building is classified as earthquake prone but Council has recognised that there is low risk to life and a low risk to property so has exempted the owner from undertaking any seismic upgrading. Owners need to apply to Council for this exemption.

At this time the process for assessing buildings within the priority areas is on track.



Signature: Simon Tonkin
Position: Development Liaison Manager
On behalf of: Invercargill City Council
Date:

Report it Now

REPORT IT NOW is a new option we have available to all employees, Councillors, and the public, who wish to report any worrying behaviour at Council. All reports will be taken seriously and remain confidential and anonymous. The idea of fairness resonates with us all, we all want an organisation where serious misconduct and wrongdoing is dealt with promptly and fairly.

We are encouraging employees to report serious wrong doing. This includes unlawful or corrupt use of public money or resources, any criminal offences, gross negligence or acting in a way that poses a serious risk to public health and safety or the environment. Actions that are deemed inappropriate, unethical or puts Council into disrepute should also be reported.

Reports can be about issues or behaviour, in relation to the above, and should contain enough information that the issue can be investigated thoroughly.

If you wish to "report it now" please text 022 077 3740, call 0800 225 378 or go online to www.reportitnow.co.nz

ICC staff can use 'Report It Now'

A confidential way to report:

- Inappropriate behaviour
- Unethical behaviour
- Dishonesty

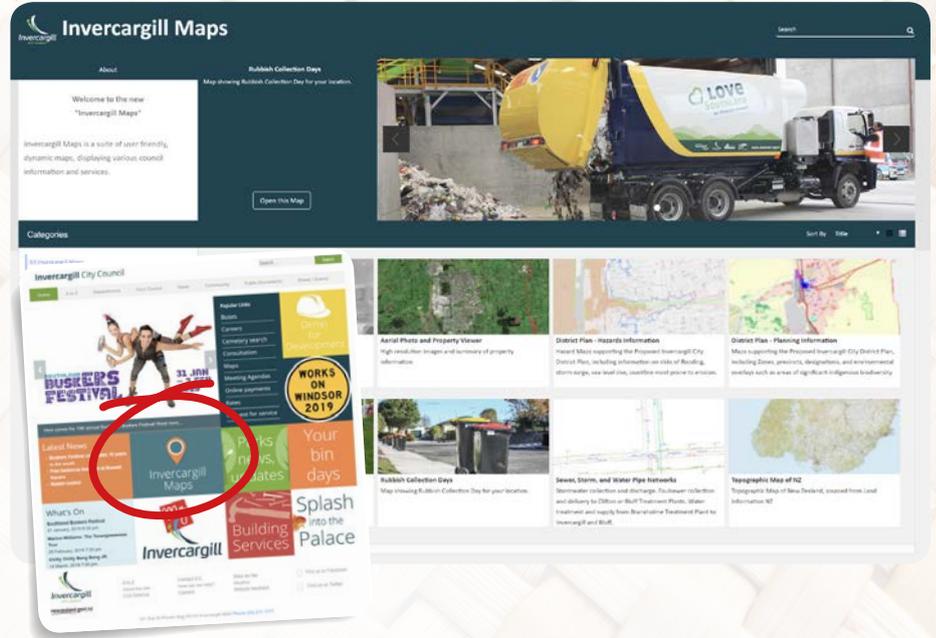
Use **Report It Now** to email, phone or text your concerns about worrying behaviour at Council. Your report is absolutely confidential and anonymous. Every report will be taken seriously and your confidentiality respected.

If you see something that needs addressed, Report It Now. Only by telling someone can you make sure it is known and something can be done about it.

www.reportitnow.co.nz

Call 0800 225 378 | Text 022 077 3740

Council launches new mapping tools



THE Invercargill City Council has launched a new maps website, providing access to both essential and interesting information for the public, contractors, and consultants.

The new online map gallery, Invercargill Maps, provides a suite of user-friendly and dynamic maps, with information sourced directly from various databases and online map services.

Council GIS Co-ordinator David Whelan said many people may enjoy checking out the 1950s aerial map, which shows what our city looked like from above more than half a century ago, while they should find the Rubbish Collection day maps and Invercargill cemeteries tools useful.

The aerial map which shows a more recent version of our city (with images taken in 2016), includes measuring and drawing tools, as well as a direct link to property rates information, Mr Whelan said.

Council Senior Policy Planner Liz Devery said the District Planning Maps

and District Hazard Information Maps, based on the District Plan, should be particularly useful for survey and planning consultants.

Council Asset Analyst Michael Swanson said maps showing the city's sewer, stormwater, and water pipe networks may be of benefit to contractors needing to confirm locations of valves and manholes, or consultants checking depths and distances of services when planning for developments.

Home owners may find these maps helpful when looking for water toby and pipe connection information, Mr Swanson said.

It is hoped that contractors, including those who may be interested in submitting tender applications to Council, will be able to utilise the new tools to assist in their planning and works.

The new Invercargill Maps website can be accessed via Council's homepage at www.icc.govt.nz or by visiting <https://gis.icc.govt.nz/ICCMapsGallery/>



New AEDs for Council buildings

Thanks to the ILT Foundation and St John, there are new AEDs at Council's Civic Administration Building and at the Civic Theatre.

AEDs are used to help people experiencing a sudden cardiac arrest. It's an easy-to-use device that analyses the heart's rhythm and, if necessary, delivers a shock (or defibrillation) to help the heart re-establish an effective rhythm.

St John maintains the units, with annual check-ups on pads, batteries and functionality.

Training is provided for three staff for each unit.

BELOW: IVEM Venues Manager Kate Feaver with the new AED situated at the Civic Theatre.

Protecting Pacific Rim

THE Pacific Rim sculpture which welcomes visitors to the Civic Administration Building has been temporarily removed.

This is to allow PowerNet's contractors to continue with their transformer upgrade work.

There are currently two old transformers underground, located directly beneath Pacific Rim's usual location, so the area is being cleared to allow the concrete substation roof panels to be removed and give the workers full access.

It's expected that the work will be completed during March.

In the meantime, Pacific Rim has been carefully stowed away until it can be reinstated.

- *In 2003, two Pacific Rim sculptures were created by Invercargill artist Phil Newbury to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the sister city relationship between Invercargill and Kumagaya. One has since been outside our Civic Administration Building, while it's twin resides at Kumagaya City Hall. Locals in Kumagaya have named their sculpture "The Happiness Ring", and it is considered good luck for newlyweds to have their photo taken with it.*

