



## MASTERTON DISTRICT COUNCIL

### **PROPOSAL TO IDENTIFY VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN THROUGHFARES PURSUANT TO SECTION 133AF OF THE BUILDING ACT 2004**

The Building (Earthquake-prone Buildings) Amendment Act 2016 was introduced in May 2016 and will come into effect on 1 July 2017.

These amendments introduce a new system for Local Authorities to identify and manage earthquake-prone buildings that either pose a high risk to life safety, or are critical to recovery in an emergency. As part of this new system Masterton District Council seeks your feedback on the proposal set out below.

Public Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 133AF(2)(a) of the Building Act 2004 and sections 83 and 87 of the Local Government Act 2002 of the Masterton District Council's intent to identify thoroughfares that have sufficient vehicular or pedestrian traffic to warrant prioritisation, if parts of unreinforced masonry buildings were to fall on them in an earthquake.

The Council has identified the following thoroughfares, including footpaths and service lanes onto which parts of an unreinforced masonry building could fall in an earthquake; and that have sufficient vehicle or pedestrian traffic to warrant prioritising the identification and remediation of those parts of unreinforced masonry buildings:

*Queen Street, from the northern roundabout to its intersection with Renall Street and Smith Street; Dixon Street from the northern roundabout to Worksop Road; Bruce Street from Queen Street to Dixon Street; King Street from Chapel Street to Queen Street, Park Street from Queen Street to Dixon Street; Lincoln Road from Chapel Street to Queen Street; Church Street from Queen Street to Dixon Street; Perry Street from Chapel Street to Queen Street; Bannister Street from Queen Street to Dixon Street; Jackson Street from Chapel Street to Queen Street; Renall Street from Chapel Street to Queen Street and Worksop Road from Queen Street to Dixon Street; and all Service Lanes or other thoroughfares within this area.*

Your views on the acceptable level of risk will inform Council's decision on which routes to prioritise.

A map of the thoroughfares listed will be available with the supporting information.

Copies of the supporting information are available for public inspection from the Masterton District Council Office and Library and online at [www.mstn.govt.nz](http://www.mstn.govt.nz)

## **HOW TO HAVE YOUR SAY**

Feedback on the Council's proposal is invited until 4.30 pm Friday 4 August 2017.  
You can respond by any one of the ways outlined below:

Please post your written submission to:

Earthquake-prone Buildings Submission  
Masterton District Council  
PO Box 444  
Masterton 5840

## **OR**

Please email your written submission to [mdc@mstn.govt.nz](mailto:mdc@mstn.govt.nz) with the following subject title: Earthquake-prone Buildings submission.

If you make a written submission, you have the option to speak at a hearing. Please let us know in your submission if you would like to speak to your submission in person.

## **THINGS TO NOTE**

- Submissions will not be returned
- Under the Privacy Act 1993, submission are available for viewing by the public and media if requested. Please notify the Council if for any reason you do not want your contact details to be publicly available.
- The Hearing of these submissions will be open to the public.

## NEW FRAMEWORK FOR MANAGING EARTHQUAKE-PRONE BUILDINGS

### (Supporting Material for Special Consultative Process)

The Building (Earthquake-prone Buildings) Amendment Act 2016 was introduced in May 2016 and will come into effect on 1 July 2017.

The new system ensures the way our buildings are managed for future earthquakes is consistent across the country by creating a national policy framework.

### KEY CHANGES – AT A GLANCE

- establish a more effective and nationally consistent framework for identifying and remediating earthquake-prone buildings
- better target those districts, buildings and parts of buildings that pose the greatest risk
- provide improved information for territorial authorities (e.g. local councils), building owners, engineers and the public
- strike an appropriate balance between protecting people from harm in an earthquake, the cost of strengthening or removing earthquake-prone buildings and impacts on heritage.



It means that:

- central government provides more leadership and direction for managing earthquake-prone buildings
- Territorial authorities no longer have to develop individual policies for doing this (as they have done for the past decade since the Building Act 2004 was introduced). However, they will still be responsible for administering the Act's requirements in their district.

New Zealand will be divided into three seismic risk areas – high, medium and low – based on the seismic hazard, or 'Z', factor (this factor is used when designing buildings for a particular location)

SEISMIC RISK AREA	Z FACTOR	LOCATIONS
High	$Z > 0.3$	Gisborne, Napier, Hastings, Palmerston North, Wellington, Blenheim, Christchurch
Medium	$0.15 < Z < 0.3$	Auckland South
Low	$Z < 0.15$	Auckland West

**Masterton District is identified as being in the High Seismic Risk Area**

### TIMEFRAMES

Seismic risk area	TAs must identify potentially earthquake-prone buildings within:		Owners must strengthen or demolish earthquake-prone buildings within:	
	Priority	Other	Priority	Other
High	2 ½ years	5 years	7 ½ years	15 years
Medium	5 years	10 years	12 ½ years	25 years
Low	n/a	15 years	n/a	35 years

The timeframes for territorial authorities to identify potentially earthquake-prone buildings (in accordance with the EPB methodology) apply from the date the Amendment Act provisions take effect.

Once a territorial authority notifies a building owner that their building is potentially earthquake prone the owner has 12 months to provide an engineering assessment or advise otherwise. They can apply for a one-time extension of up to 12 months in certain circumstances.

Once a territorial authority determines that a building is earthquake prone and notifies the building owner, the owner must strengthen or demolish the building within the given timeframe.

## **OTHER CHANGES**

A new definition of earthquake-prone building-

1. A building or part of a building is earthquake-prone if having regard to the condition of the building or part and to the ground on which the building is built, and because of the construction of the building or part
  - (a) the building or part will have its ultimate capacity exceeded in a moderate earthquake (as defined in the regulations); and
  - (b) If the building or part were to collapse, the collapse would be likely to cause
    - (i) injury or death to persons in or near the building or on any other property; or
    - (ii) damage to any other property.

Clarification that parts of buildings can be earthquake prone (which can be important; eg for falling hazards such as parapets)

## **PRIORITY BUILDINGS**

Section 133AE of the Building (Earthquake-prone Buildings) Amendment Act 2016 defines priority buildings as

- a. a hospital building that is likely to be needed in an emergency (within the meaning of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002) to provide—
  - (i) emergency medical services; or
  - (ii) ancillary services that are essential for the provision of emergency medical services:
- b. a building that is likely to be needed in an emergency for use as an emergency shelter or emergency centre:
- c. a building that is used to provide emergency response services (for example, policing, fire, ambulance, or rescue services):
- d. a building that is regularly occupied by at least 20 people and that is used as any of the following:
  - (i) an early childhood education and care centre
  - (ii) a registered school or an integrated school
  - (iii) a private training establishment
  - (iv) a tertiary institution
- e. any part of an unreinforced masonry building that could—

- (i) fall from the building in an earthquake (for example, a parapet, an external wall, or a veranda); and
  - (ii) fall onto any part of a public road, footpath, or other thoroughfare that a territorial authority has identified under section 133AF(2)(a):
- f. a building that a territorial authority has identified under section 133AF(2)(b) as having the potential to impede a transport route of strategic importance (in terms of an emergency response) if the building were to collapse in an earthquake.

In accordance with f. above the Council must identify and consult on priority routes onto which any part of an unreinforced masonry building may fall in the event of an earthquake.

**Note:**

State Highway 2 from the boundary with Carterton District Council to the boundary with Tararua District Council, has been confirmed as the Strategic Transport Route for the Masterton District.