

# SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

20 SEPTEMBER 2017

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## AGENDA ITEM C2

### CHANGE TO CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS FOR EARTHQUAKE PRONE BUILDING PRIORITISATION

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#### **Purpose of Report**

To inform Councillors of the most recent advice on consultation requirements relating to prioritising earthquake prone buildings for remediation.

#### **Recommendations**

Officers recommend that the Council:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Rescind resolution "DC2017/100 - 3. To adopt the proposed attached documents for the purposes of undertaking consultation pursuant to Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002".*

#### **1. Executive Summary**

The most recent advice provided by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) has clarified the consultation requirements relating to identifying priority buildings. Consultation is not required if Council has determined that there are no priority routes in the District. Accordingly Council can rescind its resolution made at its last meeting.

#### **2. Discussion**

As advised to Council at the August meeting, it was previously understood from MBIE, that even though it was concluded there were no priority routes under the new earthquake prone buildings legislation in South Wairarapa, Council was nevertheless required to consult to see if the community agreed.

At that time officers advised that this was a peculiar situation as it was "back to front" in terms of what the legislation said. However due to the advice from MBIE officers felt Council was still obliged to consult.

Subsequent advice from MBIE (it is assumed that other Councils also ran up against the interpretive difficulties created and raised it with the ministry) has now indicated that the original interpretation was not correct. The

advice now is that if Council agrees that there are no priority routes then no further action is required.

This is a sensible outcome and to officers more consistent with the Acts wording. Accordingly officers consider that the resolution passed at the August meeting can now be formally rescinded. This will streamline Councils EQP building response and enable officers to focus on the technical processes involved with identifying individual buildings and commencing the process for the remediation of those buildings.

### **3. Conclusion**

It is recommended by officers that Council rescind its resolution to consult on priority routes as this is no longer required.

Contact officer: Adrian Cullen, Team Leader Building  
Reviewed by: Murray Buchanan, Group Manager, Planning and Environment