Resilient
GREATER
CHRISTCHURCH
PLAN OVERVIEW

Toitū te marae o Tāne
Toitū te marae o Tangaroa
Toitū te iwi
Healthy Land
Healthy Water
Healthy Communities
We are pleased to present you with an overview of the Resilient Greater Christchurch Plan.

100 Resilient Cities – Pioneered by The Rockefeller Foundation (100RC) is dedicated to helping cities around the world become more resilient to the physical, social and economic challenges that are a growing part of the 21st century. 100RC supports the adoption and incorporation of a view of resilience that includes not just the shocks – earthquakes, fires, floods, etc. – but also the stresses that weaken the fabric of a city on a day-to-day or cyclical basis. Examples of these stresses include high unemployment; an overtaxed or inefficient public transportation system; endemic violence; or chronic food and water shortages. By addressing both our shocks and the stresses, we will be better able to respond to adverse events, and overall better able to deliver basic functions in both good times and bad, to all populations.

How we prepared this plan

The first phase, starting in December 2014, was a consultative scoping exercise involving a broad range of stakeholder organisations. Workshop sessions explored the shocks and stresses facing Greater Christchurch, the experiences from the Canterbury earthquakes and the priorities to improve the future resilience of Greater Christchurch communities. The resulting Preliminary Resilience Assessment, published September 2015, identified eight resilience challenges and opportunities on which to concentrate.

Phase 2 – the development of this plan – is founded on four Focus Areas identified during the Preliminary Resilience Assessment. Project teams were set up for each of the four Focus Areas, led by individuals with subject expertise from the Canterbury District Health Board, Canterbury Development Corporation, Civil Defence and Emergency Management/NZ Transport Agency (jointly) and Christchurch City Council. Reports produced by each Focus Area team identified key issues, responses and identified actions related to the eight challenges and opportunities.

The authoring of Resilient Greater Christchurch flowed from this body of work with four ‘Key Influencers’ shaping its structure, narrative and content,

- Urban Development Strategy Partners (sub-regional governance)
- Ngai Tahu (local Maori tribal leaders)
- Advisory Group (community/academic/institutional thought leaders)
- 100 Resilient Cities

We are grateful to all those who have helped to shape this plan and look forward to harnessing their enthusiasm as we get to work – ki te hoe.
We are resilient

Our plan places people at the heart of a Resilient Greater Christchurch. When people are supported by whānau, communities and organisations, collectively we form a more resilient Greater Christchurch. For this reason, throughout the plan the term ‘we’ is used widely and is intended to be inclusive as we all have roles to play in resilience building.

The success of this plan relies on the ability to facilitate, promote and maintain connections between people, and increase understanding and acceptance of our interdependency at all levels, to build people's capacity to be resilient.

**ORGANISATIONS** All organisations have the capacity and capability to be effective agents of change to drive adaptation and continue to thrive.

**COMMUNITIES** As communities we support, foster, include and connect people so they are able to participate, respond and adapt.

**WHĀNAU** As whānau (whether related by family ties or through common interests) we respect, support, foster and maintain relationships with each other, our environment, hapu and iwi.

**INDIVIDUALS/HOUSEHOLDS** As individuals and households we connect with our friends and family, whānau, neighbours and communities.

Our shocks and stresses

**Being resilient** relies on understanding, preparing, coping and adapting to the threats we face. There are two broad categories:

- Acute shocks are sudden, sharp events that threaten us. The Canterbury earthquakes represent one of the most significant types of shock any place can endure.
- Chronic stresses weaken the fabric and functioning of a city on a day-to-day or cyclical basis.

Earthquakes, pandemics, flooding, coastal erosion, storm surge, wind and tsunamis are the most significant shocks that are likely to occur in Greater Christchurch.

Chronic stresses for Greater Christchurch include climate change, affordable quality housing, psychosocial wellbeing and an aging population.

More information about our Shocks and Stresses and the inter-relationships between them can be explored further in our Focus Area Reports, specifically *Focus Area Report 3: Understanding and Responding to Future Challenges* which can be downloaded from our web page.
RESILIENT GREATER CHRISTCHURCH
Plan Overview

Greater Christchurch today

Christchurch is the largest urban area in Greater Christchurch surrounded by several smaller settlements which also serve rural areas.

Today, agriculture, food processing and associated engineering remain core to the local economy. Engineering, technology and research-based industries have grown in their importance to the economy in the past few decades, drawing on the strength of tertiary education opportunities provided through the University of Canterbury, Lincoln University and the Ara Institute of Canterbury.

International connections and trade remain important, underlined by the fact that tourism has recently eclipsed agriculture as our largest source of overseas income. Advances in commercial aviation since the 1960s dramatically reduced Greater Christchurch’s geographical isolation and allowed it to emerge as an international tourism destination and gateway to the scenic attractions of the South Island.

Population growth and demographic change

Source: Adapted from StatsNZ (2015)

NB: 2063 data includes sparsely populated rural areas of Selwyn, Waimakariri Districts and the Banks Peninsula area of Christchurch.

Cultural diversity

21% born overseas (2013) increasing from 19.6% in 2006. Three most common countries of birth:

- United Kingdom 28%
- Australia 8%
- China 7%

Source: Statistics New Zealand, 2013

Migration

Origin of migrants to Greater Christchurch since 2011:

- United Kingdom 2085
- China 1320
- Philippines 1080
- India 942
- Australia 915
- Ireland 867

Source: Department of Labour, 2014

Population growth and change in Greater Christchurch

ECONOMY

Economy top 5 industries by number of employees
2006
1 Manufacturing (30,400)
2 Retail trade (22,900)
3 Health/social care (22,500)
4 Professional, scientific and technical services (13,400)
5 Construction (13,100)

2015
1 Construction (26,800)
2 Health/social care (25,900)
3 Manufacturing (25,400)
4 Retail trade (23,100)
5 Professional, scientific and technical services (18,700)

Source: Statistics New Zealand
OUR PLAN

Our plan is structured as follows:

Our Guiding Principles

Two guiding principles that cut across our goals. ‘Cross-cutting’ in nature, they are symbolically wrapped around the adjacent diagram reflecting that they should be implicit to a greater or lesser degree in each programme. The principles emerged from background work and dialogue with our Key Influencers. Fundamentally they reflect, firstly that Greater Christchurch needs to honour the bi-cultural governance arrangements agreed between Māori and European Settlers in the mid 1800s, and secondly, reflecting our experience since 2011, that Government at all levels need to work closer together.

Our Resilience Goals

We have set four goals – Connect, Participate, Prosper and Understand – to help us structure our activity towards extending the resilience of Greater Christchurch. Each is framed around building capacity in our people, places, organisations and systems so we have confidence to face our challenges.

Our Resilience Programmes

Each goal contains a series of programmes which are the building blocks for improving our resilience. Collectively all 11 programmes will strengthen our capacity to adapt and thrive in an uncertain future. The adjacent diagram illustrates this inter-connectivity highlighting that while programmes are assigned to a particular goal, they also contribute to, and align with other goals. This structure recognises the interconnected, complex nature of our challenges and encourages holistic, integrated and collaborative solutions.

Our Resilience Actions

Under each of the 11 programmes are action areas which outline what this plan proposes to do to tackle the challenges described at a programme level, and the outcomes we can expect. The action areas list out aligned projects or initiatives that have recently been delivered and confirmed projects. However, the bulk of activity is contained within the implementation plan that sits towards the end of this plan. It contains a further 50 or so actions that local groups, voluntary organisations, business and governmental organisations have identified and will be committing resources to. This part of the plan will continue to evolve year on year as new ideas emerge.
### CONNECT

**We are connected communities living in adaptable places**

1. **Connect people**
   - A. Develop events and local information resources to help new residents build connections with people in their immediate communities.
   - B. Develop, improve and sustain support programmes for vulnerable people as an enduring resilience-building activity.

2. **Create adaptable places**
   - A. Consolidate and enhance our network of strategic and local centres to provide accessible focal points for communities.
   - B. Promote transport alternatives in everyday life to reduce car dependency.
   - C. Collaborate with communities to create healthy, safe and welcoming facilities and places.

3. **Improve the quality, choice and affordability of housing**
   - A. Continue to support and develop initiatives to improve the quality of new and existing housing.
   - B. Develop a consistent source of housing research to inform proactive planning for Greater Christchurch's future housing needs.

### PARTICIPATE

**We are a community that participates in shaping our future**

4. **Build participation and trust in decision-making**
   - A. Experiment with alternative forms of public participation to promote awareness of issues and engage people in decision-making.
   - B. Develop tools, mechanisms and processes that enable individuals to be more active participants in the success of Greater Christchurch.

5. **Support community organisations and leaders**
   - A. Provide support services that enable community groups and leaders to resolve administrative and regulatory processes.
   - B. Facilitate networking between community organisations as a means to develop shared direction and more efficient use of resources.
   - C. Strengthen funding arrangements to build confidence and stimulate investment in the community and voluntary sector.

### PROSPER

**We are prosperous by sustaining the vitality of the environment, fostering innovation and attracting people**

6. **Connect internationally**
   - A. Build strong national and international connections as foundations to attract people, develop markets and stimulate collaboration.
   - B. Future proof our physical infrastructure to safeguard our economic performance and overseas trading connections.
   - C. Invest in attracting and retaining workers from overseas to supplement our ageing workforce and stimulate new business ideas.

7. **Foster a culture of innovation**
   - A. Support an environment that enables innovation and creativity as means to diversify our economy and add value to our production.
   - B. Commissioning of research and regular reviews of global and technological trends to maintain awareness of fast moving change.
   - C. Support the emergence of the social enterprise sector as partners in driving change in our communities.

8. **Sustain the vitality of the natural environment**
   - A. Build capacity to source food from our local and urban environments to sustain our people and rediscover our relationships with nature.
   - B. Develop projects and initiatives that support restoration of indigenous biodiversity across an ecological network.

### UNDERSTAND

**We understand risks to be better prepared for future challenges**

9. **Improve community understanding and acceptance of risk**
   - A. Develop and agree objective risk evidence and definitions in a non-technical language as starting points to engage the community about risks they face.
   - B. Openly engage the community to explore risk scenarios as a foundation for dialogue about risk reduction.

10. **Manage the risks we face**
    - A. Develop a risk reduction framework to help us invest efficiently in interventions around our threats and hazards.
    - B. Review the role and use of insurance as a tool for risk transfer.
    - C. Support community preparedness in response to acceptance of risk.

11. **Securing our future in the eastern parts of Christchurch**
    - **During 2016/17, the newly formed Regenerate Christchurch will set out an initial list of priorities and projects which the Implementation Plan (at the back of this document) will pick up.**