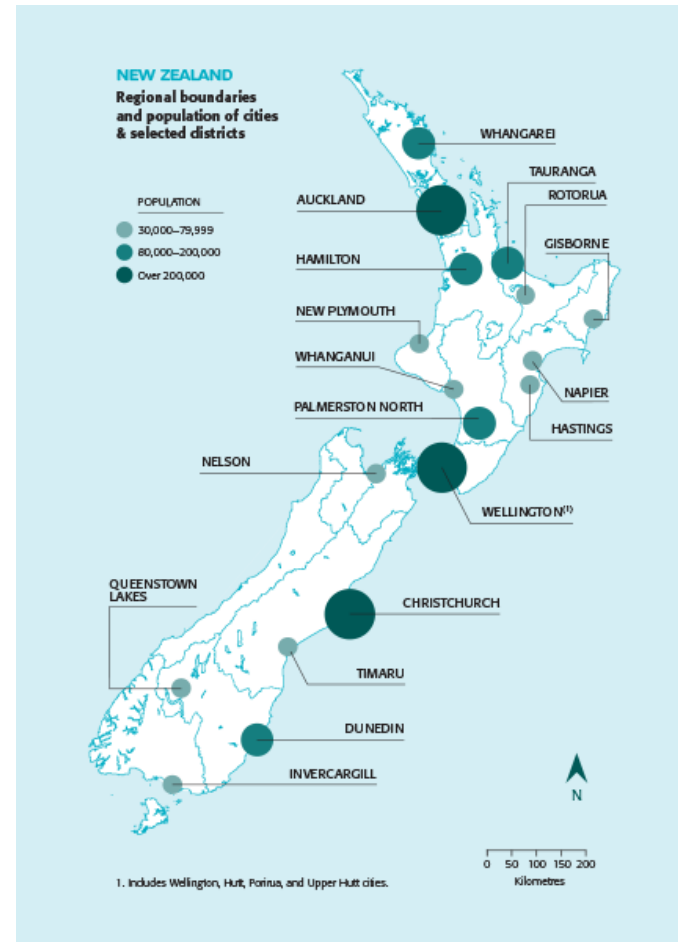


An extraordinary response:
Lessons from the post-earthquake
recovery and regeneration
planning for Greater Christchurch

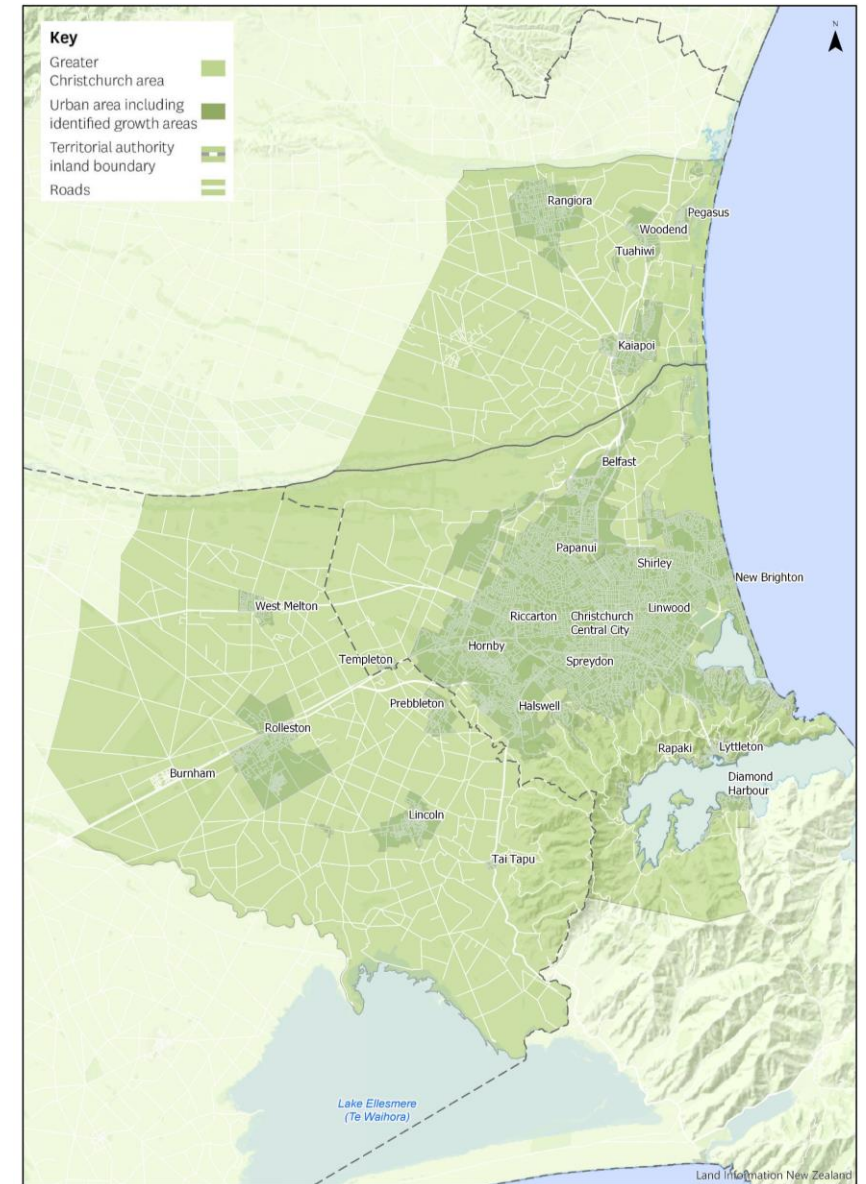
Professor Peter Skelton
CNZM, D.Nat.Res(Hon), LLB, FEIANZ

Greater Christchurch

- Christchurch is New Zealand's second largest city.
- Greater Christchurch includes surrounding towns in the Selwyn and Waimakariri Districts.
- 40% of South Island's population live in Greater Christchurch.



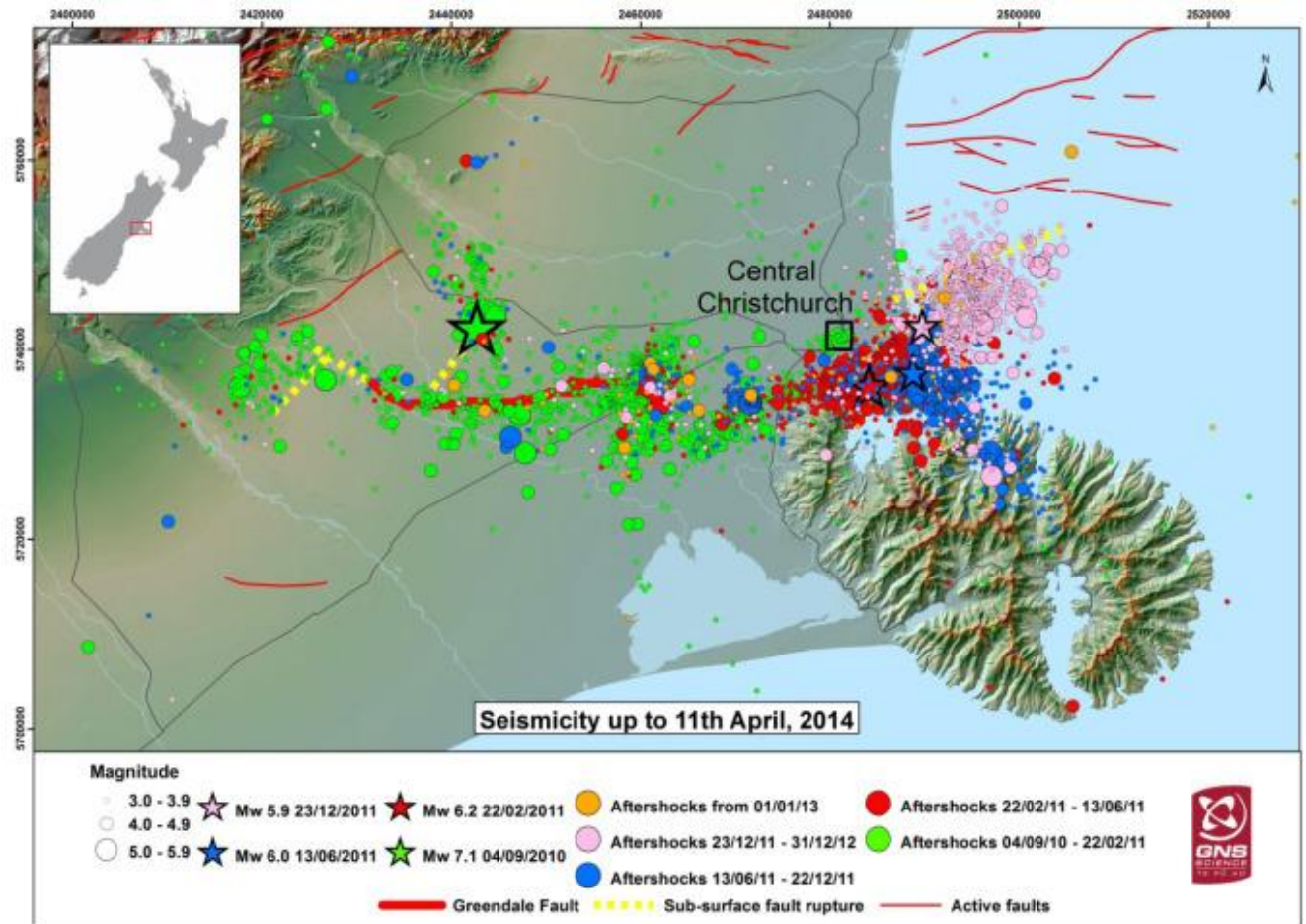
Source: Statistics NZ



Source: Greater Christchurch Partnership

The Canterbury earthquake sequence

- Started on 4 September 2010 with a 7.1 earthquake centred on the Canterbury plains.
- Included a 6.3 earthquake on 22 February 2011 that caused the deaths of 185 people.
- The sequence caused loss of life and damage not seen at such a scale in New Zealand since the 1930s.



Source: GNS Science

Impact of the Canterbury earthquakes



90% of Greater Christchurch's housing stock had some form of damage



15,000 dwellings in Greater Christchurch became uninhabitable



Impact of the Canterbury earthquakes

- The Residential Red Zone included areas assessed to be no longer liveable.
- The Crown offered to buy properties in these areas.



Impact of the Canterbury earthquakes

Pre-earthquakes



Post-earthquakes



Aim of this paper

- To reflect on the post-earthquake recovery and regeneration planning that has been undertaken for Greater Christchurch.
- To consider what key lessons we could learn from this extraordinary response from the recovery community.
- To consider the opportunities and challenges that now face Greater Christchurch going forward.

Recovery legislation and governance

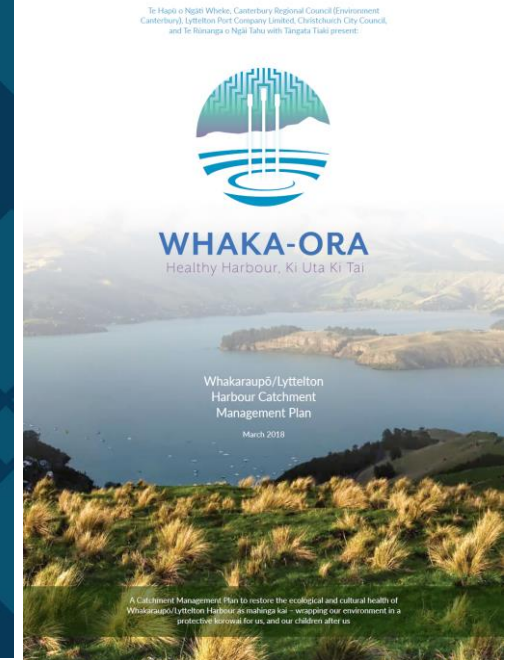
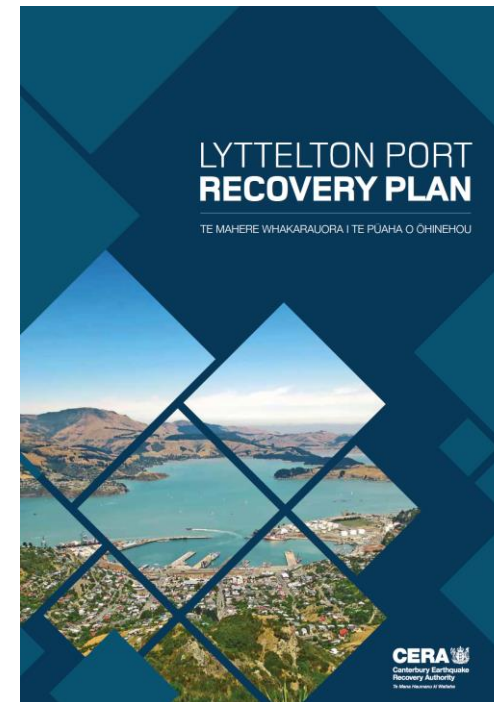
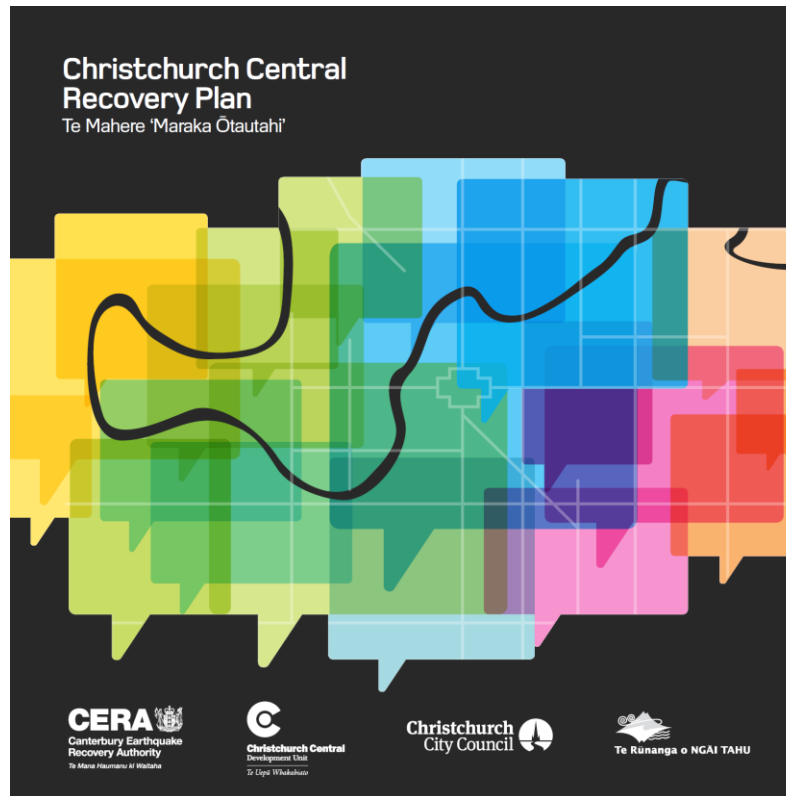
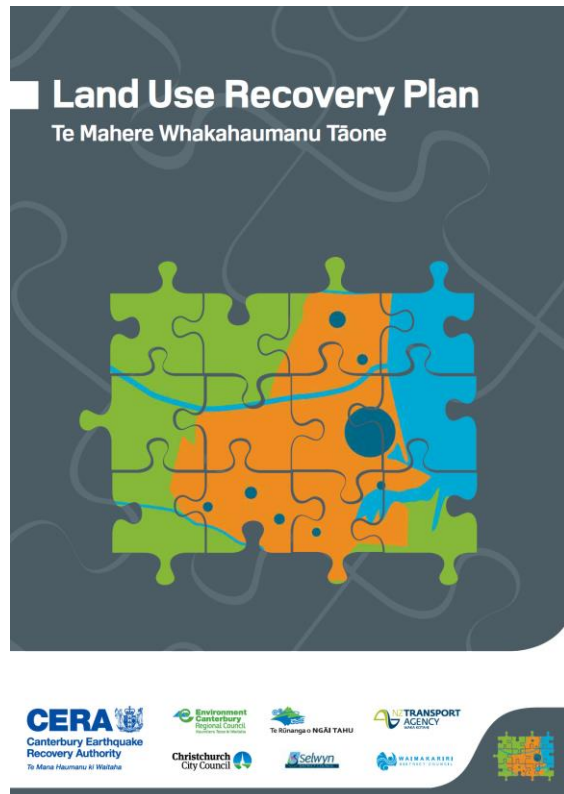
- New recovery arrangements were established following the February 2011 earthquake.
- Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Act 2011
- Extraordinary and far-reaching powers for the new Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery.
- Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority
- Recovery Strategy for Greater Christchurch (2012)



Source: Recovery Strategy for Greater Christchurch

Planning under the CER Act 2011

The Minister directed Recovery Plans to be developed under the Act when statutory intervention was considered necessary to achieve a programme of work from the Recovery Strategy.



Role of local partnerships and structures

- Formal partnerships were set up to facilitate recovery activities and enable local input to decision making, the most successful of which built on existing local arrangements.
- Expanded role for the Urban Development Strategy Implementation Committee (now known as the Greater Christchurch Partnership Committee).
- The collaborative, multi-agency approach to plan making fostered by the Committee before the earthquakes became pivotal to the development of Recovery Plans.



Greater Christchurch Partnership



Te Tira Tū Tahī
One Group, Standing Together

Regeneration legislation and agencies

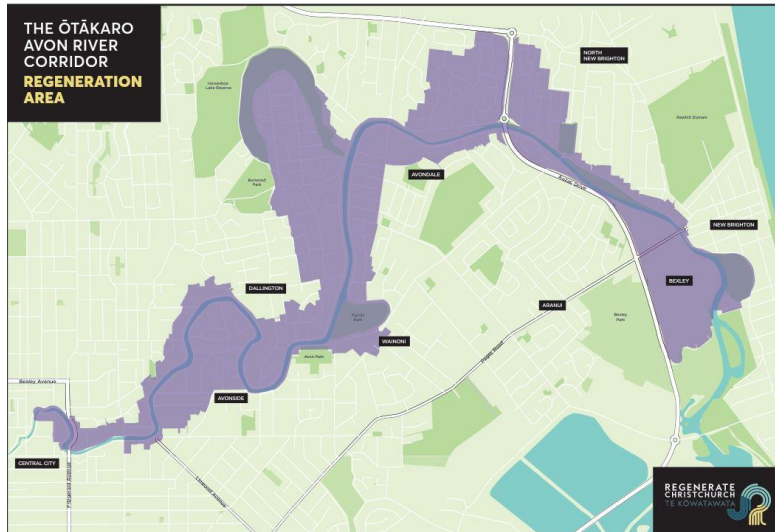
- New arrangements were put in place in 2016 that sought to transfer leadership of the recovery to being locally-led.
- The CER Act 2011 was replaced by the Greater Christchurch Regeneration Act 2016.
- New Minister for Greater Christchurch Regeneration.
- New government agencies were formed to support regeneration in some of the worst affected areas of the city.
- The GCR Act 2016 is due to expire in 2021.



Development Christchurch Ltd.

Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor

- 600ha of cleared land in the Residential Red Zone.
- Unique opportunity to shape the future of the city.



Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor



Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor Regeneration Plan



Southshore and South New Brighton

- Suffered severe damage from the earthquakes.
- Future will be increasingly influenced by the impacts of climate change.
- Regeneration strategy will outline future options to adapt to climate change.
- First strategy of its kind in the region and one of the first in the country.



Key challenges for recovery/regeneration

- Extent and complexity of the community involved in Greater Christchurch's recovery and regeneration has evolved over time, creating some confusion and tension around roles and responsibilities.
- Some negative public perceptions surrounding the level of community engagement undertaken through the more streamlined recovery planning process.
- Delays to delivering key projects that would catalyse further private sector investment and regeneration in the central city (e.g. the multi-use arena, Cathedral Square and planned residential developments).
- Behaviours of private sector and commercial interests not always aligning with the Recovery Strategy (e.g. delays to settling insurance claims and landowners impeding new development).

Key challenge for Greater Christchurch

How does Greater Christchurch shift its national and international image as being a “special case”?

