Welcome to the sixth edition of the Christchurch Schools Rebuild Programme update. The programme is now fully underway with two schools complete, five new schools entering construction, ten schools in the design stage, and ten schools commencing master planning.

Key updates

- The second new school in the programme, Halswell Primary, is complete. The official opening and 150 year anniversary celebration is scheduled for Sunday 30 May 2015.
- The Aranui Community Campus and Rolleston College are on track to be delivered through a public private partnership (PPP) and open at the start of the 2017 school year.
- Cabinet has recently approved funding of $138 million for five schools (Kaiapoi High School, Banks Avenues School, Hornby High School, Linwood College and Cashmere High School).
- Land purchases have been completed for six of the 11 sites required for new schools. Already purchased are Rolleston College, Rolleston West, Rangiora West, Halswell West, Marshland and the Lyttelton site extension.
- The Minister of Education has announced QEII Park as the site for co-location and rebuild of Avonside Girls and Shirley Boys High Schools. The Christchurch City Council (CCC) has also confirmed that the site will be the location of the Eastern Recreation and Sports facility, allowing us to explore opportunities for shared facilities with CCC.
- Mobile temporary teaching spaces have been provided to facilitate upcoming works and accommodate demographic shifts across Christchurch schools.
- Specialist contractor and construction supplier panels are being used to accelerate work.
- The Ministry of Education is in the process of improving the health and safety information and processes to support the sector via the Sector Enablement & Support team.

Construction is underway at West Rolleston School which will be the third primary school for the rapidly expanding town. The school will be built in two stages; stage one will deliver administration and multi-purpose learning space for 450 students, with the balance being delivered as part of stage two. The project is currently on schedule, with stage one due for completion in January 2016, and stage two in April 2016.

CSR leadership structure

The leadership team consists of:

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jerome Sheppard</td>
<td>Associate Deputy Secretary - Infrastructure Delivery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angela Hawking</td>
<td>CSR Programme Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Hobern</td>
<td>CSR Programme Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant Boore</td>
<td>Lead Delivery Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jason Brown</td>
<td>Minor Works Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicholas Hughes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Simon Cruickshank</td>
<td>Regional Property (Regional Service Delivery Team)</td>
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To meet the increased number of projects coming into the programme, we have resourced up the team.

Every school is allocated a contact person. If you are not aware of who is allocated to your school, please email chchs.schools.rebuild@education.govt.nz
We completed the first round of school visits at the end of October 2014 and followed this up with a survey to ask schools to tell us how we are doing. 71% of schools visited responded to all questions. This level of participation is significantly above what would be expected for a survey of this kind. Responses mostly came from principals.

Schools were generally satisfied (65%) with the six monthly frequency of meetings with their CSR representative. No schools wanted to be visited less frequently.

Schools were less satisfied with the time it took CSR representatives to respond to their queries and thought that the CSR programme can work more closely with schools to find solutions to their property issues. Schools also indicated that the CSR programme should be more visible and available and generally communicate better. We have taken on board these comments and are working on ways to improve.

When it came to the way in which information was explained, the timeliness of Ministry responses, understanding of individual schools’ property needs, working with schools to resolve property issues, the overall quality of the service received by the CSR team, and clarity about where to give feedback to the CSR programme, schools were satisfied.

Schools appreciated the openness and honesty of the information and the way in which it was shared with them during these visits.

School visits plan

The next round of school visits is planned to commence shortly.

As part of the formal visits, we will see each school every six months until a year before master planning starts. These visits are aimed at keeping on top of minor works requirements as well as sharing programme related information (eg school budgets, programme updates, procurement).

One year before master planning starts, we want to make sure your school is engaged in preparing the vision for teaching and learning so you are ready to make decisions about how the buildings can support the pedagogy.

Four months before master planning, we aim to have the school’s project brief complete so we can give designers enough information to begin to develop the design.

We will also sit down with your school to talk about needs, issues, concerns, and how we can best work together during the project phase of the school rebuild project.

About three weeks before master planning starts, we will visit you again to present a project plan, which will provide details on works planned for the next 18 to 24 months. This is shown in the diagram below.

School budgets

Schools that are scheduled later in the capital programme have indicated concern over the amount being spent on minor works, as well as the level of budget that will be left for their major capital programme. The spend will be reviewed during the 2017 programme budget review process, and where there has been spend on capital works, we intend to top up schools’ budgets.

We are continuously monitoring market trends in relation to pricing and potential escalation and will consider the impact on school budgets as new information is received. At this stage, we have not seen significant cost escalation on our school projects.

What is a project brief?

A project brief informs and drives the Ministry’s design. The purpose of the project brief is to provide a framework for schools to develop and document their vision for delivering teaching and learning in their school, and the implications for the physical spaces need to support that education vision.

Questions?

If you have any questions about the Christchurch Schools Rebuild programme, please email us: chchs.schools.rebuild@education.govt.nz. More information on the programme can be found on our website www.education.govt.nz/ministry-of-education/specific-initiatives/christchurch-schools-rebuild/