Welcome to the first issue of the property update for the Greater Christchurch Education Renewal Programme. This update will be published regularly and aims to keep the local community and key stakeholders up to date on the school property developments across greater Christchurch. This issue focuses on the school property programme for capital investment and what has been achieved to date.

The government has announced a $1 billion dollar investment to restore, remodel, rebuild and where necessary, establish brand new schools in the greater Christchurch area. The intention is to create modern schools with improved facilities to support excellent teaching and learning and improved outcomes for students.

The Ministry has a dedicated property team that will work in partnership with schools to deliver this programme, and will oversee it from initial planning and design right through to final construction. Where necessary it will engage suitably qualified and experienced providers to deliver the individual programme of works.

Scope of the programme
The capital investment programme includes 115 schools, 18 secondary schools, two Teen Parent Units (TPU), five special schools, two Kura (years 1–13) and 88 primary and intermediate schools.

Prioritising the capital investment.
The Ministry is in the process of determining the capital investment programme in schools over the next 10 years and is keen to engage with schools to assist in developing the timing of this capital investment.

A nominated representative of each school, most likely the principal, will be asked to complete a self evaluation survey. These surveys, which have been consulted on with members from the schooling community before being sent out, will inform the programme of capital investment and the result will be shared with schools in the next two to three months. Schools will have an opportunity to discuss the programme with the Ministry in due course.

The priorities for capital investment are:

Priority 1: Mergers, closures and dependencies - schools where deadlines have been announced (new schools, closures or mergers). This includes schools that are key dependencies to other schools with committed dates.

Priority 2: Roll growth and capacity - schools where works are required because the existing network does not have capacity to accommodate projected roll levels. Projects should be completed as soon as possible.

Priority 3: Student achievement - schools where there is key opportunity to undertake property works aimed at improving student achievement. Promoting the needs of priority learners, inclusion, greater community cohesion and innovation are key factors.

Priority 4: Effectiveness in delivery - improves the quality of the built environment and deliver programme efficiencies.

Ministry representatives are planning to visit all learning community clusters and key stakeholders from the wider community over the next two to three months to discuss and provide more information about the property programme and how it will be delivered.

Christchurch schools are set to get new or upgraded temporary classrooms as part of the Greater Christchurch Education Renewal Programme.
To date approximately $60m has been spent carrying out repairs to the majority of schools in greater Christchurch as well as 21 swimming pool repairs. The programme has also established more than 120 temporary classrooms at 12 schools and commissioned and received more than 2,000 engineering building reports.

Developing a property plan

The first phase of the programme is for the Ministry to work with schools to develop a property plan. This phase is currently being undertaken with four learning community clusters. The process involves a series of workshops with schools often facilitated by Ministry appointed architects. The property plan aims to bring the learning community cluster and school vision together with the property strategy. Property planning includes site planning, but does not at this stage, include detailed design.

Getting on with the job

- Pegasus Bay school (relocation of Waikuku School) is under construction and is expected to be complete in 2014.
- The site plan and building layout for Halswell School is complete and enabling works are underway. Halswell is a staged redevelopment. Stage one teaching spaces are expected to open in early 2014 with completion of the administration, hall and technology spaces expected in late 2014.
- SNUP (School Network Upgrade Programme) and UFBiS (Ultra Fast Broadband in Schools) will be commencing programmes of work in the upcoming weeks and months in various schools in Christchurch.
- In Woolston, five additional teaching spaces have been designed and construction will commence soon. These five spaces are in addition to the four temporary teaching spaces built this year to allow for growth at Woolston.
- Swimming pool repairs – 21 of 23 are now complete. Akaroa and Lincoln High pools are due for completion in August.
- Additional teaching spaces for next year – consultant teams have been appointed to design and implement temporary teaching spaces to accommodate year 7 and 8 at Linwood College, Hillmorton High School and Hornby High School. These will be in place in January next year, ready for the new school year.
- Burnside Primary School and Cobham Intermediate, as two separate schools located adjacent to each other, are working closely together investigating exciting opportunities for sharing facilities such as administration, halls and multi-use spaces in the future.

As well as providing the latest technology, a key feature of modern learning environments is providing flexible teaching spaces, creating options for teachers to tailor learning for small and large groups.