

## **Response to Questions from the Canterbury Earthquakes Royal Commission Re: 7 Riccarton Road - Christchurch**

**File: C270-14-02**

My name is Ross Kain and I am a Building Control Officer employed by Marlborough District Council

The Marlborough District Council provided assistance to the Christchurch City Council and Waimakariri District Council following the September 2010 earthquakes.

I was not part of the initial response team which operated during the first week following the earthquake. I was seconded only for one week which was the final week that the Christchurch City Council needed help from the Marlborough district Council.

During the response I was undertaking work on behalf of the Christchurch City Council. The Christchurch City Council provided all forms and the procedures for the work I undertook whilst there. The records were retained by Christchurch City Council and I hold no personal records as I handed everything to the Christchurch City Council.

To specifically answer your questions:

1. I am currently employed by the Marlborough District Council as a Building Control Officer. I have been employed by the Marlborough District Council since April of 2007. As part of my duties I undertake various building inspections throughout the construction process and also process and grant Building Consents. Prior to being employed as a Building Control Officer I worked for 20 years in the construction industry. I have Trade Certificate in Carpentry and have undertaken various training modules while with Council.
2. At this inspection I was with Paul Guile, a work colleague also from the Marlborough District Council. Paul is also a Building Control Officer and it was his second week on secondment. There was no Engineer present at the inspection but one was available if requested by phone. As the building did not appear to be in danger of sudden collapse and was empty, no call for an Engineer was made.
3. This inspection was primarily carried out to assess whether further damage had occurred since the first inspection. The inspection was also to assess whether any repair work had been carried out on the building. The building was closed and therefore a visual external inspection of the building was undertaken. The building was already yellow stickered. As the building did not appear to be in danger of imminent collapse it was decided by Paul and I that the yellow sticker should remain. I do not remember this building especially. It was known that a previous Rapid Assessment had been carried out but I can not be absolutely certain that the documentation for this was on site at the time of this inspection as occasionally previous files could not be located.
4. As stated in Question 3 this was a follow up to the first inspection to check whether any repairs had been done and to do a further visual inspection.
5. Answered in Questions 3 and 4 above. However I was not undertaking an Engineers inspection as I do not hold that qualification. I was undertaking a level 2 rapid inspection.

6. This comment reflected that the cracking in the walls was of some concern and that unless the comment was worded strongly then these concerns may not be conveyed to the owner of the building strongly enough.
7. The NTF comment is an instruction to the compliance team to issue the owner with a Notice to Fix under The Building Act 2004 and highlighting the items that need to be addressed by the owner. It was not part of our job to envisage how the building could be made good but to report back to the Christchurch City Council detailing the condition of the building and what needed to be conveyed to the owner.
8. I don't know what the notation stands for as it was put on the form on the 30/11/2010 which is more than a month after the inspection, I presume by someone at the Christchurch City Council.
9. I can not remember clearly as the inspection was over a year ago and most of the buildings that I saw of that size and construction had some cracking. Christchurch City Council may have photographic records of the building that may assist but as far as I can remember I did not take any photos whilst on site.