



Press release from Christchurch Coastal Residents United - Dr Darrell Latham Spokesman

Experts Hazard Report Vindicates Residents Group

The final Coastal Hazards report from the expert peer review panel vindicates Christchurch Coastal Residents United call for due process and fair procedure for Christchurch residents said spokesman Dr Darrell Latham.

We applaud the expert Panels finding that the report's purpose went beyond its mandate and we support the panel recommendations that the Christchurch City Council remove hazard lines on maps and LIM notices he said.

Dr Latham said that the report should not have been used for planning purpose. It was not a sufficiently robust document nor was it fit for that purpose, hence the panels many recommendations for additional work to be done he said.

We endorse the panels finding that the Christchurch City Council works more closely with communities. Christchurch Coastal Residents United also endorses the panel's recommendation that an adaptive management approach where events can be monitored and adjusted, be applied to coastal hazards driven by sea level rise Dr Latham said.

The final review puts the Christchurch City Council and Councillors on notice and we await their response. We acknowledge that it has been an extremely difficult process for the Council to work through this policy and a national approach on this issue warrants further discussion. Christchurch Coastal Residents United will work cooperatively with the Council to ensure due process and fair procedure for all Christchurch and coastal residents Dr Latham said.

Tim Sintes Chairman of Christchurch Coastal Residents United said that all Christchurch City Councillors will be contacted within the next week to gauge their response to the final report. The community, council and experts now need to work together to measure what is actually happening locally and plan how to adapt as sea level changes. Christchurch and Coastal residents deserve nothing less he said.