

Christchurch Schools Rebuild Programme

Issue 4: Winter 2014

Welcome to the fourth issue of the Christchurch Schools Rebuild Programme update. This issue focuses on minor works which may be required by schools to ensure they remain operational, safe and secure prior to entering the programme.

School capital funding has been on hold since the 2011 earthquakes to enable the Ministry to secure a greater level of funding for Christchurch.

The scale of the investment in schools and the demand on the construction industry in Christchurch means that the works need to be sequenced over a 10 year period. In the meantime, schools in the Christchurch Schools Rebuild (CSR) programme are likely to require minor capital maintenance work up until the major investment is timed to occur.

To address this capital maintenance need, the Ministry has established a minor works team to take a proactive approach to capital repairs and maintenance at schools. Some schools may also be interested in trialling modern learning practices (prototyping). In some cases, this may be supported by minor alterations (up to \$15,000) to existing buildings to more closely resemble modern learning environments (MLE) ahead of entering the CSR programme.

The Ministry is currently overseeing minor works projects across approximately 100 schools.

What works fall into the minor works programme?

The purpose of the minor works programme is to ensure that all schools remain operational, safe and secure prior to entering the CSR programme. To qualify as a minor work, the work must meet the following criteria:

- Is the work required to address health and safety issues?
- Is the work required to address essential infrastructure issues?
- Will the work impact on what the school can do when they enter the programme?
- Is the building work minor in value (generally less than \$50k)?
- Is a building work required to support the school to better understand how they can teach in an MLE (i.e. alterations to provide a small MLE prototype teaching space – see overleaf for more information on prototyping)

Minor works do not cover anything that falls under the Property Maintenance Grant – (<http://www.minedu.govt.nz/NZEducation/EducationPolicies/Schools/PropertyToolBox/StateSchools/Funding/MaintainingSchoolProperty.aspx>)

Although part of the process will be to work with your school to ensure items such as painting are addressed.



Through the minor works programme, the Ministry are demolishing buildings that were significantly affected by the Canterbury earthquakes. Together with the schools, we are making an assessment on which assets need to be replaced relatively quickly so as not to significantly impact on curriculum delivery. As an example Mt Pleasant and Linwood North schools both have halls that fall into this category and these will be replaced with a multipurpose space. The size of the facility will be based on the schools entitlement under the School Property Guide (SPG) and will be funded from the CSR programme. Works will commence as soon as possible.

Other examples of this type of forward work are Christchurch Girls High School auditorium replacement and the Christchurch Boys High School hall and library development. For these schools, the rest of their redevelopment will take place as per the timing determined by the CSR programme.

Getting minor capital works onto the programme

The Ministry is developing a coordinated approach and programme of minor works for all schools in the CSR programme. In developing the plan the Ministry will take a two stage approach:

1. School based requests
2. Proactive approach to identify minor works

School based requests

At any stage schools can raise or discuss their minor works needs with their assigned School Property Advisor or Case Manager, who will discuss the request with the school including the range of options which are available to address the property issues in a timely manner.

Proactive approach

The Ministry will visit schools over the next three months to discuss their property issues and concerns and together with school boards, will proactively identify minor works projects that will be addressed over the next 10 years or up until the school formally enters the major investment phase of the programme.

The Ministry will issue the minor works programme for consultation and feedback from schools. Given the nature of minor works, it is expected that the programme will be continuously monitored and updated as part of a regular six monthly school visit programme and individual schools requests.

This planned approach will also help to ensure efficiencies in regard to cost and as larger bundles of goods and services can be procured together.

The Ministry and the Canterbury Primary Principals Association (CPPA) have formed a working group on property, one of the first items to be agreed is the agenda for the regular property meetings with schools.

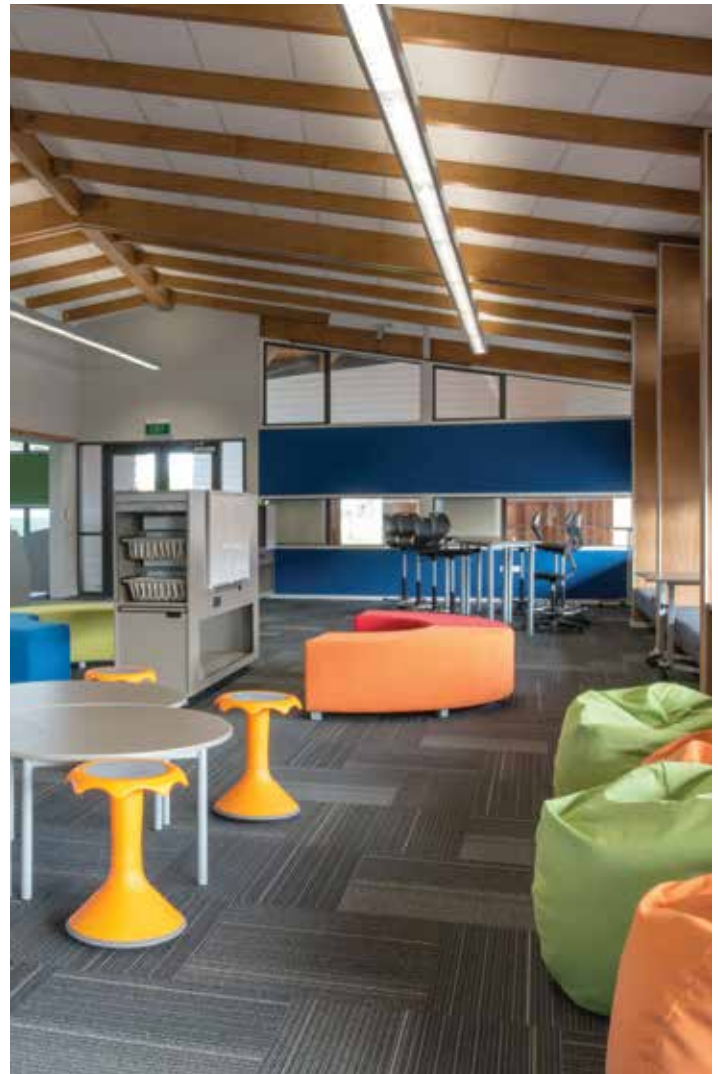
Funding

All capital works at a school are funded from the individual school budgets that have been allocated as part of the Government's \$1.137 billion investment in the greater Christchurch schools.

What is the process for getting the work done and how will it be managed?

Where a request has been received, it will be discussed and agreed with the school. The Ministry, in partnership with the school, will appoint a specialist project manager who will schedule and manage the minor works.

The process is shown in the diagram below.



What is prototyping?

The Ministry is creating opportunities with schools to better understand Modern Learning Practices and Environments so that schools can make informed decisions about spaces for future learning and teaching. This process referred to as prototyping, involves investigating, exploring and experiencing new learning and teaching environments. This can occur in existing spaces, however where necessary, the Ministry will support schools to make cost effective modifications to existing buildings to trial changes to teaching practice.

What's next?

School property advisors will be in contact with each school to organise a visit to discuss their needs and commence the process of drafting a minor works plan for each school.

Questions?

If you have any questions about the Christchurch Schools Rebuild programme, please email us: chchschoools.rebuild@minedu.govt.nz. More information on the programme can be found on our website - www.minedu.govt.nz/CHCHSchoolsRebuild