

Media release for immediate use – September 9 2010

NEW WEBSITE TO HELP CANTERBURY BUSINESS RECOVERY

A new website has been launched today to give Canterbury business a central source of practical information to help their business recover from the earthquake.

www.recovercanterbury.co.nz is supported by a group known as the Christchurch Economic Recovery Group, brought together by Christchurch City Council.

Spokesman Peter Townsend, CEO of the Canterbury Employers' Chamber of Commerce, says the site offers businesses practical information, advice and links to answers to their questions.

“Since the earthquake, businesses have had hundreds of questions and need to know where to get reliable answers to get their business running effectively again,” says Mr Townsend.

“We identified the top dozen immediate issues for local businesses, then where they could get the best advice for those issues. We have put the information, sources, links and phone numbers together on the one website, so businesses have one central place to go.

“On the site, they’ll find facts on managing disruption to cashflow, obligations to employees, access to their buildings, insurance support and dealing with stress, among other things. In effect, it’s everything they need to know.

“The information is being regularly updated and added to, as we become aware of what else local business needs.”

Mr Townsend says as the names suggests, the website aims to help Canterbury recover and re-build the business base the city runs on.

He says in the early days after an earthquake or similar disaster, people are in response mode and running on adrenalin, but as time passes that changes.

“Christchurch is now in recovery mode, with the reality setting in of what is required to get going again,” he says. “Establishing normality is now the objective and we’ll do what it takes to make that happen.

“We want people to know Christchurch is fighting back and open for business.”

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