

Land Drainage Recovery Programme

Reducing the risk of flooding throughout Christchurch City

Trees to be removed and replanted to reduce flood risk

Starting next week, trees will be removed and replanted along the Avon River Corridor to reduce flood risk in the area, through raising and strengthening the temporary stopbanks.

Christchurch City Council installed the stopbanks in 2011, as part of the earthquake emergency works, and were constructed under urgency. Last year, the Council agreed to fast track work on the stopbanks to extend their lifespan for up to 20 years, as part of its Land Drainage Recovery Programme, while long-term management options for river and tidal flood protection have yet to be decided.

As part of these works, some trees located within the vicinity of the stopbanks will be removed. The majority of the 185 trees to be removed are in a poor or very poor condition, and the removal of some healthy and structurally sound trees is also required where there are no viable alternatives.

One hundred and twenty seven trees to be removed are already deteriorating due to age and ground condition changes following the earthquakes. The removal of these trees will prevent the stopbanks from being compromised as the trees deteriorate and need to be removed in the future.

Fifty eight healthy trees will be removed to enable the stopbank works to be undertaken. Of these, seven are causing ongoing damage to the stopbanks and 36 are small trees less than four metres in height.

Extensive replacement planting of more than 300 new trees will be carried out. The replanting will be done as soon as possible after the stopbank work is completed in each area, working in with the winter planting season for optimum growth.

Due to land use and site changes since the earthquakes it will not be possible to plant the majority of replacement trees in locations where trees are removed and with the same species. The tree planting will be in keeping with the overall look of the Avon River Corridor and there will be a mix of exotic and native trees planted, including more than 80 exotic trees and more than 220 native trees.

Signage is being installed along the river to inform local residents and recreational users.

The full arborist report and more information on the Land Drainage Recovery Programme and stopbank works can be found at www.ccc.govt.nz/floodmitigation and click on 'newsletters and work notices'

If you have any queries or concerns, please feel free to contact the Council using the details below.



www.ccc.govt.nz/floodmitigation



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