

# MEMORANDUM



**To:** Jo Miller, Chief Executive

**Copy:** Mayor and Councillors

**From:** Andrea Blackshaw, Acting General Manager City and Community Services  
Mike Mercer, Divisional Manager Community Hubs

**Date:** Monday 2 December 2019

**SUBJECT: WALTER NASH CENTRE (OLD SIDE) DETAILED SEISMIC ASSESSMENT**

## **Purpose**

1. The purpose of this memo is to:
  - a) update you on the final results of a detailed seismic assessment of the old part of the Walter Nash Centre stadium
  - b) provide a recommended course of action on the basis of that assessment.

## **Background**

2. The Walter Nash Centre comprises two buildings – one built in 2015 to 100% of the New Building Standard (NBS) and the original building constructed in 1973. The new building is separated from the original structure by a “seismic gap.”
3. In March 2019 the Community Facilities Trust received an Initial Seismic Assessment for the Walter Nash Centre (Old Side) which rated the building at 45%. A Detailed Seismic Assessment was commissioned in April 2019.
4. The Detailed Seismic Assessment results were received on the evening of Monday 25 November 2019.
5. Walter Nash Centre is deemed an IL3 building.

## **Engineering assessment**

6. Part of the building is rated at 20% NBS which classifies it as earthquake prone.
7. The ratings of the various key parts of the old building are as follows:

### Primary Structure

- a. Roof bracing 75%
- b. Transverse steel portal frame 100%
- c. Longitudinal moment frame 85%
- d. Reinforced masonry walls 100%

### Secondary Structure

- e. RC Block wall bending out of plane 85%
- f. RC Block cantilever columns 40%
- g. RC block cantilever pad 35%

- h. Hollowcore roof 20%
  - i. Timber framed grandstand 50%
8. The area where the hollowcore roof is present is an isolated area of the facility in the western corridor and change rooms. The hollowcore roof poses a real risk to life for any individuals in this area during a larger earthquake. Engineering advice is that the risks associated with any failure of the roof structure would be limited to this area only.

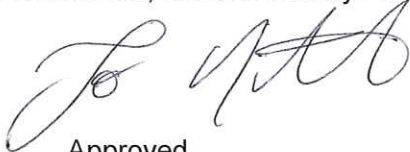
### Operational implications

9. Business continuity planning has been underway. With a revised operating model and closing off the affected corridor and change rooms to public and staff the rest of the stadium and meeting rooms are able to continue being used.
10. This revised operating model has received sign off from Hutt City Council consents team.
11. We have been advised an interim structural solution can be implemented relatively easily which would raise the corridor rating to 34%. This is likely achievable within existing budgets.
12. A longer term structural solution to the corridor and other areas noted in the report need to be considered among other seismic upgrade priorities for Hutt City Council.

### Recommendations

13. On the basis of engineering advice received from Sawrey's that identifies structural vulnerabilities of the western corridor area of the old Walter Nash Centre in the event of significant earthquake, I recommend that Council should:
- a) Isolate and close the corridor of the old part of Walter Nash Centre to the public and staff from 3 December 2019;  
**Agree / Disagree**
  - b) implement an immediate revised operational plan to continue to allow use of the remainder of the stadium area  
**Agree / Disagree**
  - c) engage engineers to provide designs and construct an interim solution for this area which will bring it to 34% and reopen to the public at this time (noting that this is likely achievable within existing budgets);  
**Agree / Disagree**
  - d) long term structural solutions for the corridor and other areas noted in the report are considered against all seismic upgrade requirements for Council facilities  
**Agree / Disagree**

Mike Mercer, DM Community Hubs, Andrea Blackshaw, Acting GM Community and City Services



Approved

Jo Miller Chief Executive Hutt City Council