IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL EPBs IN HIGH SEISMIC-RISK AREAS

The Building Act 2004 requires all territorial authorities (TAs) in high seismic areas to report annually to MBIE on their progress, in identifying potential earthquake-prone buildings (EPBs).

New Zealand is extremely prone to seismic activity. Failure of buildings, or parts of buildings, can endanger lives. Protection of people and property is paramount.

By 1 July 2022 all potential EPBs in high seismic-risk areas must be identified.

KEY STEPS

1. TAs to identify potential EPBs
2. All identified potential EPBs require an engineering assessment
3. TAs decide if a building is earthquake prone
4. Owners of EPBs must take action (i.e. strengthen or demolish) within set timeframes

Seismic risk areas
- high seismic-risk area
- medium seismic-risk area
- low seismic-risk area

(Map indicative only)

1 JULY 2017
EPB system introduced

1 JULY 2018
TAs report on progress to MBIE

1 JULY 2020
TAs identify all priority* EPBs

*priority buildings pose higher risk to public safety than other EPBs because of their location or function.

1 JULY 2022
All potential EPBs in high seismic-risk areas identified

BUILDING PERFORMANCE

38 There are 38 TAs that manage buildings in high seismic-risk areas

All 38 have reported on progress towards identifying potential EPBs in their areas:

7 estimate they have no potential EPBs

31 are still to identify potential EPBs

Overall there are approximately 4500 potential EPBs still to be identified

TAs will continue consultation and requesting engineering assessments from building owners where needed

MBIE will work with TAs to enable them to meet their EPB requirements