

12 November 2019

To: New Zealand Geotechnical Database stakeholders

Future of the New Zealand Geotechnical Database (NZGD)

Hi everyone,

We are pleased to announce that the Earthquake Commission (EQC) will fully fund the operation of the NZGD until the end of 2022, by which time we plan to have in place a longer term sustainable funding model.

For some time, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) has jointly funded the NZGD. MBIE signalled in August that its funding would finish at the end of 2019. Following subsequent discussions with the sector, EQC has agreed to fully fund NZGD operations for three years.

MBIE will continue to be part of the broader group which we expect will develop the long-term vision for NZGD. The group also includes EQC, the New Zealand Geotechnical Society (NZGS), Engineering New Zealand (ENZ) and NZGD users. MBIE will also provide funding to ENZ to bring together this group.

As a group we now have an opportunity to take the current system, align it with other work initiatives underway and put some more energy behind its development. Your feedback to Engineering NZ and NZGS on what this might look like is encouraged at any stage, but we'll be looking to create some more formal opportunities in the near future.

The group would like to acknowledge everything MBIE has done so far to realise the national and international potential of the Canterbury Geotechnical Database and to take this forward to the current NZGD model.

This model of public and private data sharing is internationally unique and provides real benefits to New Zealand's building, research and hazards management sectors among others.

EQC will be making a more comprehensive announcement about the NZGD in due course.

Best Regards,



Dave Robson



Jo Horrocks



Tania Williams

