



## CUSTOMER GUIDE TO EARTH WORKS GUIDE FOR SITE PREPARATION



*For further information please contact:*

Westland District Council

**Building Department**

36 Weld Street

Private Bag 704

Hokitika

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E-mail: [council@westlanddc.govt.nz](mailto:council@westlanddc.govt.nz)

## **Earth Works Guide for Site Preparation.**

Before any work commences it is essential that the correct position of boundaries and minimum yard set backs are verified by owner.

The foundation is one of the most essential components of a building. Foundations must be constructed on undisturbed ground which has a minimum ultimate ground bearing capacity of 300kpa or firm fill for which a certificate of suitability has been issued by a suitably qualified geotechnical engineer.

To establish the ground bearing capacity it may be necessary to carry out penetrometer tests before the foundation or filling is started. Such tests need to be undertaken by a suitably qualified person.

If the ultimate ground bearing capacity of 300kpa is unable to be achieved, the building foundations will need specific engineering design. It will be necessary to engage a professional engineer before any ground preparation is started.

The engineer will advise of particular requirements which will usually involve a site inspection and the preparation of a report providing for the foundation and ground preparation procedures. It will be essential that the building contractor adheres to the engineering requirements and procedures provided for in the report.

When the engineer is satisfied that the foundation and/or foundation wall preparation has been completed and has been undertaken in accordance with specifications and the engineer's report, a Producer Statement (PS3) Construction will be required from the contractor and a Producer Statement (PS4) Construction Review will be required from your engineer. This documentation **must** be provided to the Council.

### **Note:**

Some site works may require resource consent from the West Coast Regional Council:

PO Box 66  
388 Main South Road  
Paroa  
Greymouth 7805

Phone: 03 768 0466  
Toll Free: 0508 800 118

## Useful websites

Department of Building and Housing (DBH)

[www.dbh.govt.nz](http://www.dbh.govt.nz)

*Downloads of Building Act and Building Code information*

*A Guide to Building Work that does NOT require a Building Consent*

*Licensed Building Practitioners Register*

Certified Builders Association of NZ Inc (CBANZ)

[www.certified.co.nz](http://www.certified.co.nz)

Registered Master Builders Federation Inc (RMBF)

[www.masterbuilder.org.nz](http://www.masterbuilder.org.nz)

New Zealand Institute of Architects (NZIA)

[www.nzia.co.nz](http://www.nzia.co.nz)

Architectural Designers NZ Inc (ADNZ)

[www.adnz.org.nz](http://www.adnz.org.nz)

Association of Consulting Engineers (ACENZ)

[www.acenz.org.nz](http://www.acenz.org.nz)

BRANZ Ltd

[www.branz.co.nz](http://www.branz.co.nz)

NZ Institute of Quantity Surveyors Inc (NZIQS)

[www.nziqs.co.nz](http://www.nziqs.co.nz)

NZ Institute of Surveyors (NZIS)

[www.surveyors.org.nz](http://www.surveyors.org.nz)

Institution of Professional Engineers (IPENZ)

[www.ipenz.org.nz](http://www.ipenz.org.nz)

NZ Institute of Building Surveyors Inc (NZIBS)

[www.buildingsurveyors.co.nz](http://www.buildingsurveyors.co.nz)

Consumers' Institute of New Zealand

[www.consumerbuild.org.nz](http://www.consumerbuild.org.nz)