



## Earthquake and Resilience

# WHAT'S A 'RESILIENT' NEIGHBOURHOOD?

Absolutely  
**POSITIVELY**  
ME HEKE KI PŌNEKE  
WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL | Wellington

A resilient neighbourhood is one that's prepared for anything – from a power outage to an earthquake. A resilient neighbourhood should be able to respond and recover quickly from an emergency.

### How do you know if you have one?

**Hint:** If you tend to avoid your neighbours, you probably don't have one!

- You know the names of your three–four closest neighbours.
- You have each other's contact details.
- You talk to your neighbours now and then.
- People wouldn't be afraid to ask each other for help.
- You're aware of your neighbours' children's names and ages.
- You know the name of your neighbour's pet.
- Street get-togethers are part of living in your neighbourhood – you have shared interests or hobbies.
- Home-grown and home-made goods are shared among your street.
- You've got a shared community garden or other projects.

### Why have one?

- You get to enjoy living in a safe, friendly, respectful neighbourhood.
- You get to make a difference in your local community.
- In times of loss, illness or emergency, you can help others – or be helped if you're in need.

### How do you get one?

- Start with getting to know one another.  
**Ask** "how are you?"
- **BBQs** and baking! Share a morning tea or a barbecue a couple of times a year.
- See what you have in **common** – it may be that your children are the same age, you have similar hobbies, or your pets get along.
- **Diversity** – a diverse range of cultures, skills or knowledge can make for an exciting place to live. See what everyone's strengths are and how they can be used in times of need.

**For practical ideas on getting a more resilient neighbourhood where you live, see the related fact sheets:**

- Knowing your neighbours, staying in touch: 10 Step Guide
- Neighbourhood Resources Register
- Neighbourhood Support: How to start your own group.