



A guide to landslide risk assessments

The purpose of Auckland Council's flood and landslide recovery assistance programme is to remove people from homes where there is a future intolerable risk to life. This guide describes how we identify homes where the landslide risk creates an intolerable risk to people's lives.

How long will a landslide risk assessment take?

The time to assess a property depends on how complex the land stability issues are, how many properties we are assessing in the community, and demand for our assessment service. The timeframes below are approximate.

The landslide assessment process

We start by doing a desktop assessment. This step takes about three weeks.

An engineer reviews the information you provided in the online Flooding and Landslide Registration Form, and information available in council records. They will decide if more information is needed. If we find that the overall risk to life from landslide at your property is low enough, we will give your property a Category 1 and write to you to confirm this.

If your property needs more assessment, we will send an engineer to visit your property. This step takes about 4-8 weeks after a site visit is booked.

We will call you to organise a visit to your property. When we book site visits, we try to combine property visits in a community. This helps us understand the things that might be affecting the whole neighbourhood, not just at each house. This means that if you are in an area with a lot of homes affected by a landslide, you might wait a bit longer for your site visit to be booked.

A geotechnical engineer will complete the site visit and will draft a risk report. The report will go through an internal and external review. Homeowners can give feedback on the draft report before we finalise it and confirm a property category. This takes a **further 2-4 weeks**. If the report finds that the overall risk to life at your property is low enough, we will give your property a Category 1.

If your property is high-risk, we then look at whether the risk can be mitigated.

If we find an intolerable risk to life at your property, we will then look at whether feasible changes can be made to your property or in your community to reduce the risk to a tolerable level. We call these changes 'mitigations.'

If we find there are feasible changes you can make to your property to reduce the risk, we will give your property a Category 2P and contact you about next steps.

If we find there are feasible changes the council can make in your community, we will give your property a Category 2C.

If we decide there are no feasible changes that can be made to reduce the risk, we will give your property a Category 3 and ask you to consider a voluntary buy-out.

How is my landslide risk assessed?

