

## **NZ College of Midwives National Office Returns to Central Christchurch Today**

After eighteen months of sharing space in Hornby with the staff of a factory that makes some of the world's biggest vegetable washing machines, staff from the National Head office of the NZ College of Midwives, (NZCOM) and the Midwifery Provider Organisation (MMPO) are on the move.

Today twenty five staff will return to the Manchester Street site they had to leave in February 2011, moving into a new purpose built head office which has replaced the 1905 brick heritage building which was badly damaged in the earthquake.

NZCOM CEO Karen Guilliland says she is proud of the College team members, who just like the midwives all over Christchurch, have not missed a beat since the devastating quake 18 months ago.

"It has not been easy and the team here has really got on with it and for that I am immensely grateful. WYMA, with whom we have shared a site have been wonderful and although the NZCOM and MMPO teams are thrilled to be going 'home', we will miss the factory team out here," she says.

Ms Guilliland adds that the College made a conscious decision to keep its head office in Christchurch, a city the team calls home and is dedicated to supporting.

An official opening will be held in late November when the NZCOM National Committee from all over the country meets for the first time in almost two years in Christchurch (21-23 November).

NZCOM is located at 376 Manchester Street, between Bealey Avenue and Edgeware Road.

Video of the new office development can be viewed at  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TikizvK3plk&feature=youtu.be>

**ENDS**

**Photo Opportunity:** Movers and staff are expected to be on site at around 1pm. For further information please contact Ali Jones on 027 247 3112. Karen Guilliland is available from 730am for interview and will be unavailable from about 9am.