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Press Release

ROC urges businesses to respect Recovery Orders

The Recovery Operation Centre (ROC) is urging business owners and individuals to be complacent and respect the Recovery Orders imposed in the event of the 17 December 7.4 Magnitude earthquake. The same goes to drivers and vehicle owners.

The urge comes following significant challenges ROC is facing in managing restricted areas due to businesses and individuals ignoring safety protocols and regulations.

Some businesses have allowed their employees to enter these areas for prolonged cleanup times while others have attempted to encourage individuals to pass through the restricted areas.

The ROC clarifies that passes are issued solely for business owners, managers, and supervisors to enter, check, and move out, and if necessary retrieve essential documents and vacate the premises. The ROC Access Pass are not for extended stays.

At this stage, no temporary occupancy certificate will be allowed.

The ROC urges business owners to adhere to the Recovery Orders and avoid seeking alternative remedies that may violate these orders. Maintaining security is crucial to prevent unauthorized access, which could pose safety risks and disrupt operations.

The ROC is enhancing surveillance, improving communication about restrictions, collaborating with the Vanuatu Police Force, and implementing stricter penalties for violations.

