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Thursday, 2 March 2023

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*Te Hui o Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga*  
**Hastings District Council**  
**Council Meeting**

*Kaupapataka*

# Supplementary Agenda

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*Te Rā Hui:*  
Meeting date: **Thursday, 2 March 2023**

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*Te Wā:*  
Time: **1.00pm**

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*Te Wāhi:*  
Venue: **Council Chamber  
Ground Floor  
Civic Administration Building  
Lyndon Road East  
Hastings**

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*Te Hoapā:*  
Contact: **Democracy and Governance Services  
P: 06 871 5000 | E: [democracy@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:democracy@hdc.govt.nz)**

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*Te Āpiha Matua:*  
Responsible  
Officer: **Chief Executive - Nigel Bickle**

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*Te Hui o Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga*

**Hastings District Council**

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*Kaupapataka*

# Supplementary Agenda

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*Tiamana*

**Chair:** Mayor Sandra Hazlehurst

*Mematanga:*

**Membership:**

*Ngā KaiKaunihera*

**Councillors:** Ana Apatu, Marcus Buddo, Alwyn Corban, Malcolm Dixon, Michael Fowler, Damon Harvey, Henry Heke, Kellie Jessup, Tania Kerr (Deputy Mayor), Eileen Lawson, Renata Nepe, Simon Nixon, Ann Redstone, Wendy Schollum and Kevin Watkins

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*Tokamatua:*

**Quorum:**

8 members

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*Apiha Matua*

**Officer Responsible:**

Chief Executive – Nigel Bickle

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*Te Rōpū Manapori me te  
Kāwanatanga*

**Democracy and**

**Governance Services:**

Louise Stettner (Extn 5543)



*Te Rārangī Take*

## **Order of Business**

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**6.0 Chief Executive Situation Report – Cyclone Gabrielle**

**7**

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Thursday, 2 March 2023

Item 5

*Te Hui o Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga*  
**Hastings District Council: Council Meeting**

*Te Rārangi Take*

# Report to Council

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**Nigel Bickle, Chief Executive**  
*Nā:* **Bruce Allan, Group Manager: Corporate**  
**From:** **Craig Cameron, Group Manager: Strategy and Development**  
**Ross McLeod, Director: Future Growth Unit**

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*Te Take:* **Chief Executive Situation Report – Cyclone Gabrielle**  
**Subject:**

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## **1.0 Executive Summary – Te Kaupapa Me Te Whakarāpopototanga**

- 1.1 Ex- tropical Cyclone Gabrielle has had devastating impacts across the North Island, Hawke’s Bay and within Hastings District. This report provides Council with a synopsis of impacts, a summary of response action taken, a ‘current’ situation report and an outline of current and future work.

## **2.0 Recommendations - Ngā Tūtohunga**

- A) That Council receive the report titled Chief Executive Situation Report – Cyclone Gabrielle dated 2 March 2023.
- B) That Council note the activity and actions outlined in the report.

## **3.0 Background – Te Horopaki – Impacts from Event**

- 3.1 Ex- tropical Cyclone Gabrielle has had widespread and significant impacts across the North Island and necessitated the declaration of a National State of Emergency. The Hawke’s Bay region was severely affected from Monday 13 February 2023 overnight through to Tuesday 14 February 2023.
- 3.2 Hastings District has been heavily affected particularly in rural areas and areas located close to rivers and streams. While official rainfall data is still being compiled, there are reports of Ex-cyclone Gabrielle depositing between 500 and 730 mm of rain in parts of the Kāweka and Ruahine Ranges. Some 283 mm of rainfall was measured at an HDC rain gauge in Havelock over a 24-hour period. All major rivers through the district flooded. Flooding and resulting devastation occurred in the following areas:
- Esk Valley and parts of Whirinaki

- Dartmoor Valley and Puketapu
- Waiohiki
- Pākowhai
- Ōmāhu
- Tangoio
- Twyford

Flood damage has also been recorded in low-lying areas of the urban areas of the district and in coastal communities. Information is still being gathered on the extent of damage in the northern areas of the district, although this is thought to be extensive based on initial reports.

- 3.3 At the time of writing, eleven persons across the country had lost their lives due to the impacts of Gabrielle, with a further three as yet unaccounted for.
- 3.4 Flood damage has been done to over 800 homes with an estimated 2000 plus residents likely to have been displaced. Extensive damage has also been done to orchards, vineyards, farms, forestry and other businesses in a number of areas across the district. While large parts of the horticulture and agriculture sectors remain undamaged and will still produce premium products, there has been significant damage to the productive capacity of the district/Hawke's Bay economy.
- 3.5 There has also been extensive damage to infrastructure. The roading network has been impacted significantly. In addition to flooding and/or damage to the State Highway network (SH2 (particularly north), SH5, SH50, SH 51), there has been damage to the following bridge structures and culverts:

Bridge structure destroyed:

- Redclyffe (Waiohiki Road)
- Whanawhana (Whanawhana Road)
- Crystal Twin Culvert (Matahoura Road)
- Mangatutu Low Level (Mangatutu Road)
- Brookfield (Brookfields Road)
- Dartmoor (Dartmoor Road)
- Puketapu (Vicarage Road)
- Rissington (Puketitiri Road)
- Matapiro (Matapiro Road)

Bridge structures and culverts damaged:

- Crownthorpe (Crownthorpe Road),
- Omapere (Omapere Road),
- Kahika No. 1 Culvert (Kahika Road),
- Follies (Waihau Road),
- Mangleton (Mangleton Road),
- Peka Peka (Soldiers Settlement Road)
- Hawkston No. 2 (Hawkston Road)

Bridges, culverts and crossings with damaged approaches:

- Dogleg (Big Hill Road),



- Chesterhope Cycle Bridges No. 1 and 2 (Pākowhai Road),
- Pa Culvert (Puketitiri Road),
- Lopdells (Ohurakura Road),
- Willowford Road,
- Kahika No.2 Culvert (Kahika Road),
- Glenfalls (Waitara Road),
- Waikoau Gorge (Waikoau Road),
- McIntyres Low Level (McIntyres Access Road),
- Heays Gorge (Heays Access Road),
- Smiths Twin Culvert (Heays Access Road),
- Waipunga, Waipunga Road,
- Service (Ellis Wallace Road),
- Runanga Overflow (Taihape Road),
- Swamp Cutting (Taihape Road),
- Willowford Culvert (Taihape Road)
- Matahoura Road (no name).

- 3.6 In summary 9 bridges destroyed, 7 badly damaged and 19 with damage to their approaches, but also noting that we have not been able to access all bridges at this stage (30 yet to be assessed).
- 3.7 Hastings District Council is one of a small number of councils in New Zealand that have insured the local share cost of repairing and replacing bridges in catastrophic events such as Cyclone Gabrielle. Council has in place a loss limit of \$10m to cover its local share of damage and with the accelerated subsidy from Waka Kōtahi will use the insurance proceeds to cover the 27% required from the local share. A \$10m loss limit is the equivalent to insuring approximately \$40m of damage to the bridge network.
- 3.8 In addition, a significant number of slips and dropouts occurred creating further damage to the roading network.
- 3.9 This damage has caused isolation and lack of access to several communities. Some of these communities now have a lifelines/residential level of access, however a number of communities remain isolated over two weeks on from the emergency.
- 3.10 These access routes remain a key priority. The Mangone Stream at Rissington is a particular priority. This is a critical pinch point for access to the communities beyond. Work on both a Bailey bridge and a low-level emergency crossing is occurring – both options are progressing concurrently. The low-level crossing relies on low stream levels to operate, and Council expects to reopen this on Friday 3 Marck 2023 if the stream level drops as forecast. The Bailey bridge solution is an estimated three to four weeks away.
- 3.11 Other notable impacts on infrastructure are set out below.
- 3.12 Drinking water: The urban water supply serving Hastings, Flaxmere, Havelock North, Bridge Pā and Paki Paki was operational at all times. However significant damage was sustained to the Whirinaki/Esk drinking water supply with the loss of the treatment plant, damage to reticulation, and damage to the bores. Work is underway to re-establish a supply to the Esk Hills, Eskridge, and Whirinaki communities. The Te Pōhue supply also sustained damage to the spring and pipe from the spring down to the treatment plant. Remedial work has occurred, and the plant is operating via a

generator. Further work is required on this supply. Both of these supplies have a boil water notice applied at this point.

- 3.13 The Ōmarunui Landfill was flooded, and the access cut off for a period of time. This was reopened on 20 February 2023 and is now able to help deal with the large volumes of waste created by cyclone impacts. The operational features of the site are also being brought back online with buildings, weighbridges, power and communications having to be restored and/or temporary holding measures taken.
- 3.14 Havelock North streams and wider urban stormwater: the Havelock North detention dams played a significant role in protecting the majority of the community downstream. The level in the Mangarau dam was such that the spillway was active. There are areas along the Havelock streams where private and public infrastructure requires remediation. One of the more significant specific items is the failure of the private access bridge that used to cross the Mangarau stream. There are also numerous fallen trees and debris accumulated in the streams that will require clean up. Parts of the streams have suffered from significant scour and damage based on initial stream assessments.
- 3.15 Wastewater: the treatment plant (WWTP) has continued to operate throughout and after the event, running on generation. The groyne at the WWTP suffered some damage and will require repairs. Through the peak of the event a number of pump station overflows occurred at locations across the network due to high volume flows and loss of power. requiring the prioritisation of Generators were prioritised across sites. A clean-up programme of overflow areas has been completed across known overflow areas. System review and investigations are ongoing in order for staff to understand wider effects from sediment effects across pumpstations and reticulation.
- 3.16 Parks and Reserves: The Eskdale and Puketapu parks are the most heavily impacted rural reserves. Eskdale Park has a thick layer of silt which will likely have an adverse impact on the remaining trees. The Havelock hills reserves, as well as Kingsgate and Palmbrook reserves, were also heavily impacted and subject to multiple slips and extensive damage to trees, tracks and structures. Tree failures and limb damage, as well as resulting damage to small structures, occurred across the district street and reserves network. It is estimated that approximately 400 trees in parks and reserves and a further 400 street trees came down in the strong winds experienced.
- 3.17 The first priority with respect to fallen trees has been road clearance. Attention is now focussing on fallen trees in parks and reserves. The following parks and reserves remain closed or partially closed for safety reasons:
- Eskdale Park
  - Haumoana Domain
  - Havelock Hills Reserves: Tainui, Tauroa, Hikanui and Tanner Street Reserves, Kingsgate Reserve, Keirunga Reserve, Keith Sands Grove, Palmbrook Reserve
  - Maraetōtara Waterfalls
  - Puketapu Park
  - Pākowhai Country Park Carpark
  - Roys Hill Reserve
  - Waimārama Domain
  - Windsor Park
  - A number of river esplanade reserves.
- 3.18 Subsequent to Ex-cyclone Gabrielle, a Heavy Rain Watch was issued, and periods of heavy rain have occurred. A precautionary evacuation of the Esk Valley was undertaken on Friday 24 February 2023, and further damage has been caused in places including a major dropout on SH5 at Te Pōhue overnight on Monday 27 February 2023.

#### 4.0 Discussion – *Te Matapakitanga* – Response Actions and Initial Directions for Recovery

- 4.1 Hastings District Council activated an emergency response on Monday 13 February 2023 as part of the wider Group response in advance of the worst impacts of Gabrielle. An Incident Management Team (IMT)/Local Emergency Operations Centre has operated since that time, initially on a 24/7 basis and in the last week 16 hours per day. Council's IMT has operated in conjunction with and within the framework established by the Hawke's Bay Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Emergency Coordination Centre and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) National Command Centre (NCC).
- 4.2 A Local State of Emergency was declared for Napier City and Hastings District at 4.31am on Tuesday 14 February 2023. A Hawke's Bay wide Regional State of Emergency was declared at 5.15am. A National State of Emergency was declared at 8.43am later the same morning. A National State of Emergency supersedes a Regional State of Emergency.
- 4.3 The key focus area of Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) operations is community welfare and support. Support for emergency services is provided as required. Councils also carry out their key infrastructure and lifelines activities and other key services (such as waste disposal).
- 4.4 Response activities undertaken are summarised in the sections below. In response to evolving community needs, the IMT has developed operational strategies to guide an effective response including in the following areas:
- Welfare response
  - Rural and Peri-urban response
  - Isolated communities sustainable supply
  - Iwi, PSGE and Marae response/coordination
  - Waste Recovery
  - Prioritised Infrastructure work programme
  - Building inspections
  - Public information and assurance
  - Referral (for assistance from other agencies)
  - Consenting (for required works)
- 4.5 Further operational strategies will be developed as emerging community needs are identified and the context for response and recovery evolves. Assisting with the roll-out of temporary accommodation is also becoming an area of focus.

##### **Welfare**

- 4.6 Civil Defence Centres (CDCs) and Community Led Centres (CLCs) have operated to provide shelter, food and emergency accommodation for persons displaced or otherwise affected. The Hastings Sports Centre opened on Monday 13 February 2023 in preparation for impacts from the forecast weather.
- 4.7 Council has operated CDCs at the Sports Centre and the Flaxmere Community Centre, and has supported CLCs at Waipatu Marae, Te Aranga Marae, the Malamalama Samoan Church, the Cook Island Hall, St. Andrews Hall, and Ascend Church. Food, water and items such as bedding, clothing and towels have been supplied by Council and via community donations to support those needing shelter/accommodation.
- 4.8 Council staff and volunteers have operated CDCs. CLCs have been operated by community organisations – host Marae, churches and community organisations. The value of these community

efforts cannot be overstated. Council staff have also supported the CDC established by Napier City Council at Bay View supporting the Esk Valley and Whirinaki communities.

- 4.9 Several hundred people have been supported through these centres with a peak of up to 650 persons per night through the first week of the response. This figure has included up to 250 RSE workers at various times through the period following the cyclone event. Work is now underway to find temporary accommodation for displaced persons, however at the time of writing some 56 persons were still being accommodated overnight at centres. The majority of these are RSE workers.
- 4.10 Welfare operations have also focused on getting supplies and medical needs to isolated communities and communities requiring specific attention. This activity has taken place in coordination with Group CDEM. Due to damage to road infrastructure (see above), much of the early distribution of food and other critical supplies (fuel for generators) relied on helicopters and military transport which are tasked via Group. This cooperation is ongoing, particularly for areas requiring helicopter access.
- 4.11 An operational programme aimed at ensuring supply of and provision of targeted assistance to rural, isolated and highly impacted communities is a key focus of ongoing IMT operations.
- 4.12 The need for financial assistance from the community has been high, with the Ministry of Social Development processing over 24,000 requests to date totalling over \$14,000,000 in cyclone related grants regionally. The Hawkes Bay Disaster Relief Trust has been used to provide additional financial support to residents and ratepayers of the Hawke's Bay region who have been affected by Ex-cyclone Gabrielle. In line with the approach of other councils, the Hastings District Mayoral Relief Fund has also been created to collect and allocate donations within the Hastings District.

#### **Infrastructure, safety and restoration of services**

- 4.13 There has been a major refocussing of resources away from Business-as-usual (BAU) and on to response and recovery activity. Eighty-five (85) works crews have been assigned to infrastructure response activities, with significant consulting and staff resource also engaged in response and recovery. The Council is currently spending around \$600,000 per day on roading repairs and access restoration.
- 4.14 Actions taken in the infrastructure area include:
- Preparatory stormwater operations (network preparation prior to the event) and post event clean-up, drain clearing and repairs
  - Initial clearance of fallen trees and debris from roads
  - Inspections of damage to roading network
  - Clearing and repair of slips and damage to road network
  - Silt removal from roads and roadsides to help re-establish/maintain/make safe roading links
  - Construction of interim access solutions
  - Design of temporary bridge solutions
  - Planning for more complex repair works where dropouts and significant damage has occurred
  - Operation of water supply and wastewater treatment plant without mains power supply, and emergency remediation works at sites damaged
  - Clean up and repairs to Ōmarunui Landfill and reopening of road access, and restoration of waste and recycling services
  - Establishing areas of land to receive silt, green waste and contaminated/damaged household contents for processing for disposal

- As resources permit, tree clearance and safety operations in parks and reserves

4.15 Repair and clean-up work is continuing. For some roading assets, this work is expected to take months to return to normal operating conditions.

4.16 Infrastructure will also be a key area of focus in recovery work. Recovery planning will address, among other things, questions as to how infrastructure and built form can be made more resilient, and where assets should be rebuilt or, in the alternative, replaced in a different location.

### **Building Inspections**

4.17 In order to ensure community safety, building staff quickly began undertaking RAPID building inspections of affected homes. As of 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023, 833 property assessments had been carried out. Of these, 78 assessments resulted in Red Placards being issued, and 666 resulted in Yellow Placards being issued.

4.18 The HDC building team has been augmented in this work by building inspectors from 21 other councils around New Zealand and staff from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.

4.19 There are still further assessments to be undertaken, particularly in areas that have been difficult to access to date.

4.20 Red Placards signal that the building should not be entered. Yellow Placards can mean the building should only be entered for a limited time (Y2 Placards) or that parts of the building can be occupied but not others (Y1 Placards).

4.21 Of the Yellow Placards issued to date, 573 are in the Y2 category.

4.22 The data gathered from these inspections will be used for building purposes. In accordance with the Civil Defence National Emergencies (Information Sharing) Code 2020 (issued under the Privacy Act 2020), which is in force during a National State of Emergency, the data is also being shared with other Government agencies involved in managing the emergency (e.g., MSD) to enable humanitarian assistance (e.g., temporary housing assistance) to be offered to those affected.

4.23 The Regulatory Group are in the process of setting up a Building Recovery unit which will be operational by Monday 6 March 2023. The Group Manager and Building Consent Manager are presently dealing with a range of issues and questions around the placard system. Building staff are also supporting the Mayor and elected representatives at hub meetings as required.

### **Waste Recovery/Disposal**

4.24 After restoration of service capacity at Ōmarunui Landfill, Council has acted to restore regular kerbside waste and recycling services and deal with the additional waste issues created by impacts from Ex-cyclone Gabrielle. These issues include damaged/contaminated household items from flooding and silt inundation, silt obstructing road corridors, and contaminated silt and septic tank contents.

4.25 Council has initiated additional contractor capacity to collect stockpiled flood damaged household waste from flood affected properties. These services are being approached in a programmed way to achieve maximum cost-effectiveness. Residents are not being charged for this service.

4.26 The timeframe for completing this work is difficult to estimate as the volume of this waste is difficult to quantify at this stage. Furthermore, the transportation time is problematic from the areas north of the Tutaekuri River (with increased travel times currently). Work is being done with Napier City to look at possible sites north of the river to reduce transport times for both Councils.

4.27 Allied to this collection work, specialist processing and disposal sites are being established to deal with the waste collected. Chesterhope Station is being used as a temporary processing point for silt and the “mulching” of household rubbish to reduce volume before disposal at Ōmarunui. This site is operational and rough order estimates of the total waste stream is in the order of 4,000 cubic metres per day. A specialist landfill facility for contaminated silt (from septic tanks) is being planned

and urgently delivered at Ōkaihau Quarry in Ōkaihau Road. This is due to be operational around 10 March 2023. Forecast cost estimates are still being compiled in respect of these initiatives.

- 4.28 It is noted that these services are un-budgeted and may not be fully recoverable from NEMA/Government or insurance.
- 4.29 Council needs to be cautious in considering the extent to which it becomes involved in issues such as silt clearance and land 'rehabilitation'. While providing assistance to affected households for waste is a policy and service choice with public health and humanitarian justifications, involvement in large scale silt clearance, particularly from commercial horticulture and farming operations, may be a different matter. Council is likely to lack both the financial capability and the policy justification to play a significant role in silt clearance or other 'rehabilitation' of privately held land. It is noted that the Hawke's Bay Regional Council is offering to collect and repurpose for other uses silt from farms and orchards/vineyards that has low levels of contamination or is uncontaminated.

#### Financial impacts

- 4.30 Rightly, Council is applying significant financial resource to helping its community in a time of extreme hardship and need for many. Community assistance in time of emergency is a core function of councils and indeed the wider governmental sector.
- 4.31 At the time of writing Council had incurred financial commitments of \$1.3 Million in supporting the response to Ex-cyclone Gabrielle. This excludes expenditure being incurred on the roading network and three waters infrastructure.
- 4.32 While the cost of the response is significant, Council is not alone in meeting the cost of the response. In addition to rates and loan funding, the following are funding sources that are likely to be available:
- Material Damage Insurance will cover the cost of repairing and replacing above ground water infrastructure like pumps and water treatment facilities and damage to community assets that were affected by flood waters like the Pākowhai Hall, the Landfill Kiosk and water ingress to Splash Planet and the Hastings Sports Centre.
  - Bridge insurance through the Manawatu Wanganui LASS Catastrophe Cover.
  - Council's Catastrophe insurance through LAPP may be available if the claim for below ground waters infrastructure is greater than \$1,500,000. If a claim is made under our LAPP cover there will be a \$600,000 deductible with LAPP covering 40% of the cost and the Government the other 60%.
  - Waka Kōtahi transports subsidy of 53% plus an accelerated subsidy of a further 20%.
  - NEMA reimbursement for the costs of looking after the care and welfare of the displaced. This covers support for CDCs and CLCs and for isolated communities. While HDC has had a major role in coordinating intelligence and logistics for the supply of food, water and fuel to our remote and affected communities, much of this has been largely dispatched through the Group EEC response and is likely to be a cost incurred largely by the Hawkes Bay Regional Council.
  - NEMA may also reimburse 60% of other response costs above the Council's threshold. In terms of the threshold for Hastings District Council, the Guide to the National Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan 2015 states that *"Government policy is to reimburse 60 percent of other eligible response costs, combined with essential infrastructure recovery repair costs, above a threshold of: 0.0075 percent of the net capital value of the city council, district council or unitary authority involved."*
- 4.33 There are also costs that Council is incurring that, while necessary during the response, may not fit into any of the above funding sources and will require specific requests from Central Government

for support. The most significant of these is the collection of flood damaged household effects. There is a risk that not all costs will be eligible or accepted for reimbursement.

### **Response Priorities, Recovery Planning and Overall Council Priorities**

4.34 Current response priorities are:

- Communication with and needs assessment for isolated and highly impacted communities
- Provision of welfare assistance/resources to isolated communities and other communities and residents in need
- Establishment/support for/resourcing of rural community hubs as required – transitioning to Recovery Hubs that are supported by multiple agencies including insurance, MSD, Temporary Accommodation Services (TAS – a part of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment), Building Navigators etc.
- Effective coordination with Group and Emergency Services, and effective co-response with other councils, Marae, iwi organisations, communities, NGOs and business
- Delivery of infrastructure priorities (including restoring access to isolated communities and waste disposal and recovery services).
- Continuation of Building Assessment programme and establishment of building recovery team
- Provision of quality public information
- Planning for transition response to recovery
- Establishment of a centralised multiagency Recovery Hub at 104 Heretaunga West which includes representatives from all major insurance companies

4.35 Alongside these response priorities is a strong focus on maintaining (or restoring) delivery of Council essential services.

4.36 Welfare assistance to residents and communities in need is a central purpose of CDEM. The level of welfare support and supply of provisions to communities will need to be kept under review as the emergency evolves. As access to isolated communities is restored and residents are able to travel, the justification for continued welfare support will reduce. The Council also needs to be mindful of NEMA guidelines and requirements on welfare assistance and reimbursement of welfare costs. As noted above, Council is spending significant financial resources on supporting the welfare needs of residents and isolated communities. It should be able to recover a significant proportion of those costs from Government, but this will only be possible where expenditure is consistent with NEMA guidelines/requirements.

4.37 As noted above, the general basis for a claim for reimbursement set out by NEMA is that 100% of eligible welfare costs will be reimbursed along with 60% of other eligible response costs above a set threshold for the Council. While the policy is broad in its application, claims will be scrutinised by NEMA and not all costs incurred in supporting our community will be claimable.

4.38 Recovery from the emergency is as vital as the emergency response itself. The Government has appointed a Minister for Cyclone Recovery (Minister Robertson) as well as lead Ministers for each of the affected regions (Minister Nash for Hawke's Bay). Sir Brian Roche has been appointed to lead the cyclone recovery taskforce.

4.39 Within this framework, discussions have been held between councils, iwi Chairs and business leaders in relation to regional recovery arrangements, and discussions relating to this are also being held with Minister Nash. These discussions are ongoing at the current time. Thought is also being given to arrangements for local recovery, and staff are currently preparing the initial aspects of a transition plan from Response to Recovery.

- 4.40 Recovery will not be a single agency task. While agencies will take responsibility for their own assets and 'domains', recovery efforts will need to be collaborative across localities and the region, and across the various pillars of recovery (including economic, cultural, environmental, social/community, infrastructure). Engagement with key partners and stakeholders will be critical in achieving a joined up and effective recovery. Local government, iwi partners, business, government agencies and key community organisations will all be among critical partners within the local recovery.
- 4.41 Economic recovery will be an important pillar. There has been significant damage to primary industries sector across Hawke's Bay. While there are still strong and viable industries across Hawke's Bay, the impact suffered will have flow on effects to other industries/businesses and to the communities that derive incomes from affected businesses. Government and local government organisations and other partners will need to place a high degree of focus on how they can support business confidence in Hawke's Bay as businesses work through their recovery and investment decisions.
- 4.42 In terms of public investment decisions that support business confidence, flood protection works are likely to be a high priority. This area of infrastructure has been a Regional Council responsibility; however, it is something that Council should be both highlighting the importance of (within the region and to Government), and providing strong support to the HBRC to lead the investment decisions required. The resilience that flood protection works provide for business and urban and rural communities will be of vital importance in the recovery framework for Hawke's Bay. It is pleasing to note that HBRC has been active in this space already and is coming to brief the Hastings District Council in the next week.
- 4.43 Ex-cyclone Gabrielle has significantly changed the operating context for Hastings District Council, the wider region and indeed the country as a whole. While Council is rightly focused on response activities and the immediate needs of communities, and increasingly on recovery activities, thought will also need to be given as to how the event necessitates changes in Council's strategy and overall priorities. As noted above, recovery will be a medium to long-term, multi-party endeavour. Council is unlikely to be able to undertake the significant recovery activities required in addition to all of the strategic priorities currently in the LTP and otherwise 'on its books'. As Council gradually turns back toward its normal planning and business processes, consideration will need to be given to how priorities need to change in light of the impacts from Gabrielle.

## 5.0 Next steps – *Te Anga Whakamua*

- 5.1 Work on response activity and recovery planning will continue in order to meet community needs and legislative obligations. The Council will engage in both regional and local recovery discussions with appropriate partners to help shape appropriate recovery plans. Part of preparing for those discussions will be drawing together recovery focused information in relation to the assets and other areas of responsibility Council has stewardship over. This work is commencing already and will be presented to Council and relevant partners at the appropriate juncture.

### Attachments:

There are no attachments for this report.