

Monday, 16 September 2024

Te Hui o Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga

Hastings District Council

Hastings District Rural Community Board Meeting

Kaupapataka

Attachment Vol 1

Te Rā Hui:
Meeting date: **Monday, 16 September 2024**

Te Wā:
Time: **2.00pm**

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

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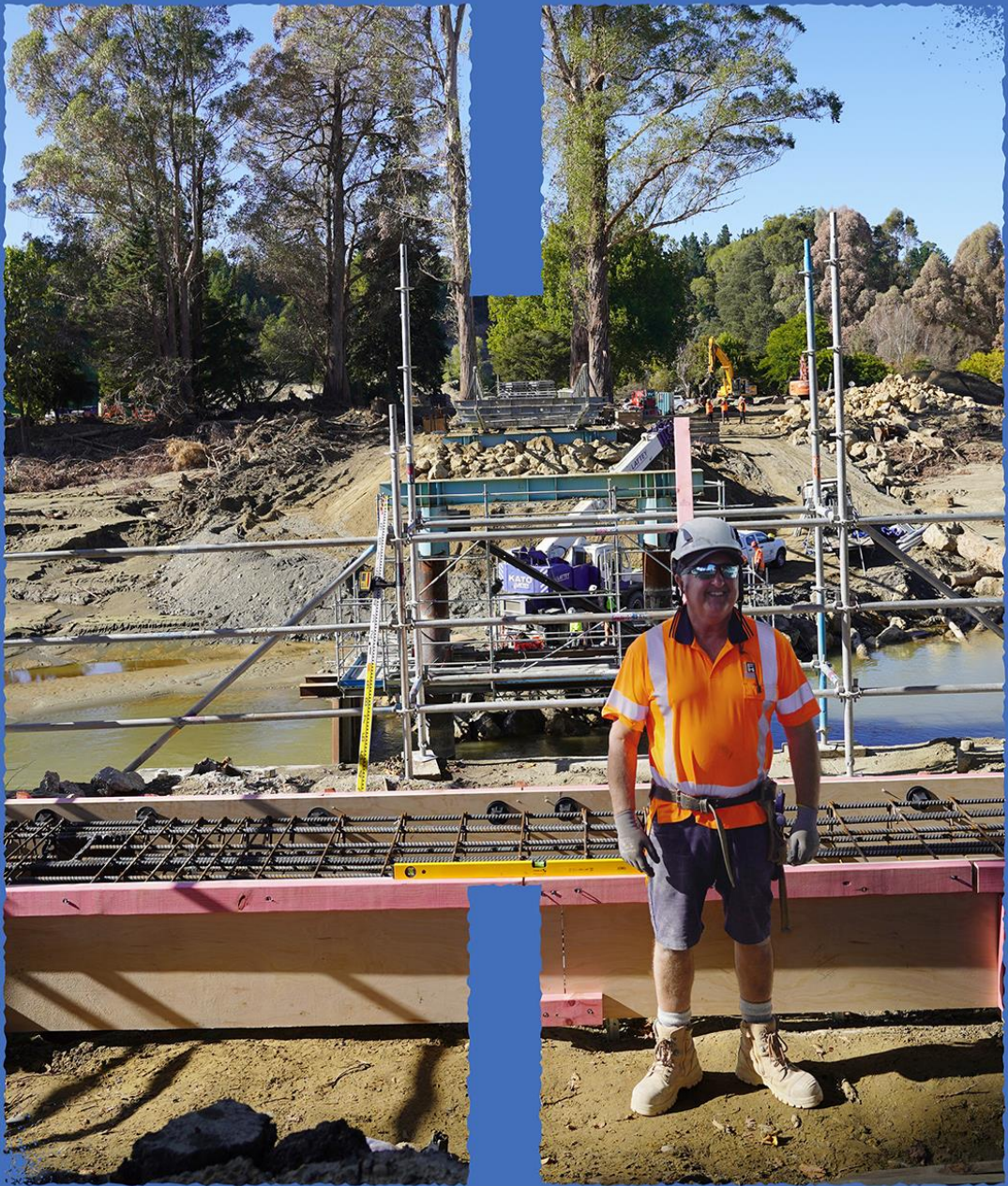
HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL
207 Lyndon Road East, Hastings 4122 | Private Bag 9002, Hastings 4156
Phone **06 871 5000** | www.hastingsdc.govt.nz
TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O HERETAUNGA

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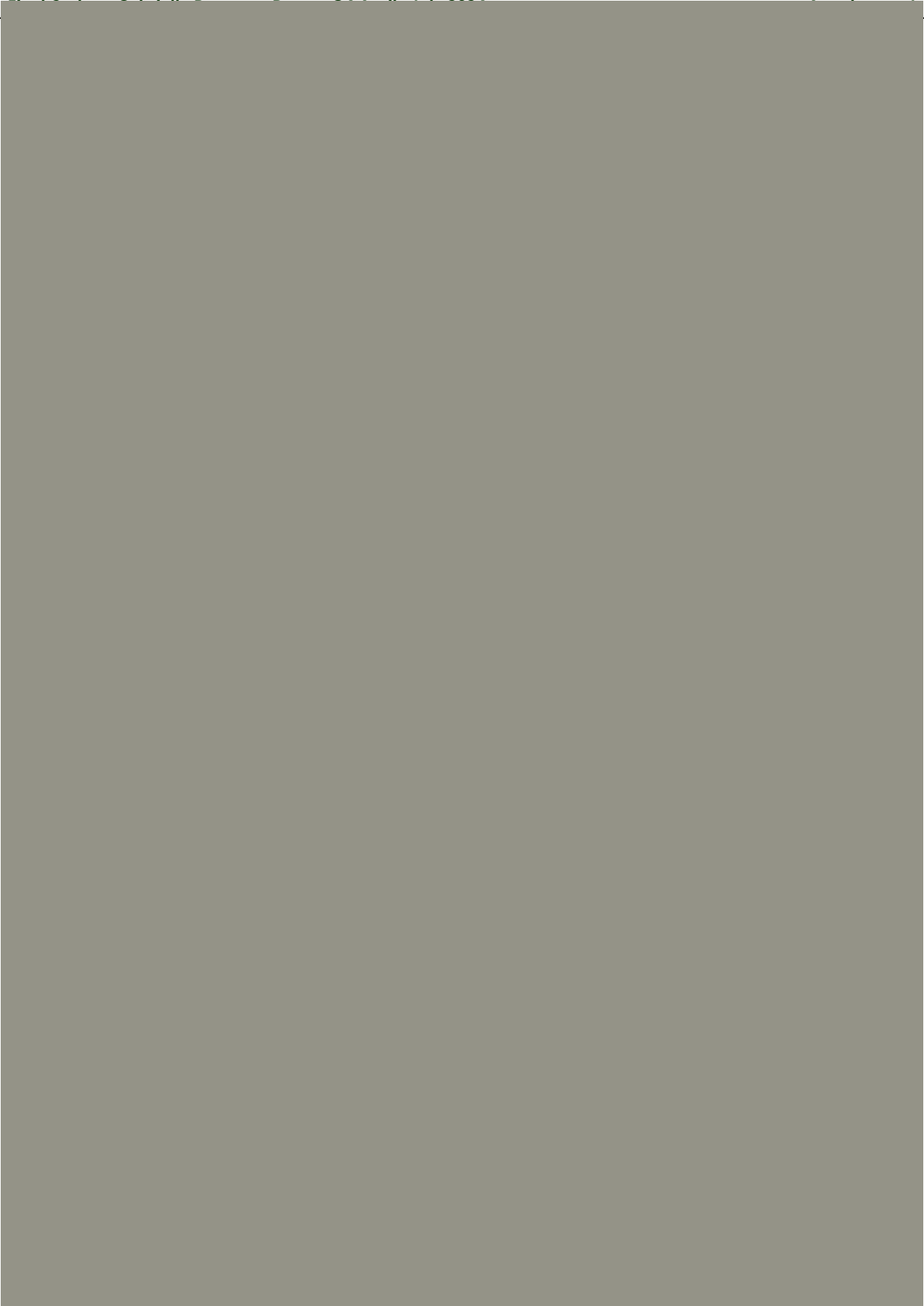
**HERETAUNGA
HASTINGS** DISTRICT COUNCIL

TE RĪPOATA WHAKATIKA I
TE HURIPARI KAPERIERE
**CYCLONE GABRIELLE
RECOVERY REPORT**

QUARTER 4, APRIL - JULY 2024



Item 5



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PURPOSE

The purpose of this quarterly report to the Strategy & Recovery Committee is to:

- Report on progress in meeting recovery outcomes. This is a key distinction between this report and the recovery reporting that goes to the Performance and Monitoring Committee.
- Report on milestones that have been achieved in the previous quarter and what is expected in the next quarter.
- Highlight any new activities that have been identified for the Recovery Framework since the last update to the Committee and, as appropriate, seek governance direction and approval.
- Make recommendations for Committee consideration and decisions as appropriate.

STRUCTURE & REPORTING

This report utilises the structure of the Hastings District Council (HDC) Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Framework.

The Recovery Framework has six main Pou or workstreams – Resilient Infrastructure, Whānau and Community Resilience, the Category 3 Voluntary Buyout Office and Buyout programme, Environmental Resilience, Economic Growth and Primary Sector.

The Recovery Pou are supported by the Support Pou, consisting of coordination, funding and finance, communications & engagement and building recovery. These support functions have been included to ensure a full picture of the recovery work programme can be communicated.

Council and our community need to receive clear and efficient reporting of the progress being made across our cyclone recovery work. To help achieve this, the following information has been provided to form this ongoing quarterly update to the Strategy and Recovery Committee:

- **The Strategy and Recovery Quarterly Report – (this document)**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BUDGET 2024 – THE HAWKE'S BAY RECOVERY

Budget 2024 delivered \$330 million for local road response and recovery work out to June 2025, to be shared among regions affected by the 2023 North Island weather events including Cyclone Gabrielle. \$91 million has been earmarked for Hawke's Bay in year one.

The funding provided is to the end of the 2024/25 year. The Minister has written to the region's Mayors acknowledging that work to fully reinstate our region's local roads will take longer than a year. He advised that only one year of additional funding was provided at this stage due to fiscal constraints and cost uncertainty, but said he expects NZTA to work closely with local authorities to develop further cost estimates that could inform a future funding request to the Government.

About \$700 million of additional investment is required over the next few years.

PROGRESS FROM THE INDEPENDENT REVIEW INTO THE HBCDEM RESPONSE TO CYCLONE GABRIELLE

The Independent Review into the Hawke's Bay Civil Defence & Emergency Management (HBCDEM) response to the cyclone was released earlier this year. The review and its findings were reported in the last Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Report presented to the Strategy and Recovery Committee in May 2024. The review contained nine tier one recommendations and a further 66 tier two recommendations (it is available online: <https://www.hbemergency.govt.nz/cyclone-gabrielle-review/review-release/>)

Since the release of the review's findings, HBCDEM has been recruiting for a Director of Transformation. Post Cyclone Gabrielle, this role will need to drive the transformation of the

HBCDEM system as outlined in the review's recommendations to ensure robust and effective disaster management and future preparedness for the region.

This role will be directing and leading the implementation of a prioritised action plan based on the recommendations from the review, ensuring that the HBCDEM system is fit for purpose, enables effective delivery of the 4Rs (Reduction, Readiness, Response, Recovery) and prepares our region for future significant events.

This action plan is likely to have an impact on all agencies across the CDEM Group system, including the HDC CDEM related work programme.

NORTH ISLAND SEVERE WEATHER EVENTS RESPONSE – NEMA LESSONS REPORT

The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) released in May its internal review of its operational response to the North Island Severe Weather events, including Cyclone Gabrielle.

NEMA's review was internally focused on the functional capacity of the systems, processes, internal policies, people capability and infrastructure used and/or directed by NEMA during the response.

The review drew on inputs from NEMA's own staff that were validated by Civil Defence Emergency Management Groups and other agencies that were involved in the response and early recovery planning.

Some of the key lessons include:

- Science, intelligence and geospatial capability and capacity need to be enhanced to build situational awareness and support decision making during emergencies.

- There continues to be a need for a shared, system-wide “single source of the truth” (Common Operating Picture).
- The NCC/NCMC facility is not fit for purpose especially for a response of this scale. NEMA and NCC/NCMC IT was not reliable.
- Deployment of emergency management professionals into the regions was vital to support emergency response operations at local and regional levels.
- NEMA should build on the selection, training and exercising for emergency management sector deployments to grow capability and capacity to meet future demand.
- NEMA's well-established relationships across the all-of-government network, and internationally, served us well in our lead agency capacity.

Read the final report here –

[North Island Severe Weather Events Response Internal Operational Lessons Report » National Emergency Management Agency \(civildefence.govt.nz\)](#)

NIWA MODELLING OF CYCLONE GABRIELLE FLOODING

Copied from [NIWA modelling of Cyclone Gabrielle flooding | Hawke's Bay Regional Council \(hbrc.govt.nz\)](#)

HBRC have released a preliminary report from NIWA which analysed the flood flows during Cyclone Gabrielle to understand the estimated return periods at specific flooding sites around the region. NIWA's analysis underlines the extraordinary magnitude of the event. At 13 of the 20 sites, it was deemed the largest flood on record. Pre-Cyclone Gabrielle, the probability of a flood this size occurring in a given year, known as an Annual Recurrence Interval (ARI), was as high as a one in 1,000-year event at one river site, according to NIWA's modelling. Post-Gabrielle, that probability has changed to a one in 550-year event for that site – meaning the cyclone has changed the standard forever.

HBRC is now working with urgency to fill gaps in data and understand if there are any implications of this new information on both its existing flood protections schemes as well as plans for new

flood protection schemes in Category 2 areas. The full detailed report is due out shortly.

GOVERNMENT INQUIRY INTO THE RESPONSE TO THE NORTH ISLAND SEVERE WEATHER EVENTS

The Government Inquiry into the Response to the North Island Severe Weather Events commenced on 31 July 2023.

The purpose of the Inquiry was to ensure that the design of New Zealand's emergency management system is appropriate to support readiness for, and responses to, future emergency events (landslides, tsunamis, earthquake, volcanic activity, floods, and storms) by identifying lessons from three severe weather events that impacted the North Island:

- Cyclone Hale, from 8 to 12 January 2023,
- Heavy rainfall from 26 January to 3 February 2023 and
- Cyclone Gabrielle from 12 to 16 February 2023.

The Inquiry reported back to the Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery on 26 March 2024.

The report found that in some places the system failed completely, and it did not enable people to properly prepare or respond to the disaster around them.

Public warnings and communication were non-existent or insufficient, and the capability and capacity of civil defence staff and infrastructure was overestimated or lacking.

Communities told the inquiry they felt completely let down by Civil Defence.

The inquiry makes 14 recommendations:

- **Put people and their communities at the heart of an integrated emergency management system.** The government must write into law a community-led emergency management model that explicitly recognises the knowledge and capability of iwi Māori, businesses, and local communities. Communities must be included in planning and response and educated about how to prepare for emergencies.

- **Utilise the value of the wider government ecosystem** including expanding the Defence Force's role to better use their specialist skills like logistics and air coordination.
- **Optimise the effort of iwi Māori**, including legislating to enable iwi to be part of emergency planning and response.
- **Invest in NEMA's primary function:** leading readiness and response. Other responsibilities should be shifted elsewhere - for example, welfare coordination should sit with the Ministry of Social Development.
- **Clarify roles in emergency management**, explicitly stating the roles of central, regional and local government in a national state of emergency.
- **Increase capability and capacity in emergency management** - including building a larger pool of controllers and other specialists and establishing at least three full-time Emergency Management Assistance Teams that can be deployed to emergencies.
- **Build a fit-for-purpose National Crisis Management Centre**, as well as a back-up centre outside Wellington.
- **Improve real-time situational awareness**, including introducing a single common operating platform to be adopted by every council and NEMA, and reviewing the 111 system so information is shared between police, fire and ambulance services to help them respond efficiently.
- **Develop a comprehensive warning system** for the public that covers all natural hazards and works even when digital technology fails.
- **Amend the three-day self-sufficiency guidance** so people are prepared to be self-sufficient for at least a week - or two weeks, for isolated communities.
- **Restore power and telecommunications early** and improve electricity resilience.
- **Formally recognise a wider group of critical infrastructure entities** - adding supermarkets, waste management, flood protection systems, and water and river management systems.

- **Bulk up investment in reduction and readiness activities**, including increasing the existing fund communities can apply to support their readiness and resilience efforts.
- **Update the way response costs are distributed**, including shifting the administration of welfare-related costs from NEMA to the Ministry of Social Development, and reviewing the reimbursement process for non-welfare costs to allow money to flow more freely.

The report says that even if fully implemented, the recommendations alone will not result in a fit-for-purpose emergency management system.

The report stresses that everyone involved in the responses had the best of intentions, and that communities "courageously supported each other" during the unfolding crises.

The inquiry conducted more than 200 interviews, and the public also gave submissions.

HAWKE'S BAY INDEPENDENT FLOOD REVIEW - PAE MATAWAI PARAWHENUA

The report from the independent review into the circumstances and contributing factors that led to flooding in the wake of Cyclone Gabrielle was presented to Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC) last week.

The review looked at HBRC's flood management schemes and programmes from Wairoa to Pōrangahau, and how each performed, and the decisions made by HBRC during the cyclone. The Review has made 47 recommendations across seven key areas to improve flood resilience, including:

Key areas of focus:

- Structural works (14 recommendations)
- Flood event management (7 recommendations)
- Planning controls (8 recommendations)
- River channel maintenance (6 recommendations)
- Mana whenua (6 recommendations)
- Community (3 recommendations)
- HBRC Resourcing and funding (3 recommendations)

The Review's key findings included:

- A lack of planning and preparedness for events exceeding the capacity of stopbank systems which was apparent in the many unprotected floodplains of the region.
- Flood risk had been underestimated in a number of locations because large historic floods had not been included in the analysis of flood size.
- There was limited detail or wider understanding of trigger levels and likely areas of inundation for warnings and evacuations to be effective.
- The failure of the repeater supporting some of HBRC's telemetry system and the loss of, and damage to, some water level and rainfall measuring equipment which was key to HBRC's crucial responsibility of providing accurate and timely flood forecasting and advice to territorial authorities and Civil Defence so they can warn communities and initiate evacuations.
- Staff being overwhelmed by the sheer scale of the event meant there were many challenges for HBRC in providing accurate and timely flood forecasts and advice to Civil Defence.

More information can be found here - [The Review — Hawke's Bay Independent Flood Relief \(hbifr.nz\)](#)

SUMMARY OF CYCLONE REVIEWS

Given the number of reviews conducted following the North Island weather events of 2023, officers have compiled a summary of recommendations that apply to the emergency management operations of Hastings District Council during the readiness, response and recovery stages of an event.

The following reports were analysed:

- Independent External Review for HB CD&EM Group (2024)
- Report of the Government Inquiry into the Response to the North Island Severe Weather Events (2024),
- FENZ Operational Review (2024)
- Independent Review: Napier City Council response to Cyclone Gabrielle (2023)
- Independent External Review: Auckland Flood Response Review (2023).

The principal recommendation to action for Council will be the inclusion of a Common Operating Platform into the operations of IMT responses.

This will address several issues identified from the reports, and greatly improve Council's capacity to respond effectively in the areas most in need during an event, due to the vast improvement in situational awareness.

The below recommendations appeared across several reviews:

REVIEW RECOMMENDATION	ACTION FOR HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL
CIMS training needs to be rolled out comprehensively to all staff that may be involved in a response	New regional training pathway underway.
Legislate for and invest in a single common operating platform for Response teams to use.	Deployment of operating platform underway for HDC.
The common operating platform and operating picture came up repeatedly across all reviews, with a recommendation that NEMA develop a standardised one to be rolled out nationwide.	
Develop clear and robust SOPs/roles and responsibilities for each CIMS function lead and agency (local vs. regional).	Underway as part of the deployment of the platform. Further work to be done on regional versus local responsibilities.
Ensure a suitable EOC is identified ahead of time that can support IMT team operations.	This is an area for further discussion.
Ensure EOCs have resilient communications infrastructure.	This is an area for further discussion.
Incorporate the CIMS model into other aspects of the council's operations (such as infrastructure failure events) to give staff an opportunity to develop their skills, and gain experience in using the framework.	This is an area for discussion with the operational teams.

Incorporate Iwi into every stage of a response (including readiness) to leverage their knowledge, and resources	Council is working with the HBCDEM Group Office and Te Puni Kōkiri to explore how this can be achieved.
CDEM Groups should be running region wide scenarios, with mayors, external partners (FENZ, Police, Unison, etc) and CEs.	Council to include Mayor and Councillors as appropriate in Council-led exercises in the future.
Collaboration with external CDEM partners (FENZ, Police, Unison, etc) is lacking, regional exercises will improve CDEM cohesion.	Council to include other agencies in Council-led exercises in the future.



KŌRERO WHAKATIKA RECOVERY POU UPDATES

CATEGORY 3 VOLUNTARY BUY-OUT POU

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the Category 3 Voluntary Buy-out Programme (VBP) is to remove intolerable risk to life from any future flood events in Category 3 areas and to provide some certainty for flood impacted property owners so they can move forward with their lives and settle somewhere safer.

In August 2023, the Crown announced a cyclone recovery funding package for Hawke's Bay, which included a 50:50 cost sharing agreement with Hastings District Council and Napier City Council for the voluntary purchase of residential Category 3 properties with a dwelling or, in the case of larger and/or mixed-use properties with a dwelling, the payment of a relocation grant.

In September 2023, the councils each adopted an amendment to their Long-Term Plans to enable this new activity of making purchase offers to acquire Category 3 land, as well as the Category 3 Voluntary Buy-out Policy (the 'Policy') which sets out how the purchases will be undertaken.

This programme of work has its own pou/pillar under the Recovery Framework as it is a significant and complex undertaking involving up to \$100m of ratepayer and taxpayer funds.

The dashboard below shows the progress being made in the different stages of the voluntary buy-out process. This includes properties across the Hastings District and Napier City.

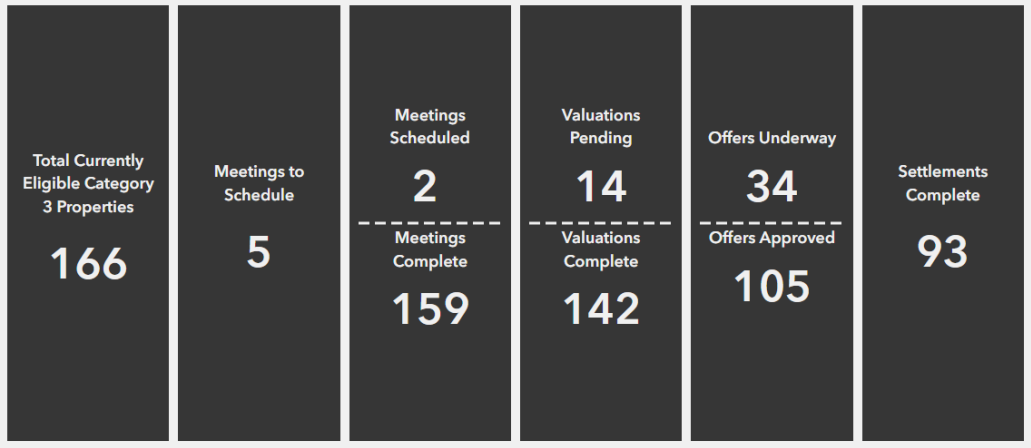
PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS (AS AT 25 JULY 2024)

- Around 97% of Category 3 property owners actively engaging in process.
- 84% of eligible property owners have received an offer.
- Nearly 75% have approved the offer and 54% have settled.
- Demolition is complete (or not needed) for 33% of properties.
- There are currently 7 outstanding Council valuation reports and 10 outstanding Owner commissioned valuation reports. Some remaining valuations are complex. There are a small handful of remaining valuations to be commissioned.
- Forecasts of the full cost of the programme continue to indicate Council will come in around the \$50m cap.
- Looking ahead the VBO continues to proactively engage with remaining owners.
- Expect over 90% of owners will have reached a decision before 24 Oct 2024 (one year since opening).
- A small number of cases may require longer to work through specific options/issues. There will be a small number of owners who having gone through the process may chose not to accept offer.

PROGRESS

The dashboard below shows progress as at 25 July 2024, being made in the different stages of the voluntary buy-out process and includes both Hastings and Napier properties. See below the dashboard for a glossary of terms.

Note, there are around 20 offers in the legal documentation stage where owners have indicated they will accept the offer and the sale and purchase agreements are being prepared.



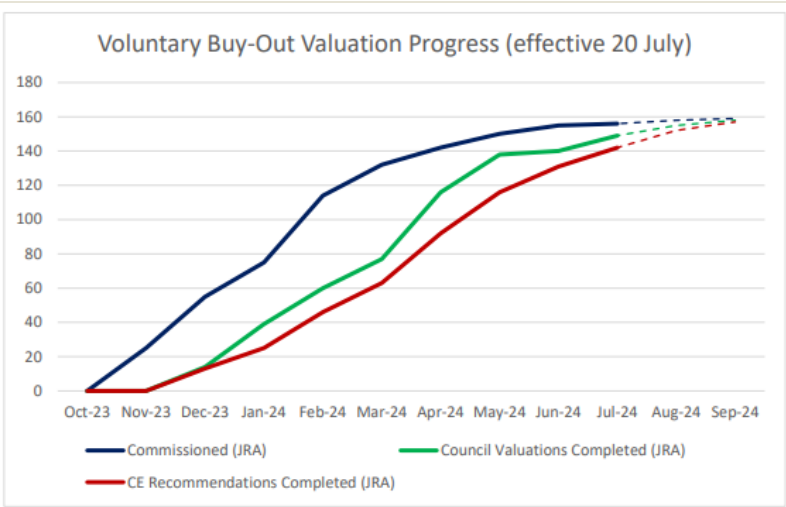
Dashboard heading	Definition	Notes
Total Currently Eligible Category 3 Properties	Category 3 properties that contained a house as at 13 February 2023, or the Councils are satisfied that there was a clear intention to build a residential dwelling for the owner or their family.	The number of eligible properties will reflect those properties that contained a house as at 13 February 2023 and those considered eligible via the 'special circumstances' process.
Meetings to Schedule	Eligible category 3 properties that have not yet organised their first meeting with the Voluntary Buy-out Office (VBO).	All owners of eligible category 3 properties have been contacted by the VBO, but some have not yet organised their first meeting.
Meetings Scheduled	Eligible category 3 properties that have a date and time confirmed for their first meeting with the VBO.	Category 3 homeowners can organise a meeting via their dedicated category 3 connector.
Meetings Complete	Eligible category 3 properties that have completed their first meeting with the VBO.	After the first meeting, information about the property is gathered and handover notes prepared for the valuation process.
Valuations Pending	Eligible category 3 properties that have been allocated to one of Council's panel valuers.	Owners may also elect to obtain their own valuation, which is not included in the dashboard number.
Valuations Complete	Eligible category 3 properties that have progressed through the valuation process.	This step is complete once the Councils' Valuation Manager has completed his review of the valuation(s).
Offers Underway	Basis of offer reviewed by Independent Advisory Panel and offer made to owner.	This covers the period from the offer being sent to the owner, to the offer being fully signed.
Offers Approved	Offers fully signed, i.e. signed by the owners and Council's Chief Executive.	A binding agreement has been reached.
Settlements Complete	Eligible category 3 properties that have received payment as agreed with Council.	Ownership of the property or residential improvements transfers to Council.

VALUATIONS

156 valuations, representing 94% of all properties, have been commissioned. 86% of valuations have been completed.

There are currently 7 outstanding Council valuation reports and 10 outstanding Owner commissioned valuation reports. Some remaining valuations are complex.

VOLUNTARY BUY-OUT VALUATION
PROGRESS



UPDATED FINANCIAL FORECASTS
FOR VOLUNTARY BUY-OUT

KEY POINTS

- At this point in the programme financial forecasts estimate costs of the programme at around \$50m for Hastings District Council and \$4m for Napier City Council.
- These estimates place Hastings District Council at the cap, and Napier City Council just below its cap, that have been established through the funding agreement with the Crown (the 'Hawke's Bay Crown Funding Agreement' – <https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/assets/Document-Library/Cyclone-Land-Categorisation-Documents/Hawkes-Bay-Crown-Funding-Agreement.pdf>).

Total HDC costs	\$50m (cap \$50m)	Total NCC costs	\$4.0m (cap \$5m)
Includes:		Includes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">50% HDC Property Purchases/Relocation GrantsHDC share of "Transaction costs" (valuation, acquisition, direct VBO salary costs)VBO running costs + policy development costs (HDC/NCC cost share)Tangoio Beach settlement propertiesEstimated <u>net</u> demolition costs.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">50% NCC Property Purchases/Relocation GrantsNCC share of "Transaction costs" (valuation, acquisition, direct VBO salary costs)VBO running costs + policy development costs (HDC/NCC cost share)Estimated <u>net</u> demolition costs.	

DATE SET FOR VOLUNTARY BUY-OUT OFFICE TO CLOSE

Given the significant progress that is being made with the voluntary buy-out programme, Hastings District Council and Napier City Council have agreed to formally close the Voluntary Buy-out Office (VBO) at the end of the year.

Provision will be made to continue to assist a small number of owners with more complex cases if needed.

The Voluntary Buy-out Policy will continue to apply for eligible Category 3 properties until the last owner who has engaged in good faith in the programme prior to August 31, 2024, has been supported through to settlement or chooses to opt out of the process.

Owners who have not yet engaged in the programme, or who have stalled for some reason, have been encouraged to make final decisions on whether they would like to engage, or re-engage, in the programme by August 31, 2024.

DEMOLITION OF CATEGORY 3 PROPERTIES

The first demolition of a cyclone-damaged house was marked by Council, signalling another step in the recovery for one Pakowhai couple who have been going through the Category 3 voluntary property buyout process.

Katrina and Ian Simmond's Gilbertson Rd house, built in the 1920s, and which they had lived in for 21 years, is one of 166 properties across Napier and Hastings that were severely damaged in Cyclone Gabrielle and eligible for the buy-out.

The arrival of the excavator and start of the deconstruction of the property was another step in a long process, said Katrina.

"To go through something like this can be soul-destroying. For us, it's good to be at this point – we've moved to a new home and are feeling settled, and we can now just move on with our lives.

"It's been a long process but everyone we have worked with at council through the buyout process has been respectful and supportive.

"We had a lot of help from our community after the event, and we are very grateful to live in a community that supports people to get back on their feet."

The pair was mindful that every situation was different, and that people were at different stages and wanted different things out of the process, but said for them, having found a new property to live in elsewhere, it was the path they chose in order to move on.

The Category 3 voluntary buy-out programme was established to remove intolerable risk to life, and to provide some certainty for flood impacted property owners so they could move forward with their lives and settle somewhere safer.

In August last year, the Crown announced a cyclone recovery funding package for Hawke's Bay, which included a 50:50 cost sharing agreement with Hastings District Council and Napier City Council for the voluntary purchase of residential Category 3 properties with a dwelling or, in the case of larger and/or mixed-use properties with a dwelling, the payment of a relocation grant.

Recycling is an important aspect of the demolition process – in the case of this house, a wooden villa – 80 per cent of the structure will be recycled.

All the wood is put through the shredder onsite, apart from any metal or timber considered worth saving.

When complete, the house was reduced to one or two truckloads of shredded material that will be screened with an inline magnet to take out any metal (nails, hinges etc) and the final material can then be sent to the Golden Bay cement furnace in Whangarei.

Here, the waste timber is used as "hog fuel" (industrial wood fuel) in combination with other hog fuel materials like shredded tyres to run the cement furnace.



First demolition of Category 3 property through the Category 3 voluntary buyout process.

HOUSE REMOVAL FROM CATEGORY 3 PROPERTY

Where possible dwellings on Category 3 properties that have gone through the Voluntary Buy-out process are being relocated rather than demolished. This has a number of advantages – it provides a home for another family, it saves ratepayer money on the cost of demolition, and it avoids unnecessary waste going to landfill.

It is not always possible to relocate dwellings (some have been too damaged or may have been constructed in a way that doesn't easily allow for relocation). The pictures below show the first Category 3 dwelling to be relocated. In this case staff established that that this house in Eskdale was in a reasonable condition and could be relocated.



Diverting unnecessary waste from going to the landfill is a key component of the demolition phase of the Voluntary Buy-Out programme.

- On average, 73% of all waste from the demolition programme is being diverted away from the landfill.
- This ranges from a dwelling significantly impacted by black mould where staff still managed to divert 65% of the waste from going to the landfill, through to one property where 92% of the waste was diverted.

VOLUNTARY BUY-OUT DEMOLITION STATUS DASHBOARD

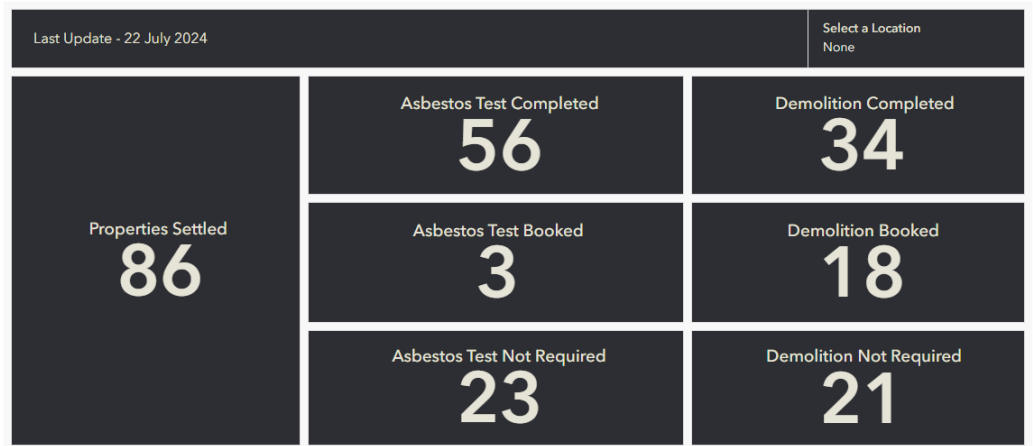
The demolition phase of the Voluntary Buy-out Programme is now well underway.

We know there is community interest (particularly in Esk and Pakowhai) on the demolition programme (mostly in relation to how quickly we can get rid of the physical reminders of the flooding and the overall aesthetic improvement of areas).

To help with this, Council has created a Voluntary Buy-out Demolition Status Dashboard. This is on the HDC Category 3 buyout page - <https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/cyclone-gabrielle/cat3buyout/>.

The dashboard will be updated once a week so there will always be a slight lag between the number of 'Properties Settled' in this dashboard and the "Settlements Complete" in the Buy-out Dashboard (as the Buy-out Dashboard is updated in real time).

On the online version you can select a Category 3 area from the drop-down list in the right-hand corner of the dashboard to get a summary of the data for that area.



SUPPORTING CATEGORY 3 PROPERTY OWNERS THROUGH DEMOLITION

A key role of the VBO Connectors is to build trust and relationships with Category 3 property owners and to support them through the process. This extends to the demolition phase where the VBO team have gone the extra mile to ensure the process ends smooth for affected property owners. Some examples of this work include:

- Listening and hearing the stories, no matter how long that takes, and being on site to have these conversations has really made a difference.
- Helping move things, removing dead trees, removing rubble, allowing property owners to salvage items that are significant to them, allowing the owners to be on site during demolition, demolition teams going carefully for owners who want to retrieve important items buried in silt and allowing owners the time to process what is happening.
- Site clearance digger driver worked meticulously to scrape away silt to search for a large cast iron pot for owner which had sentimental value.
- Demolition digger driver worked meticulously to sift through silt searching for bag of jewellery, unfortunately it must have washed away.
- Large wooden carving found buried in the silt on property, owners were overwhelmed when staff presented them with it.
- Gravel repurposed from demolition from another property onto Pakowhai property driveway to fill in and smooth out a huge dip in the ground and stop water pooling, owner extremely grateful we went the extra mile.
- A few pieces of art untouched by 1-2 metres of silt across site, boxed for owners who haven't returned since the event.
- Dropped off pallets for resident to put recycled pools tiles – no charge.
- Removed problem trees for sites whilst arborist was onsite, no charge to them or HDC.
- Demo teams dropping off shingle/hardfill for residents that want to fill in their respective properties – no charge to them or HDC.
- Pre-planning and adjusting start times so family members can see demolition in progress – no charge to them or HDC.

SUPPORT POU

RRA UPDATE – JUNE 2024

TE MATAU-A-MAUI
HAWKE’S BAY
REGIONAL
RECOVERY PLAN
2.0

In June, the Regional Recovery Agency released the Te Matau-a-Maui Hawke’s Bay Regional Recovery Plan 2.0. The purpose of the plan is to set out regional level medium to longer-term recovery goals for Hawke’s Bay, together with proposed programmes and actions for achieving them. It has been shaped by the Matariki Governance Group based on inputs drawn from Matariki Partners and other key stakeholders.

Plan 2.0 provides a ‘top down’ approach to the region’s medium to long-term priorities. It focusses on those key priority areas where joined up initiatives, funding or other Government support or assistance is vital to support the ongoing regional recovery. It captures recovery and resilience projects and programmes of work that would make the region’s infrastructure, economy, and community systems more resilient to future events and highlights the importance of identifying opportunities for improvement across the rohe that will have a positive impact for Hawke’s Bay in the future. It also addresses areas of activity such as workforce development that are both key to delivery of rebuild and recovery activities, and present opportunities for enhancing community capability and prosperity. In setting out these priorities it provides information used to support the region’s input to the new Government’s four-year budget cycle.

The regional priorities as set out in the plan, include:

Silt and Debris	Over 1.5 million cubic metres of silt and debris remain on highly productive land from Cyclone Gabrielle.
Category 3 Property Buyouts	Action is needed to ensure the Government-led Kaupapa Māori buyout programme catches up to the broader buyout programme to avoid disparate and unfair outcomes . Further support maybe required for additional category 3 property buyouts if land categorisations change and current funding caps are reached.
Severe Housing Shortages	The region is at least 3000 houses short, with that expected to grow as work expands to restore damaged infrastructure.
Legislative Roadblocks	Legislation and/or new regulations could ease significant consenting and planning blockages slowing critical flood mitigation work.
Emergency Resilience	New measures are needed for more resilient power, telecommunications, and transport infrastructure for when disasters occur.
Water Service Delivery	A regional model based around the five Hawke’s Bay Councils is proposed with strong regional backing to replace the soon-to-be-repealed Three Waters water service entities.
Water Security	There is a pressing need to address the fast-growing demands for long-term climate resilient water supplies for one of New Zealand’s most important primary sector producing regions.
Transport	Significant recovery related investment is needed to build back better and address vulnerabilities on both state highways and local roads, particularly in the ‘farm/ orchard gate to processing/arterial corridor’ element of the road network.
Health Services	Hawke’s Bay Regional Hospital needs priority work while broader health services need to be made fit-for-purpose to meet the region’s needs.
Workforce Development	Development of the local workforce is required to help meet the demand for civil construction workers for post-cyclone infrastructure repairs (estimated that up to 8000 additional construction workers could be required over the next eight years).

Specifically, HDC is pleased to see the inclusion of the following priorities in the Recovery Plan 2.0:

- Infrastructure resilient to future events [Our risk: Infrastructure Service Failure].

- Water security [Our risk: Water Quantity & Quality].
- Need to address funding mechanisms [Our risk: Financial sustainability]
- Workforce development & wellbeing impacts recognised [Our risks: Health and Safety and loss of key knowledge]

HDC will be liaising with the RRA to ensure the following items are reflected in the future work programme:

- More support in regulatory frameworks for managing natural hazard areas to prevent building in, or enable a move away from, at-risk locations.
- Recognition of the opportunity that better cross system partnerships and use of a wider range of procurement approaches could help deliver more effective outcomes. [Our risk: Procurement failure, Our opportunity: Successful Partnerships]

**GOVERNMENT
BUDGET 2024**

Budget 24 has been a key focus for the RRA on behalf of the region. Funding for local road recovery and possible additional funding for the FoSAL Kaupapa Māori pathway were the two principal areas where financial assistance was sought, and the Budget has provided what appears to be positive news on these fronts:

- It contains a “tagged appropriation” that sets aside funding to address issues related to Category 3 marae and housing that fall within the Kaupapa Māori pathway.
- For local road response and recovery work out to June 2025 NZTA indicated \$91m is ringfenced for Hawke’s Bay for the 24/25 year, which would cover what the region has previously requested in meetings with the Prime Minister and Minister of Transport.
- \$609.25 million of funding for state highway recovery is targeted at returning affected roads back to their pre-cyclone states across the NIWE regions. The announcement indicates no Crown funding for major State Highway rebuild projects at this time, and that Hawke’s Bay cyclone-related State Highway priorities like the Devil’s Elbow and Waikare Gorge realignments will be assessed by NZTA under the National Land Transport Plan, against other projects across the country.



**ORDER IN
COUNCIL**

The collaborative work between the Ministry for the Environment (MfE), HBRC and the RRA has resulted in the HB Flood Works OIC being approved by Cabinet on

Monday, 27 May and brought into effect on Friday, 7 June. As a recap, this Order will speed up the consenting process necessary to support eight specific flood protection projects across the region while still providing protection for cultural and environmental values. These projects include Awatoto, Ohiti Road, Waiohiki, Whirinaki, Wairoa, Pākowhai, Pōrangahau and Havelock North. HBRC has been undertaking significant work leading up to this point to ensure the consent information which is required for the first three projects (Waiohiki, Whirinaki and Ohiti Road) can be submitted in the next month. Following granting of consent, it is anticipated construction will commence as soon as October this year.

This is a significant milestone in aiding delivery of the flood protection programme that delivers on the Coalition Government's 100-day commitment to make any additional Orders in Council to speed up cyclone and flood recovery efforts.

MfE are leading the public engagement on behalf of central Government which opened on Tuesday 2 July and closes at 11:59pm on Friday 12 July. The RRA and Councils are supporting this engagement as required.

SWELA

The RRA has been working with HBRC and MfE to consider how best to support rural landowners. A proposed temporary law change seeks to provide a permitted activity regime for rural recovery works in the Hawke's Bay region to take place without requiring consent. The mechanism that would be used is an Order in Council (OIC) under the Severe Weather Emergency Recovery Legislation Act 2023. If approved by Cabinet, the proposed OIC would run from September 2024 and lapse on 31 December 2025.

The proposed OIC is a response to a request for regulatory relief from HBRC and HBRC. In early 2024, HBRC surveyed rural landowners in the Hawke's Bay region to understand their needs following Cyclone Gabrielle.

The survey results showed that most landowners still had significant recovery-related works to do on their land. Landowners reported they were struggling to complete these works due to a range of factors, including the scale of the works, contractor availability and extended wet weather conditions. Works included removing silt, clearing slips and rebuilding smaller structures like retaining walls, culverts and bridges, which require a resource consent.



The order is being proposed as the mechanism to enable landowners and occupiers to continue remediating damage caused by Cyclone Gabrielle in an efficient manner. In many cases this work has not been able to be achieved prior to the repeal due to poor weather, inability to access property, funding (waiting on insurance) as well as access to contractors and materials. The scope of the proposed OIC is to permit such works on rural land. Tests and safeguards within the proposed OIC include containing significant adverse effects within the site boundaries, providing notice to the relevant local authority before beginning works, and requiring landowners to obtain permission from relevant iwi or hapū if works are on, or impact, culturally significant land.

Engagement on the Order is underway.

NZTA FAR
SUBMISSION

The RRA is currently working with the five Hawke's Bay Councils on a submission on the proposed changes to the NZTA Emergency Works Investment Policies. Changes proposed in April seek to reduce funding assistance available to regions for restoring vital local transport infrastructure following emergency events.

The submission will seek to confirm verbal advice received that any change made will not apply to events that have already occurred (Cyclone Gabrielle). It will also make the case for continued and enhanced funding support to help communities and regions recover from emergency events and return regional transport systems to an acceptable level of service.

REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN	<p>The Government's \$1.2 billion Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF) opened to applicants on Monday 1 July. Together with REDA and Matariki's Strategic Advisor, the RRA is working with Kanoa (MBIE) to highlight regional priorities and discuss known proposals and explore what other proposals may come forward.</p>
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	<p>The HB Workforce Development Group has continued work to finalise its strategy and planning. As part of this, a hui was held earlier this month to gather feedback about workforce development issues and opportunities for smaller suppliers. This was a valuable exercise and will ensure the regional strategy and planning holds comprehensive insights across the spectrum, from small to large infrastructure suppliers. Themes arising included the 'feast or famine' nature of current work and a lack of certainty of the full pipeline. The group has also progressed workstreams in skills & training areas</p>
MINISTERIAL VISITS	<p>Transport Minister, Simeon Brown made Hawke's Bay one of his first stops following the recent 2024 Budget announcement. He met with the four Mayors as well as the RRA and local MPs, Catherine Wedd and Katie Nimon, to further discuss funding for the region's road recovery work. This was a really positive engagement with valuable advice received from the Minister around how best to approach funding requests for the years beyond what has been committed to for 2024/25. This will involve working closely with NZTA and also maintaining the regionally coordinated approach that has contributed to Hawke's Bay's success with funding thus far.</p> <p>The RRA is co-hosting Minister of Finance, Nicola Willis later this month, alongside the Hawke's Bay Chamber of Commerce. This visit forms part of the Ministers post-Budget roadshow and we look forward to hearing firsthand her breakdown of the 2024 Budget with a specific focus on the Hawke's Bay region.</p> <div></div>
HOUSING STRATEGY WORKSHOP	<p>With housing being a longer-term priority focus area provided for within the BIM, the RRA recently convened a housing strategy workshop for the region which focussed on both needs and aspirations as well as how, as a region, we can achieve positive outcomes for whānau and communities in the housing space. This was a constructive session with positive engagement across PSGEs, councils and Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga. Subsequent engagement is being held with parties who were unable to attend the workshop. RRA are working on a paper addressing housing needs for consideration by the Matariki partners who are keen to engage in this matter.</p>

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT UPDATE

FLOOD PROTECTION WORK IN HAWKE'S BAY A STEP CLOSER

As mentioned above, Cabinet has spent the last few months engaging on a proposal for a temporary change to legislation under the Severe Weather Emergency Recovery Legislation Act 2023 (SWERLA), which would speed up the delivery of flood protection work across Hawke's Bay.

On the back of Cyclone Gabrielle, Hawke's Bay Regional Council earmarked seven areas where new flood infrastructure would see category 2A and 2C properties reclassified to Category 1 and one area where new flood infrastructure would protect an industrial area as well as Napier's wastewater treatment plant. These areas are Wairoa, Whirinaki, Waiohiki, Ohiti Road/Omāhu, Pākowhai, Havelock North, Pōrangahau and Awatoto.

Since the cyclone and other severe weather events in early 2023, laws have been changed on a range of issues to help recovery efforts across affected regions. The mechanism being used to do this, which is what is being proposed in this instance, is a piece of secondary legislation called an Order in Council (OIC).

The order would provide a streamlined process for the multiple resource consent applications that would inevitably be required before construction of any planned flood infrastructure could begin.

This will play an important role in enabling work to start sooner and progress to be kept on track, whilst ensuring the usual protective measures of cultural and environmental impact assessments will not be compromised.

TRANSPORT MINISTER SAYS MAYORS 'ON SAME PAGE' AFTER BUDGET

Transport Minister Simeon Brown says local and central governments are "on the same page" when fixing Hawke's Bay's cyclone-damaged roads and highways, with pending decisions on bigger projects earmarked for August and September and money earmarked for pothole repair.

However, questions still remain about the future of the Waikare Gorge realignment project, which has been planned for at least four years.

Brown met with mayors from Napier, Hastings, Wairoa and CHB on Thursday to discuss roading and infrastructure, confirming the Government's commitment to repair all the region's cyclone-damaged highways.

The recent budget announcement saw an investment of \$609.3 million over three years for full recovery of the state highway networks and \$330 million for local roads.

Brown later announced an indicative allocation of \$82.4m during that same period for pothole repairs in the region.

He said the announcements provided clarity and certainty around funding and wanted this to pave the way for action.

"The Government is committed to the recovery of our local roading networks. We understand how important that is to this region post-Cyclone Gabrielle, and it's really important we have close alignment between government, MPs, and mayors," he said.

He confirmed that "absolutely," mayors were on the same page, working closely to ensure a recovery programme was in place, but communication issues with the Transport Rebuild East Coast alliance needed to be worked on.

"I think the key thing is they want to see things getting on and getting done.

"There is a need for better communication between TREC, local mayors, local MPs and the community, which we've talked about and will take steps to make sure that is happening in a much more open and transparent manner."

Hastings mayor Sandra Hazlehurst said that while detailed work needed to be done with NZTA on the allocation of funding to programmes, she believed the Government had responded positively to the region's roading needs. According to NZTA, \$91m was earmarked for Hawke's Bay in year one.

"We are grateful for the hearing we have had to date, and the subsequent action taken," she said.

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When pressed on the fate of the much-promised four-lane expressway for Hawke's Bay, Brown reaffirmed his commitment to the project as a government "priority" and said further announcements would be made at a later date.

"We've prioritised that in our Government policy statement as one of our roads of national significance. Decisions will be made as part of the national land transport programme, which will be determined by August/September.

"From our perspective, it's one of our top priorities in our national roads of significance programme. The agency has already started looking at the designation and how it can be staged, and how it can get up and running as quickly as possible."

Wairoa Mayor Craig Little described the meeting as "positive" but later expressed concerns, particularly about the future of the Napier-Wairoa road's Waikare deviation, which had been expected to start this year.

After extensive consultation, NZTA settled on a deviation that included about 4km of new road and a bridge over the Waikare Gorge.

This bypassed both the SH2 Waikare River bridge (a temporary Bailey bridge replacing the permanent structure destroyed in Cyclone Gabrielle) and the township of Putorino just to the south.

With an estimated cost of about \$250m, a preferred route was agreed upon, and planning was complete. The relevant resource consents were applied 13 months ago. While attracting no opposition, formal decisions on the applications are still awaited.

Little said that, with most aspects of the plan for the deviation in place before the cyclone, it would be disappointing for Wairoa and Hawke's Bay if the deviation did not go with the finance and timeframe as planned and funds were spent maintaining the gorge road and temporary bridge.

"We've got to start looking at the cost of what we don't do rather than what is being done," he said.

Brown said the regional land transport plan, which will be set by August and September, would include the proposition of the new Waikare Gorge realignment.

"NZTA were looking at whether or not there was going to be additional funding needed to get that sorted, so there are more steps that need to be done, but the funding delivered by the Government will go towards full recovery of the state highway between Napier and Wairoa."

Decisions on the national land transport programme would ultimately be made by the NZTA board.

"Councils will be providing their input into that, and the board will have to consider all different opportunities," Brown said.

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION SERVICE

Ministry for Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE) provides a Temporary Accommodation Service (TAS) to support people who are unable to live in their accommodation due to an emergency event such as Cyclone Gabrielle.

People displaced by severe weather events in 2022 and 2023 will be supported by the extension of Temporary Accommodation Assistance through to 30 June 2025.

Temporary Accommodation Assistance is a weekly payment available from MSD to help homeowners who can't live in their homes due to specific weather events. It is not income or asset tested. Some people impacted by these weather events are having to cover costs on their uninhabitable homes, like mortgage payments, rates, and insurance, while also paying for temporary accommodation. Extending this payment for another year will help them bridge the gap until repairs are undertaken or a decision is made on the future of their property.

The eligibility criteria have been extended for this assistance to include:

- People whose homes are uninhabitable but did not receive a red or yellow placard from their council,
- People who don't have insurance for their affected property for reasons outside of their control, but had taken reasonable steps to get cover,

- People whose temporary accommodation was not previously eligible, such as flats and house sharing agreements, hire agreements for cabins, mobile homes or caravans, lodging or boarding arrangements, or commercial accommodation.

NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS IN TAS SUPPLY

Here is a breakdown of current TAS Active Households in the region. There are 113 in total, down from 142 in March 2024.

Suburb count for Hawke's Bay CDEM as at 8:00am, Friday 31 May 2024					
Suburb	Count	Suburb	Count	Suburb	Count
Akina	0	Mahora	0	Ruakituri	0
Awatoto	1	Maraenui	0	Ruataniwha	3
Bay View	1	Marewa	0	Saint Lenards	0
Bluff Hill	0	Mayfair	0	Takapau	0
Crownthorpe	1	Meeanee	1	Tamatea	0
Dartmoor	0	Napier South	0	Tangoio	6
Eskdale	17	North Hastings	0	Taradale	3
Fernhill	12	Nūhaka	0	Te Awanga	0
Flaxmere	0	Omahu	10	Te Hauke	0
Frasertown	0	Onekawa	0	Tomoana	0
Frimley	0	Pakipaki	0	Twyford	0
Glengarry	1	Pakowhai	9	Waimārama	0
Haumoana	0	Pirimai	0	Waiohiki	8
Havelock North	0	Pōrangahau	6	Waipatu	0
Heretaunga	0	Puketapu	9	Waipawa	2
Karamu	0	Puketitiri	0	Waipukurau	0
Māhia	0	Pukehamoamo	1	Whakatu	0
		Putorino	1		
Wairoa - No suburb	20	Napier - No Suburb	1	Hastings - No Suburb	1

Source: Download of Active Cases from TAS CRM as at 8:00am, Friday 31 May 2024.

Kei Te Pai?
Reach Out!

Free online GP and counselling services for affected people

Counselling:

- up to seven free counselling sessions (face-to-face or online options available)
- ask your GP clinic for more details
- you can also access counselling by calling/texting 1737
- please note there can be a wait of 4-6 weeks for face-to-face counselling

Online GP

Practice Plus offers same day clinical consultations with a doctor or nurse. They are easy to book for anyone who cannot access a GP including people who are unenrolled and rural and isolated communities. Practice Plus can also issue prescriptions and make referrals as needed.

People affected by Cyclone Gabrielle can also access:

- support to access Practice Plus through Māori hauora
- rongōā through Māori hauora

In addition, the Manu Taupua programme run by Health Hawke's Bay is available for Māori, Pacific peoples and community services card holders wishing to enrol in a GP clinic.

Whānau support

The following hauora open access clinics can support whānau to access online counselling or Practice Plus:

- Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga - Waipukurau & Flaxmere
- Te Kūpenga Hauora - Napier
- Rōpū a Iwi Trust - Maraenui
- Kahungunu Executive - Wairoa

Free pharmacy service for affected people

Your community pharmacy offers advice, treatment, and referral for minor health conditions, including treatment options and medications.

- dehydration from
- pain and fever in children
- gastrointestinal illnesses
- eczema/dermatitis
- eye inflammation and infections
- minor skin infections
- scabies
- uncomplicated urinary tract infections in women
- headache

Kei Te Pai?
Reach Out!

Hauora and wellbeing packages are available to Hawke's Bay residents affected by Cyclone Gabrielle.

Call 0800 300 197

Free GP and health services for displaced people

Free GP appointments are available for people who have been displaced from their homes (category one, two or three) in Hawke's Bay.

Displaced people can access:

- two free GP and two free nurse consultations
- one free emergency after-hours consultation
- free pharmacy consultations for the minor health conditions
- all the services available to cyclone affected people (see overleaf)

Support for Wairoa

Cyclone affected or displaced residents in Wairoa get free access to:

- two or more GP and nurse consultations through the Wairoa Queen St practice (dependent on need)
- All the services available to cyclone affected people in Hawke's Bay.

Health New Zealand
Te Whātū Ora
Te Motu o Māui Hawke's Bay

0800 300 197
ourhealthhb.nz

COMMS, MARKETING, ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

GOVERNOR-GENERAL VISIT TO CYCLONE-DAMAGED COMMUNITIES

Governor-General Dame Cindy Kiro and Dr Davies visited cyclone-affected communities in Hawke's Bay last month. The visit started with a pōhiri at Waipatu Marae, marking the first time Dame Cindy has visited the marae as a representative of the Crown. The Governor-General thanked local marae and hapū for their incredible contribution in the ongoing recovery of our region after the cyclone. It was a chance for Dame Cindy to learn the stories of affected communities and marae and meet those who have been leading in the recovery. The pōhiri was attended by approximately 150 people, including St Joseph's College, Hukarere College and Te Ara Hou kura from Napier; and representation from many marae across Napier and Hastings districts.



Dame Cindy also hosted an evening community reception for the individuals and representatives of organisations that supported their communities during and following Cyclone Gabrielle.

The gathering was an opportunity for Her Excellency Rt Hon Dame Cindy Kiro to meet and thank members of our community for their significant input and contribution in the recovery of our region, since Cyclone Gabrielle. The event was well attended with approximately 160 guests present. The main kaupapa was for Her Excellency to meet as many people as possible; to hear their stories; to listen to the challenges they are still facing. Most of the event was time allocated for Dame Cindy and Dr Richard Davies to circulate and speak to the crowd, reaching as many people as they could.

The guests were from a wide area, covering Wairoa to Central Hawke's Bay. There was representation from first responders, community hubs, welfare agencies, funding groups, volunteer groups, impacted marae and outstanding leaders in our community who are still working hard in supporting those who have been heavily impacted. Her Excellency spoke briefly, acknowledging the service and sacrifice of so many in the Hawke's Bay region: *'In the aftermath of Cyclone Gabrielle, I've heard countless stories of exceptional selflessness, manaakitanga, courage, and whanaungatanga. It is my greatest joy and honour as Governor-General to meet New Zealanders such as yourselves across the country, who do so much in the service of others.'*



Left to right: Matt Stone and Donna Stone from Waikoau Community Hub and Kerry Henderson, CEO Napier Family Centre.



Left to right: Paea Wilson and Crystal Kavanna, Red Cross.

COMMUNITY TOUCHPOINTS SUMMARY

Council has a role to plan and coordinate engagement opportunities with the community. Staff are identifying opportunities to align its engagements and pinpoint where it can coordinate/combine forces so we can best support our community across our recovery efforts.

This is a snapshot of Council's Community Touchpoints across the period of April – July 2024:

When	Community	Engagement	Purpose
23 April	All of district	Release of North Island Weather event review	Release of full review report into the response to the severe weather event across the North Island
26 April	Havelock North	e-Newsletter	Information update on streams and dam
28 April	Maraekakaho	Family Fielday – Connecting the Community	A day out for the family, sponsored by Rural Support & Evergreen Foundation
2 May	Tūtira Ward	e-Newsletter	Roading Recovery update
6 May	Puketapu	Meeting with school Principal	Resilience containers for Puketapu School
7 May	Eskdale	Catch up with Hub leaders	General update on community activities
7 May	Whirinaki	Catch up with Hub leaders	General update on community activities
8 May	Sherenden	Resilience Hub meeting	General catch up
9 May	Waikoau	Community Hall	Update to community about planned strengthening work for Waikoau Bridge and associated closures.
11 May	Havelock North	Community drop-in session	Information update with HDC & BECA
13 May	Matapiro	Community drop-in session – Between 2 Rivers	In the wake of the cyclone, the Council is going to the community with a three-year plan. We have organised a local drop-in session for the community to ask questions and have a say. Councillors and staff will be there to answer questions and get your input.
13 May	Kererū	Community Hub visit	General catch up
14 May	Kaiwaka	Community Hub visit	General catch up
15 May	Timi Kara	Community Hubs leads meeting	Community resilience workshop hui
16 May	Pakowhai	Community Meeting to provide update on flood mitigation project	Community Update with HBRC & HDC on 2C flood mitigation works and building consent guidance for Pakowhai
17 May	Moteo	Community Leads Hub Hui	Community Resilience Workshop Hui
17 May	Havelock North	Online call to action	Call for community members to be part of programme steering group
21 May	Maraekākaho Ward	e-Newsletter	Roading Recovery update
21 May	All of district	Community Emergency Hub leader's hui	Regular scheduled catch up
22 May	Waipatu	Funding support discussion	Finalise funding options for Waipatu marae resilience projects
22 May	All of district	e-Newsletter	A snapshot of the various recovery work over the Hastings District Council
25 May	Waiohiki	HBRC team meeting with Waiohiki to update on flood mitigation works	Update on the flood mitigation project, specifically the stop bank
31 May	Havelock North	e-Newsletter	Information update on streams and dam

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When	Community	Engagement	Purpose
4 June	Council	HDC & HBRC meeting	HDC met with the HBRC IPMO team to collaborate with each other on community engagement.
5 June	Esk Valley	Esk Resilience Hub meeting	Resilience Planning
5 June	Esk Valley	Esk Valley Waste Silt Recovery plan meeting	To engage with the silt recovery team
10 June	All of district marae	Marae Hub leaders	Discussing community resilience plans
12 June	Cape & Coast	Resilience Workshop	Resilience Planning
14 June	Kaweka Ward	e-Newsletter	Roading Recovery update
15 June	Matapiro	Community event	Community Fun day
17 June	Waikoau	Community meeting	Community meeting about the bridge
19 June	Rissington	Community Hub Visit with FENZ	General catch up
19 June	Tūtira Ward	e-Newsletter	Roading Recovery update
19 June	All of district	Meet and Greet with Governor-General and Recognition of Cyclone Efforts	Governor-General to visit cyclone-affected communities and host an evening community reception for the individuals and representatives of organisations that supported their communities during and following Cyclone Gabrielle
20 June	All of district	Mana whenua PSGE groups	Wananga in Council Chambers with Mayor and CE, to discuss process of engagement and consent/consultation that is as efficient as possible for mana whenua and for Council given large volume of recovery transport work ahead.
21 June	Kaiwaka	Resilience Workshop	Resilience Planning
22 June	Moteo marae	Resilience & Neighbourhood support meeting	Neighbourhood Support and Community Resilience Training
24 June	Putorino	Resilience Meeting	Community resilience planning
26 June	Maraekākaho ward	e-Newsletter	Roading Recovery update
26 June	Poukawa Ward	e-Newsletter	Roading Recovery update
27 June	Waipatu Marae	Meeting with marae trust	Monthly hui
30 June	Havelock North	e-Newsletter	Information update on streams and dam
1 July	Tutira/Putorino	Community Carousel Workshop	Gathering info for community resilience plan
4 July	Aropaoanui	Community meeting	Engaging with community on bridge plans
5 July	Waikoau	Supply delivery	Delivery of pallet of food from Nourished for Nil
6 July	Havelock North	Community Planting Day	Community planting day at Tainui Reserve in response to damage from Cyclone Gabrielle
9 July	All of district	Letter sent to all yellow and red Placarded properties	Information and reminder sent out about getting reassessments booked in for placards
10 July	Whirinaki	Hub leaders' resilience meeting	Discussion on Red Cross funding and resilience planning
10 July	Cape Coast	Community meeting	Community meeting
15 July	Haumoana and Te Awanga	Community Emergency Hub Training	Workshop on how to set up a local Community Emergency Hub
16 July	All of district	Hub leads meeting	General catch up

When	Community	Engagement	Purpose
19 July	Tūtira	Opening of Chrystal Twin Culvert	Formal opening of the first completed rebuild of the Cyclone Gabrielle programme.
23 July	Havelock North	Community Meeting with 2C property owners	Meeting with all 2C property owners to provide update on progress of flood mitigation works in Havelock North Streams and Dams
24 July	All of district	Hawke's Bay Independent Flood Review	Release of findings of the HB Independent Flood review to the Hawke's Bay Regional Council
25 July	Havelock North	Havelock North Project Steering Group meeting	First meeting of project steering group for Havelock North Streams and Dams project
28 July	Eskdale	Community Drop-in day	Opportunity for community to find out about future plans for recovery in Eskdale
28 July	RD9 (Waiwhare, Sherenden & Matapiro)	Community Carousel Workshop	Gathering information for Community Resilience Plan
29 July	All of district marae	Marae Hub leaders	Community resilience planning/training
31 July	Havelock North	e-Newsletter	Information update on streams and dam.

SUCCESSFUL FUNDING BIDS TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY RECOVERY

Council has been successful in its funding bid to the Lottery Hawke's Bay Community Te Matāu a Māui Regional Recovery fund. It was announced in May that HDC has been successful in receiving \$854,500 in external funding from this bid to support the development of additional community hubs with a focus on the Pacific Community. Council has also received a further \$200,000 from the New Zealand Red Cross to support the community recovery.

Applications to the Cyclone Appeal Trust and a second funding bid to the Lottery Hawke's Bay Community Te Matāu a Māui Regional Recovery fund for an additional \$519,100 have been submitted.

FUNDING & FINANCE UPDATE

This is a summary of Recovery Finance from the last quarter, the main changes from the last quarter are:

- Any unspent grant revenues have been moved into the 24/25 financial year, so those grants show as a net \$0 even though there are funds left to be spent.
- CIP VBO revenue has been adjusted for the same reason. We've received funding in advance from CIP for properties that were not yet settled as of 30 June. Any funds received for properties not yet settled have been moved into 24/25 financial year and are not reflected in the attached report (about \$16.5m)

	Infrastructure Resilience	Category 3 Buyout	Whānau Community Resilience	Environmental Resilience	Other Recovery	TOTAL
Revenue	\$75,161,823	\$19,890,590	\$2,003,372	\$8,062,582	\$896,935	\$106,015,302
Expenditure	\$42,387,771	\$25,842,882	\$2,592,640	\$375,711	\$1,552,980	\$72,751,983
	\$32,774,052	-\$5,952,291	-\$589,268	\$7,686,871	-\$656,045	\$33,263,319
Capital Works	\$46,909,955	\$16,825,654	\$20,162	\$168,451	\$35,349	\$63,959,571
Net loan funding	-\$14,135,903	-\$22,777,945	-\$609,430	\$7,518,420	-\$691,394	-\$30,696,252

Recovery Framework	Activity	Revenue	Expenditure	Net	Note
Infrastructure Resilience	Roading	\$75,161,823	\$41,148,579	\$34,013,244	Net proceeds go towards capital expenditure spend
	3Waters		\$815,514	-\$815,514	Recovery spend. Loan funded
	Building Control		\$423,678	-\$423,678	Recovery spend. Loan funded
Category 3 Buyout	Policy Development	\$143,881	\$287,761	-\$143,881	Part of the \$50m loan funding
	Property Costs	\$19,680,802	\$25,225,582	-\$5,544,780	Revenue received from CIP for properties not yet settled has been moved into 24/25 financial year. Losses represent Council's share of relocation offers that needs loan funding
	Office Costs	\$65,908	\$329,539	-\$263,631	Part of the \$50m loan funding
Whānau Community Resilience	Red Cross	\$370,418	\$370,419	-\$1	Unspent grant money moved to 24/25
	NIWE	\$1,146,454	\$1,126,293	\$20,161	Spent on welfare trailers (Capex). Unspent grant money moved to 24/25.
	Other	\$27,500	\$636,928	-\$609,428	
Other Recovery	MSD	\$459,000	\$459,000	\$0	Unspent grant money moved to 24/25
	Waste	\$391,685	\$547,494	-\$155,809	
	Insurance related spend	\$505,250	\$543,110	-\$37,860	
	Other	\$8,062,582	\$462,375	\$7,600,206	Better off funding
Environmental Resilience			\$375,711	-\$375,711	Parks recovery spend
TOTAL		\$106,015,302	\$72,751,983	\$33,263,319	

BUILDING RECOVERY UPDATE

01. DESIGNATION

29 suburbs (from 68) remain designated under sub part 6b of the Building Act 2004.

02. PLACARDED BUILDINGS

BUILDINGS SUBJECT TO PLACARD (AS OF LATEST)

<div><div></div>Red</div>	62
<div><div></div>Y1 & Y2</div>	451
<div><div></div>White</div>	360
<div><div></div>Demolished</div>	58
Total	931

This amounts to approximately 45% of Placarded homes being either re-assessed or demolished in the 17 months post the cyclone.

The Building Recovery Team have been scheduling re-assessments in affected areas which has been received reasonably well by the community.

We anticipate with the VBO efforts, the number of demolished or removed buildings will rise quickly between now and the end of the year.

TOTAL NUMBER OF CATEGORISED PROPERTIES (AS OF LATEST)

<div><div></div>Cat 2P</div>	1
<div><div></div>Cat 2C</div>	198
<div><div></div>Cat 3</div>	304
Total	

PLACARDS BY AREA (RED & YELLOW)

Dartmoor	1	Tōmoana North	7
Maraekākaho	1	Crownthorpe	12
Pūkahu	1	Tangoio	17
Rissington	1	Puketapu South	25
Sherenden	1	Twyford	28
Te Pōhue	1	Eskdale	37
Tūtira	1	Ōmāhu	38
Pukehāmoama	2	Esk Valley	39
Haumoana	3	Waiohiki	39
Havelock North East	3	Fernhill	41
Kahurānaki	3	Puketapu North	55
Tōmoana South	3	Pakowhai	129
Havelock North West	6		

03. CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIP MANAGER (CRM) – VIA THE CALL CENTRE

The Building Recovery Team have managed over 600 CRMs in the 17 months post Cyclone Gabrielle.

04. BUILDING CONSENTS	A total of 208 building consent applications have been received that are related directly to damage as a result of Cyclone Gabrielle. However, a large percentage of building owners have utilised relevant legislation to avoid the need to obtain building consent whereby 'like for like' replacement has been the favoured repair option.
05. STATE OF EMERGENCY IN HAUMOANA	<p>In June the Building Recovery Team responded to the flooding in the Cape Coast, which resulted in a State of Emergency for the Haumoana area.</p> <p>Council deployed 4 teams in response to this event where 40 homes were visited. From the 40 homes, only 4 were affected to the point where seawater entered their homes and yellow placards were issued.</p> <p>In days following, one council officer was deployed to Wairoa to assist with their response efforts and Rapid Building Assessment efforts.</p> <p>This event highlighted the need for council officers to remain trained in emergency related situations.</p> <p>The team performed well.</p>

WHĀNAU & COMMUNITY WELLBEING POU

EVENT REPORT – HERETAUNGA LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY

EVENT OVERVIEW

A local state of emergency was declared for the Heretaunga ward at 04:45am on Wednesday, 26 June 2024 after large swells and high tides resulted in the overtopping of the seacrest, causing inundation to a number of homes in the Haumoana coastal area.

Council's Emergency Management Office (EMO) made the quick decision to set up a Civil Defence Centre at the Haumoana School Hall for evacuations. The school hall was chosen for evacuees, rather than the Haumoana Community Hall, due to the nature of the event as it is the community's evacuation point for tsunami.

Approximately 300 people were evacuated on the night of 25 June, 90 people on 26 June. At the event's peak, the Haumoana School Hall accommodated approximately 48 evacuees, with the remainder of the people going to their own accommodation options.

Through the resilience planning and investment Council has done with this coastal community after Cyclone Gabrielle, Council's EMO found they had trusted established relationships with key people in the community and could easily disseminate information on what they should do.

Council's investment into 2 welfare support trailers and emergency supplies also meant there was welfare supplies ready to take out to Haumoana, with kit such as sleeping bags, stretchers, pillows, inflatable mattresses, blankets, bath and face towels, hygiene kits, baby supplies, rubbish bags, catering kits, first aid kits and water. This ensured the welfare staff at the school hall had supplies on-hand to keep people comfortable.

The heavy rain event also resulted in the closure of SH51 between Whakatu and Marine Parade, and Ellis Wallace Road was also closed due to a significant slip. An electricity outage in Tutira was limited to 15 customers.

The local state of emergency in Haumoana was lifted at 12:04pm on Thursday, 27 June 2024.

WHAT WENT WELL

- Sitting down together as an IMT team before being stood up, just to pre-plan and understand what was potentially coming, was helpful. Good early planning and communication
- Having the Manager for the Community Connector Team reaching out to the community representatives to have those initial conversations and then passing that information over, so it was clear who to deal with. The roll-out of Council's community resilience building pathway and the Community Emergency Hub (CEH) programme, which include the drafting of plans and guides, training, and exercise scenarios made a huge difference to this response.
- Getting the HDC welfare support trailer out there early.
- Having two Welfare Managers, one at the school and one in the EOC, really eased the pressure on-site at the CDC, meaning staff could just deal with the community.
- Council has a good number of 4WD vehicles in the fleet (at least 15) and a lot of them are fitted with crossroad tyres, which makes them more suitable for civil defence emergencies.
- The collection of evacuee details was a fantastic part of the process. For this event, Police got the numbers as opposed to the CDC, which meant we could also communicate to people who evacuated to friends and family.
- The community representatives for Cape Coast were great. They knew everyone, everyone felt comfortable with them, and they knew where all the supplies on-site that were had been stored in case

they were needed (Hub Kit with stationery & CD Wheelie Bin with emergency supplies). The sleeping bags and stretchers were helpful and gratefully received by the evacuees. The School Hall was great, especially the heat pumps.

- The 3 Waters representatives went out and explained the technical details provided by the HBRC engineers to the Controllers.
- The school principal appreciated the conversation with the Controllers and followed their advice in her decision-making and motivation for closing the school with the Board of Trustees.
- The volunteer fire fighters at Haumoana were great with their local knowledge and connections with the community. The same applied to the local Police Station, as it was familiar faces for the community.



PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

- The Red Cross funding grant project for Community Emergency Hubs totalling \$915k (Tranche 1) is nearly completed, at HDC this involves both the community connector and risk teams with 81% of the total fund allocated.
- The MPI funding grant totalling \$1.37m is underway, following a similar process as the Red Cross Tranche 1 funding with 91% of the total fund allocated.
- Council has been successful in receiving further funds from DIA (\$854,100) and Tranche 2 funding from Red Cross of \$200k. We are working through developing the project plans for and allocating funds to communities with a focus continuing rural isolated, Marae and Pasifika.

Current status tracking on the process of setting up Community Emergency Hubs (note this is the community resilience training, and not the spend of funding):

Progress for 36 community identified hub locations:



COMMUNITY EMERGENCY HUB UPDATE

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY EMERGENCY HUB?

An Emergency Community Hub is a place for the community to coordinate efforts to help each other during and after a disaster. Hubs provide the community with information which helps everyone make informed decisions about how to help themselves, they are run by the community and not mandated or tasked by Civil Defence - it's essentially a place for neighbours to help each other in a coordinated way.

Each hub must be connected to an 'entity' (community group) as this entity will be responsible for the ongoing ownership, maintenance, and agrees to provide access to the community hub and equipment when needed. Hub leaders and community members are also encouraged to attend training and meetings to strengthen the Emergency Community Hub Network, which includes key response agencies.

OBJECTIVES OF THE COMMUNITY EMERGENCY HUBS ARE TO:

- Provide information so that your community knows how to help each other and stay safe.
- Understand what is happening.
- Solve problems using what your community has available.
- Provide a safe gathering place for members of the community to support one another.

	HUB LOCATION	HUB PROGRESS / PROJECTS
MPI FUNDED BY HDC	Kererū	Shipping containers
	Sherenden	Civil Defence Bins
	Puketitiri	Water Tanks
	Pātoka	Water pumps & equipment
	Te Pōhue	Welfare Equipment
	Waikare	Starlink
	Waikōau	Heat pump
	Tūtira (Tutira Hall)	Water storage
	Tūtira (Kaiwaka Hall)	Hub building improvements
	Tūtira (Tūtira School)	VHF radios
	Te Hāroto Marae	
	Puketapu South	
	Waimārama	
	Maraetōtara	
	Ōmāhu	
FUNDED DIRECT BY MPI	Waipuka (Ocean Beach)	Solar Power & batteries
	Maraetōtara	Generators
	Matapiro	Heat pump
	Ōmāhu	Building improvements
	Maraekākaho	
UNDERWAY/PROPOSED FOR RED CROSS	Eskdale (school and valley)	Shipping containers
	Tangoio Marae	Civil Defence Bins
	Rissington	Generators
	Dartmoor	Water storage
	Twyford Hall	Building improvements
	Clive Hall	
	Haumoana Hall	
	Whirinaki	
	Petāne Marae	
	Havelock North Community Centre	
	Waipatu Marae	
	Pakowhai Hall	
	Raukawa Hall	
	Pakipaki	
	Te Hauke Marae	
	Puketapu	
	Poukawa	
	Matapiro	
	Waiwhare	
	Pacific hubs (x3)	
	FCC and HSC	
	Waiohiki Marae (whare kai)	

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE BUILDING

Staff from HDC are working with community hubs on resilience building. The first step in this is a Community Carousel Workshop. Communities identify their hazard risk profile, they then work through a specific hazard scenario by identifying the potential impacts and responses, as well as the key gaps/issues/challenges to be considered. These workshops are currently being rolled out across community hubs and are the first step in a six-stage community resilience pathway. Further work will be done with each hub on a community resilience plan, guiding the setting up of a community hub, distribution of Civil Defence wheelie bins and community emergency hub training. The last step is to have community emergency hub open days where they are given an interactive scenario to see how they could help each other after an emergency. They also learn about the types of help that they may need after an emergency.



WAIKOAU

Waikoau Community Hub Leader Matt Stone talks about his cyclone story and the upgrades to the community hall - making it Waikoau's fully equipped emergency hub, but also energising it into a real heart of the community. Since then, the Waikoau community has been working together and are now stronger and more connected than ever. It was great to visit Matt again, see the progress that's been made on the hall, and learn about their plans for the future.

Click on the image below to play the video.



HAUMOANA

Haumoana Hall Kitchen that has been installed thanks to the Red Cross Funding.



POU AHUREA TEAM UPDATES

HOW DO WE ENGAGE WITH OUR MĀORI COMMUNITIES AND CREATE ONGOING RELATIONSHIPS?

We meet them where they are, identifying what matters to them and aligning our initiatives to minimize repeated engagements. By doing so, we gain a better understanding of each other and ensure we are more effective, efficient, and relevant.

Over this period, there has been a strong theme of collaboration and unity, across the board.

HUI-A-IWI

Two important hui were held in Heretaunga during this period: Hui-a-Iwi at Waipatu Marae and Hui Taumata at Ōmāhu Marae. These gatherings aimed to foster Māori unity (Kotahitanga) by bringing together various mana whenua groups and neighbouring iwi to understand their collective aspirations and plan for the future. The hui also provided an opportunity to identify areas for improvement and celebrate successes.



GOVERNOR GENERAL'S VISIT

The Governor General visited Waipatu Marae to listen to those affected by Cyclone Gabrielle, gathering information and ideas to present to the Government, ensuring attention is given to these struggling communities.

Waipatu Marae was an ideal location for the meeting, having served as an emergency hub by providing food, bedding, and clothing to those in need. They also welcomed the whānau from Waiohiki, offering them shelter after 92% of their homes were deemed uninhabitable.

It was enlightening to hear various speakers share their experiences, whom were directly or indirectly, affected by the cyclone, as well as those who provided support in any way they could. The gathering offered an opportunity to listen, reflect, and acknowledge the hardships faced and the support given. It also demonstrated a collective willingness to work together for the best possible outcomes.



CONNECTION

Our Pou Ahurea team has been forging relationships with multiple agencies to work more effectively and better serve the community. By understanding each agency's expertise, resources, and focus areas, we aim to enhance our ability to address community needs more efficiently and effectively. This collaboration fosters a unified approach to problem-solving, ensures comprehensive support, and streamlines communication and operations. The synergy from these partnerships strengthens our collective impact and builds trust and resilience within the community, leading to sustainable, long-lasting solutions.

We have collaborated with other agencies on potentially challenging issues, opting for supportive solutions that wrap around struggling whānau instead of heavy-handed approaches. There is a housing crisis and the displacement of whānau as a result of the damage to their homes, is adding additional pressure.



Other ways we have been empowering our communities, is by connecting them with tools and supports that are available to them. For example, we organized a funding session with marae representatives and funding agencies, giving them the confidence to apply for resources that support community resilience as they see fit.

We have been reaching out to other groups to establish mana whenua engagements, aiming to work smarter together and minimize engagement fatigue for our PSGE partners, by being more deliberate and coordinated. This approach enhances our effectiveness as a council, and we are being commended for these efforts.

HUI TAUMATA - KOTAHITANGA

The Hui Taumata was held at Ōmāhu Marae, one of the marae devastated by Cyclone Gabrielle just over a year ago, within the Hastings District. Ngāti Kahungunu Chair, Bayden Barber, acknowledged how Ōmāhu has displayed Māori mana motuhake, demonstrating true community resilience in the face of extreme hardship and showing what can be achieved through unified vision and collaborative effort. Kotahitanga, meaning unification, signifies working smarter together on topics/kaupapa that hold shared value amongst parties.

This powerful vision represents a significant step forward. It was crucial to be present, listen to the voice of our community, and align our combined aspirations to advance social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing. This approach also helps forge better working relationships for all the work we need to do together, especially within our Māori communities and partnerships.



ESTABLISHMENT OF MARAE HUBS

The establishment of Marae Hubs has focused on areas affected by Cyclone Gabrielle, with some hubs also located in isolated regions. The wider community hubs were created soon after the cyclone, predominantly consisting of communities affected by isolation, which allowed them to get started sooner. Our marae communities started this a little later, as they were still in the process of rebuilding, and where possible, are incorporating resilience into their recovery activities.

Petane and Tangoio are still working directly with the government, and a solution for their relocation package has yet to be determined. The delay in these decisions is unsettling for the whānau connected to these marae, making it difficult for these communities to initiate resilience planning while they are still deep in their recovery journey.

While it is early days in setting up this collective, it is bringing different marae communities together, allowing them to share their collective knowledge and experiences. The support from HDC is helping to create better connections and understanding of emergency management systems and expectations. At the same time, HDC is gaining a better understanding of how marae community's function. Valuable lessons have been learned by all involved.



We attended a marae whānau day at Moteo Marae, presented the hubs model to the community, and collected information to formulate a resilience plan, understanding what is important to them and gathering local information useful in emergencies. John Roberts also presented on the neighbourhood support function within council and acknowledged the support the community already provide for one another.

Our next marae collective hui will be held at Moteo, where they will demonstrate to the group what they did during and after the cyclone, fostering collective learning. Hosting it at a marae creates a familiar and friendly environment for all marae representatives, establishing supportive and enduring relationships across marae and council.

The marae participating in the hubs are Houngarea, Kahuranaki, Moteo, Ōmāhu, Petane, Ruahāpia, Tangoio, Te Haroto, Timi Kara, and Waiohiki. We have collaborated with those affected by Cyclone Gabrielle,

those who have shown interest, and those in remote areas who can support isolated communities. Additionally, there are community hubs and halls spread across the district, ready to offer support if another emergency occurs. We acknowledge the guidance and support from Regan Smith and his team in rolling this out. Special thanks to Rebekah Dinwiddie, Red Cross, the Ministry of Primary Industries, and the Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment for the funding opportunities that supported the establishment of these hubs.



CYCLONE RECOVERY & MANA WHENUA ENGAGEMENT WĀNANGA

Post-settlement governance entities (PSGEs) are established as a result of the Treaty of Waitangi settlement process. Their primary role is to manage and be responsible for the collective assets received on behalf of the claimant group, usually represented by hapū/iwi. Statutory acknowledgements recognize specific areas of importance to a claimant group, acknowledging the cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional association of iwi and hapū with particular locations.

Our Pou Ahurea team and transportation team members, have met with various PSGEs and two hapū authorities with statutory acknowledgements to establish working relationships ahead of a large infrastructure program. The scope of the required work is unprecedented and presents a significant challenge for all involved. Efforts have been made to understand the pressures and complexities faced by various partners while respecting the cultural, spiritual, historical, and traditional associations of iwi and hapū within specific areas.

A wānanga was held at council offices with representatives of all PSGEs to establish engagement fundamentals and a governance group for all recovery work within their areas of interest. Each entity has its own complexities, focus areas, protections, and aspirations for their catchments. One of the primary concerns from PSGEs is the tendency to be involved in reactionary responses rather than partnership decisions. They requested early and clear information about all planned work in their areas to make more informed decisions.

There has been positive feedback in relation to the bridge repair work and cultural engagements that have been undertaken. Culturally significant sites and history has been respected and the mana (significance) of these sites, have been upheld, aiding in the protection of the whenua and of what is of value to mana whenua.

Manaaki whenua, Manaaki tangata, Haere whakamua

(Care for the land, care for the people, Go forward)

Māori Whakatauki, proverb

FIELDING ENQUIRIES

Our Pou Ahurea team has been the primary contact for our Māori communities, assisting with rates remissions, emergency management, rebuilding and compliance, and silt recovery, among other functions of the council. Some requests, however, are complex due to historical Māori land issues, making resolutions challenging.

Despite these challenges, we have achieved notable successes. Some communities have seen their land reinstated after being used as dumping grounds, and waterways are being cleared of logs and debris, bringing comfort and joy to the affected areas.

We strive to work collaboratively across all council functions, teaming up with other services to better support our communities. At a recent marae engagement, the value of our Pou Ahurea team was highlighted, emphasizing the trust they have built with mana whenua/tangata whenua and their role in bridging the gap between the community and council. This trust is helping to foster lasting relationships and improves collaboration across council teams.



Ki te kotahi te kākaho ka whati, Ki te kāpuia e kore e whati

(Alone we can be broken. Standing together, we are invincible)

King Tāwhiao

NEW REPORT DEEMS PUBLIC HEALTH RISK OF SILT AND DUST LOW

Hawke's Bay public health officials released a new Institute of Environmental Science and Research (ESR) report last month into any potential long-term health impacts from silt following Cyclone Gabrielle.

Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora National Public Health Service commissioned the report following Cyclone Gabrielle to better understand any longer-term impacts of silt or dust on human health.

Medical Officer of Health Dr Bridget Wilson said findings set out in the report followed a robust study by ESR drawing on analysis from flooding events overseas, as well as in-depth local analysis on silt sampling and air quality. "Impacted communities have been understandably concerned about the effect of silt and dust on their health and what that could mean longer term," said Dr Wilson.

"This report was commissioned to ensure an in-depth analysis by scientists in order to provide the best possible information to support the health and wellbeing of our communities, including identifying any additional measures that may be required to further protect public health.

"It is therefore extremely reassuring to share that ESR's investigations have determined the likelihood of long-term public health impacts following silt and dust exposure is deemed low."

RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE POU

BACKGROUND

Cyclone Gabrielle caused severe damage to our district's roading network and bridges. All roads, culverts, and bridges were inspected, and faults logged post cyclone. During the past quarter repair work has been ongoing, with increased monitoring and maintenance across the network, and additional monitoring after weather events. The response and recovery programme are estimated at around \$800M and planned over 7 – 10 years to repair/rebuild.

A panel of consultants are busy with investigations and designs of the recovery aspects of bigger and more complex slips, bridge works, and culvert repairs on our road network, to develop the right and appropriate engineering solutions. Four contractors have just been appointed to the new Hastings District Council Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Road Infrastructure Works Supplier Panel, with the first package of work awarded to TW Civil and Infrastructure.

FUNDING

Funding remains a critical factor. Hastings District Council is navigating through the various funding streams, identifying what could/should be implemented through what funding stream and managing expenditures within those funding streams. Whilst the Crown funding agreement provides \$228m of 100% funding support and over \$100m of work has been undertaken at the 93% subsidy rate through Waka Kotahi, there remains approximately \$500m of roading recovery works to be funded without funding certainty from the Crown or Waka Kotahi.

Future weather events pose a concern as the network is still extremely fragile, though a huge effort has gone into stabilising the network. Staff are continuing to monitor assets after significant rain events and are still discovering damage which needs urgent repair or a reprioritisation of work.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

SUPPLIER PANEL

Due to the volume and scale of recovery work needed, with 224 major slips across Hastings District, a package approach is being taken to tender the work. Four preferred suppliers have been identified to establish the Suppliers Panel: TW Civil & Infrastructure, Downer Group NZ, Hick Bros Civil Construction Ltd and Tūpore Infrastructure. This was approved at Council on Thursday 27 June.

AWARD OF FIRST PACKAGE

The 224 remaining major slips, and associated work on culverts and roads are being awarded in four large packages of works through the new supplier panel. The first package of works expected was awarded on Thursday 27 June to TW Civil and Infrastructure. This work will include slips and transport recovery work along Taihape Road and other roads in Kaweka Ward (Omarunui Rd, Crownthorpe Settlement Rd, Matapiro Rd, Glenross Rd, Willowford Rd, Tareha Rd, Whanawhana Rd, River Rd, Flag Range Rd, Breckenridge Rd and Swamp Rd). This work is occurring under a global resource consent granted by Hawkes Bay Regional Council for 113 sites across the district.

DARTMOOR ROAD SLIP PROGRESSING WELL

The repair of the slip at Dartmoor Road, being done under emergency works, is progressing well, with river diversion complete and work well underway at the slip site below the road. The site was relatively unaffected during the recent heavy rain event, but work was temporarily halted.

FIRST REBUILD COMPLETE

Chrystal Twin Culvert on Matahorua Road was destroyed during Cyclone Gabrielle when flood waters sent a water tank downstream, blocking the culvert pipes and causing the water to build-up and encroach over the top of the road. The scouring out that followed eventually led to the road being completely washed away, creating a 35-metre gap and the community being cut-off. In the immediate aftermath, Council's roading team and contractors established 4-wheel-drive vehicle access upstream of the culvert site and by May 2023 a permanent solution was being investigated. Today the twin culvert has been redesigned to be a 3.2 metre diameter single culvert, with over 9 metres of stone strong blocks above it, up to the formation of Matahorua

Road. Reconstruction has been done under emergency works and has been a large and complex project. The new culvert is scheduled to be formally opened on 19 July.

PUKETAPU AWARD OF SUBSTRUCTURE WORK

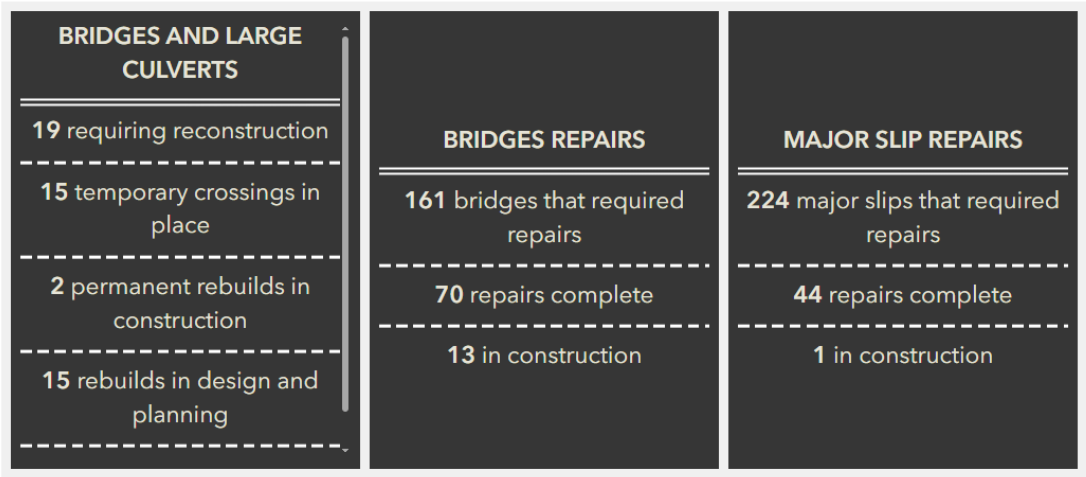
Rebuild project continuing at good speed. Council approved the awarding of portions 2 and 3 of the bridge rebuild to Fulton Hogan on 13 June which will enable this to continue. The next phases are the procurement of materials and the construction of temporary access roads, temporary causeway, piling to the foundations and the construction of the pier columns.

ROADING RECOVERY DASHBOARD

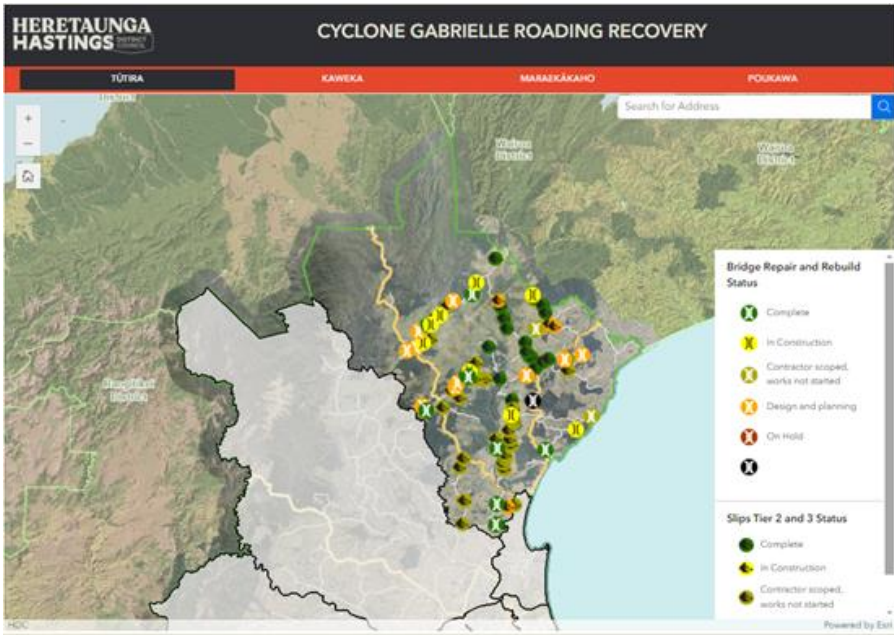
To find out more about the transport recovery work happening in different areas go to www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/cyclone-gabrielle/roading-recovery. Here you can find progress updates and interactive maps that show the status of bridge, large culvert, and slip repairs and rebuilds across the district.

Roading Recovery Dashboard

The dashboard below shows progress being made in the different stages of the bridges, large culverts, and large slips rebuild and repair process.



As of July 2024



ROADS

WAIMĀRAMA ROAD WORKS REACH MAJOR MILESTONE

We are pleased to announce the practical completion of the road works on Waimārama Road, covering the stretch between markers 12950 and 14000. This significant milestone was achieved on Friday 14 June, marking the handover of the project from the HDC project delivery team to the HDC maintenance team.

This important section of Waimārama Road has undergone extensive improvements, including widening the road and re-engineering the stormwater management system to better handle high-volume rain events. The previously deteriorated road surface and kerb have been rebuilt, enhancing safety and durability, while new culverts have added further infrastructure resilience.

We would like to thank the community for their support throughout this project, and the landowners in particular for their cooperation throughout the works.

Although the delivery team has handed over the project, they will continue to be involved for the next 12 months to monitor the performance of the road, ensuring it continues to meet the highest standards. The road's upgrade is subject to a Road Safety Audit which will take place in the coming weeks.



SALISBURY ROAD

Due to the increased traffic volume on Salisbury Road, HDC has been putting additional resourcing into maintaining it, including repairs to the road edges and potholes. Inspections are occurring weekly, and grading is being done fortnightly.

To assist us in looking after the road, we ask all road users to drive with care and consideration for the conditions and other users. We have an understanding with Pan Pac that their logging trucks will not use the road while loaded, and we appreciate their efforts in helping reduce the load on the road.

Please note: As Salisbury Road is an open and legal road used by several different types of large vehicles serving farms and other needs, there is no weight restriction in place, nor is it possible to implement one that would apply to only one specific category of heavy vehicles.



BRIDGES

BRIDGE REPAIRS AND RECONSTRUCTIONS

The work to repair damaged bridges across the ward varies by site, with repairs being prioritised based on the vulnerability of roads to new weather events, availability of resources, levels of road use, and the number of people affected. Repairs will be programmed as designs are completed and approved. In the meantime, regular monitoring is ongoing and additional inspections are done around rain events.

Damaged sections of Brookfields Bridge have been removed from the Tutaekuri River waterway as part of the ongoing repairs to the wider transport network following Cyclone Gabrielle.

Brookfields Bridge is one of 13 bridges and five large culverts destroyed by the cyclone and is one of three broken bridge structures currently being cleared.

The others are the Mangatutu and Whanawhana Bridges, both of which have had temporary bailey bridge replacements built.

Photo: Te Apiti No.2 Bridge



Permanent solutions for the replacement of these three bridges are some way from being finalised yet, with investigation works into the feasibility of a replacement bridge at Brookfields ongoing.

A regional transport study is planned to be conducted during the next three years, aimed at improving the form and function of the transport network connecting Napier and Hastings.

The network that will best serve our communities into the future will be modelled and researched and will guide future decision making regarding Brookfields Bridge.

The rebuild of the Mangatutu Bridge is currently programmed for 2026/27 and the Whanawhana Bridge in 2028/29.

A further 80 bridges suffered significant damage requiring complex repairs during the cyclone, and there are 212 large and complex slips still requiring engineering designs.



Photo: Image of the old Whanawhana Bridge and temporary bailey bridge.

RISSINGTON BRIDGE

Rissington is one of the thirteen bridges across the Hastings District requiring rebuilding. It has a temporary Bailey bridge which opened in March 2023.

Key points for consideration for a rebuild:

- **Alignment significance:** The feasibility of bridge designs is intricately tied to the chosen alignment of the new bridge. Each alignment concept will carry substantial implications, and guidance from mana whenua is of utmost importance.
- **Project timeline:** The goal is to begin construction on a permanent replacement structure by late-2025.



WAIKOAU

Unfortunately, a crack around the pier on this bridge was discovered in early June. After being surveyed it was discovered the lateral movement (tilt) above the crack is significant and the pier is compromised.

HDC actioned the following:

- Rescinded all bridge permits immediately until further notice.
- Apply a 3.5t weight restriction (light vehicles only) until contractors & engineers have implemented a temporary support.
- Council's maintenance contractor and specialist sub-contractor were mobilised to commence with preparatory works and worked with Council's engineers to install temporary supports. Signage to this effect was installed.
- The Community and public were immediately notified, through social media channels and HDC website, of the immediate changes to the bridge restrictions and provide further updates as and when required.
- The engineering solution will include the erection of scaffolding to provide access to the damaged pier, and then implementing stage one of the pier repair. Once the first stage pier repairs are complete, the weight limit will increase to 11T, and 22T under permit. This work will be done simultaneously as the bridge deck strengthening continues.
- Contractors have been able to source materials to begin the work on the pier. The bridge deck strengthening is progressing well and is expected to be completed by the end of the month, thanks in part to the use of a second hydro-demolition machine.



Prior to this, strengthening of Waikoau Bridge was a project that was delayed initially by COVID-19 and then by Cyclone Gabrielle. In February 2024, it was identified that the bridge had been further damaged, and an 11-tonne limit was urgently put in place, with heavier loads up to 30 tonnes allowed by permit only.

A community meeting was held in mid-June, where residents asked questions directly of HDC staff and the project team. Those in attendance indicated a strong preference for the bridge to be strengthened to full capacity as soon as possible, and that they did not believe that the planned nighttime closures on SH2 during July should have any impact on work on the Waikoau Gorge Bridge. They also indicated a willingness to extend the daytime closures to accelerate the deck repair.

The weather event the last week in June has delayed the work on the bridge deck and pier by one week, as the high water flows meant contractors could not work in the waterway.

Work on the bridge deck is progressing well despite the lost time due to weather, thanks in part to the use of

a second hydro-demolition machine.

On Monday 1 July, contractors were back in action. Stream training has begun to allow access to start to repair the cracked pier. The next step will be to erect scaffolding around the damaged pier to enable a close-quarters inspection.

DARTMOOR TEMPORARY BRIDGE

On Friday 26 April, Council was alerted to a slump on the temporary Dartmoor Bridge. Following assessment by contractors and engineers, temporary remedial works were undertaken to keep the bridge open under a 3.5t weight restriction.

On Tuesday 30 April, a long-term solution of a new deck panel and running boards was installed and the weight restriction returned to 40t MAX at 10km/hr. As can be seen in the photo above, a solid section of running boards have been positioned centrally for the use of motorbikes and cyclists. Bridge users should take care and follow the speed limit as the bridge deck could be slippery.



We thank road users for their patience while these urgent works were undertaken. Weight restrictions on bridges have been advertised and freight and heavy vehicle companies advised.

Enforcement of the weight limit is a police matter, and HDC has worked with police asking them to enforce the limits and ensuring steps have been taken so that they are enforceable. We would ask the community to call the police in the first instance of seeing overweight vehicles on temporary bridges, just as HDC notifies the police if it receives any information from the community or otherwise of overweight vehicles.

PUKETAPU BRIDGE REBUILD

The Puketapu Bridge project is continuing at a good speed. To date, trees have been trimmed and some Chorus utilities and cables and Unison power lines have been temporarily relocated in preparation for the construction site to be established.

The contract for the rebuild of the Puketapu Bridge has been awarded to Fulton Hogan and planning is underway for the start of physical works.

The bridge on Vicarage Rd was one of three bridges over this river that were washed away by Cyclone Gabrielle. It provides a link to Puketapu Rd and Dartmoor Rd - the two main routes servicing the farming areas of Patoka, Puketitiri, Puketapu and Rissington.

The new bridge will be built to withstand higher-intensity earthquakes and have fewer piers in the stream bed, making it less vulnerable to collecting debris during severe flooding.

Constructed in the same location, it will be upgraded from one to two lanes and include a shared path for cyclists and pedestrians.



The Puketapu Bridge rebuild is 100 per cent funded by the Crown through the National Resilience Plan for Regional Transport. The current schedule estimates to have the new bridge completed by mid-2025.

OLRIG & WHANAKINO BRIDGE

While much work has been done to stabilise the site, Orlig Bridge requires significant repair work which is now in detailed design. Physical works are expected to begin in the coming months.

Due to the heavy rainfall, both Orlig and Whanakino Bridges were inspected on 23 May. No new issues were observed.

The scour protection repair works for Orlig Bridge are currently in detailed design and a safety fence on Whanakino Bridge has been installed.



REDCLYFFE/WAIOHIKI BRIDGE

As part of the regular monitoring of the temporary Waiohiki/Redclyffe Bridge, engineers identified areas requiring routine maintenance typical of a temporary crossing. These works were carried out during April and early May. The final work activities were completed during a full closure of the bridge on Sunday 5 May which enabled the work to be completed in a single day, thus reducing the impact on the community.

We would also remind those who use Redclyffe Bridge that it is a temporary structure with an 8-tonne limit. To ensure it remains safe, road users must adhere to the weight and speed restrictions, until a permanent replacement is built. We will be installing monitoring equipment to help protect the temporary bridge and ensure it continues to provide a reliable transport link.



MATAPIRO BRIDGE

Construction is expected to begin later this year and be completed by late 2025.

Matapiro Road has been significantly affected by heavy vehicle use during the response and recovery phase and two sections in particular are damaged beyond resealing. The road needs to be rebuilt and strengthened in these sections. While Council is working to fast-track this construction, it will not start until after the 2024 winter and more routine maintenance and temporary work will be needed in the interim.



WAIPUNGA BRIDGE

At a recent Esk Valley community meeting, concerns were raised about Waipunga Bridge and the exposed bridge piles.

Waipunga is one of 51 bridges in the Tūtira Ward that require repairs following Cyclone Gabrielle. Repair of this bridge requires an engineering solution. These designs are being developed in coordination with Hawke's Bay Regional Council.

Inspection of Waipunga Bridge occurred on Thursday 27 June to observe the damage as a result of the latest weather event. As expected, the scour had progressed beyond Pier 5 by approximately 3m. Weekly monitoring will continue, and it is likely that this scour will continue in future significant rain events.



The options report is being developed with urgency. Advice will be subject to the outcomes of geotechnical investigations.

WHANAWHANA AND MANGATUTU LOW LEVEL BRIDGE

Mangatutu Low-Level Crossing and Whanawhana Bridge are two of thirteen bridges and six large culverts destroyed by Cyclone Gabrielle. The damaged sections of these bridges that were still in the waterways were removed during April/May.

CULVERTS

KERERŪ GORGE CULVERT REBUILD

The first phase of construction which began on 19 April is progressing well and is expected to be completed in early July. Work in this phase is foundational, and has included:

- Establishing site facilities, buildings, and utilities
- Geotechnical slope stability modelling and earthworks
- Ecological works
- Placement of temporary culverts and stream diversion
- Test pile installation. *Note: The discovery of an artesian spring required a design revision and ceasing the test pile.*
- Ground improvements.

The discovery of an artesian spring during the installation of a test pile required urgent revision of the original design to shorten the piles and lighten the overall load. This revised design is now out for pricing. Ground improvement work has continued in the interim and while the restricted site limits the number of simultaneous activities that are possible, the work is progressing well and phase one is expected to be complete in early July. At this stage, indications are that the overall project timeline of Kererū Gorge being open to traffic by Christmas is unchanged. Design work for the repair of slips on the western bank is ongoing.



Photo: Section being marked out before soil mixing (11 June 2024).

TUTIRA

After initially suffering scour damage from Cyclone Gabrielle, the base of the McIntyres Low-Level Crossing collapsed on Thursday 18 April. Council contractors and the roading team were able to respond quickly and 4WD access was restored the following day. On Wednesday 24 April, the repairs were completed. A big thank you to Fulton Hogan for their responsiveness and to residents for their patience during the repair.

Photo: Repaired McIntyres Low-Level Crossing with culverts,



CHRYSTAL TWIN CULVERT OPENING

A year and a half on from Cyclone Gabrielle, the first major permanent rebuild of a bridge/culvert is complete, with Chrystal Culvert in the Tutira area now open and in use.

During the storm, 13 bridges and six large culverts were destroyed amid significant damage to the roading network across the Hastings district, including hundreds of slips and a further 160 bridges impacted and needing repair.

Chrystal Twin Culvert on Matahorua Road was destroyed when flood waters sent a water tank downstream, blocking the culverts pipes and causing the water to build-up and encroach over the top of the road.

The scouring out that followed eventually led to the road being completely washed away, creating a 35-metre gap.

In the immediate aftermath, Council's roading team and contractors established four-wheel-drive vehicle access upstream of the culvert site and by May 2023 a permanent solution was being investigated.

Today, the twin culvert has been redesigned to be a 3.2 metre diameter single culvert, with over nine metres of stone blocks above it, up to the formation of Matahorua Road.

Hastings mayor Sandra Hazlehurst said that in the face of a huge programme of work to restore the transport network, it was heartening to have a permanent rebuild completed.

"Our thanks go to the Government for the funding support to undertake this extensive rebuild that's vital for the community for now and for future resilience.

"It's been a large and complex job and we have been very grateful to the community for their patience during months of reconstruction.

"This is the first of a number of large rebuilds that are underway or scheduled over the next seven to ten years, it's a large programme of work and will continue to be a primary focus for council as we seek to restore resilient access for impacted communities."



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CROWN FUNDED BRIDGES AND LARGE CULVERTS – STATUS UPDATE

Road	Status
Puketapu Bridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rebuild project continuing at good speed with the relocation of utilities (power lines and fibre cables) completed during April and May)Council approved the awarding of portions 2 and 3 of the bridge rebuild to Fulton Hogan on 13 JunePortion 2 relates to the procurement of the required steel pile casings, while portion 3 relates to the construction of temporary access roads, temporary causeway, piling to the foundations and the construction of the pier columns.Site establishment began on 17 June, following a karakia for the construction crews
Matapiro Bridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Engineers are completing regular checks on the temporary structure.Tender award is expected in quarter three 2024.Construction timeline is expected to be 9-12 months, so expected to be complete by the end of 2025
Arapaoanui Bridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mana Whenua and Community Engagement underway on the options
Dartmoor Bridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">In early design stage. Feasibility and options reportDemolition of old structure completeEstimated construction period 2025
Rissington Bridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">See update above
Whanawhana Bridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Successful removal of damaged sections of old sections removed from the waterway in April/May
Chrystal Twin Culvert	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rebuild work commenced July 2023 and was completed end of June 2024Official opening is scheduled for Friday 19 July, 2024
Kereru Gorge 3 Culvert	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The first phase of construction which began on 19 April is progressing well. Work in this phase is foundational, and has included:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Establishing site facilities, buildings, and utilitiesGeotechnical slope stability modelling and earthworksEcological worksPlacement of temporary culverts and stream diversionTest pile installation. Note: The discovery of an artesian spring required a design revision and ceasing the test pile.Ground improvements.The discovery of an artesian spring during the installation of a test pile required urgent revision of the original design to shorten the piles and lighten the overall load. This revised design is now out for pricing. Ground improvement work has continued in the interim and while the restricted site limits the number of simultaneous activities that are possible, the work is progressing well and phase one

SLIPS

Cyclone Gabrielle resulted in more than 800 slips. By the beginning of 2024, all 590 less complex slips had been cleared and repairs made. 224 larger and more complex slips required investigation, engineering designs, and major construction to repair. 14 of these were located in Poukawa Ward, of which, 3 remain to be repaired.



Photo: Kahuranaki Road, slip site

TUTIRA

In addition to more than 600 smaller slips which have been cleared, Cyclone Gabrielle caused approximately 220 major slips across the district, 95 of them in the Tutira Ward. Due to the scale and complexity of the damage, repair of these major slips requires investigations and engineering expertise. Resource consents have been submitted and a programme of prioritised work packages have been developed. We expect the first of these packages of work to be awarded to contractors over winter. The volume and cost of the work requires a prioritised approach, and so slip repairs will be phased over the 7-10 years of the programme.



Photo: Matahorua Road: 35m of road lost to slip in the aftermath of Cyclone Gabrielle.

DARTMOOR

The repair of the slip at Dartmoor Road RP49999, is an 8-month, approximately \$3 million project, and is just one of many large slips requiring repair. The Tutaekuri River has been diverted to enable access to the slip face under Dartmoor Road and this project is progressing well.

The repair of the slip is being done under emergency works, is progressing well, with river diversion complete and work well underway at the slip site below the road. The site was relatively unaffected during the recent heavy rain event, but work was temporarily halted.



In total, there are 211 large and complex slips requiring engineering solutions across Hastings District, 102 of them in the Kaweka Ward. Of these, 115 require resource consents which have now been submitted. These works are currently out for tender. We expect to see physical works beginning in July 2024.

A more detail update on the work programme is available on the webpage:

<https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/cyclone-gabrielle/roading-recovery/slips/>

Photo: Tutaekuri River diversion.

CROWN FUNDED ROADS – SLIP STATUS UPDATE (AS OF LATEST)

Road	Status
Dartmoor Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none">10 slips along Dartmoor Road. Construction of repairs on three slips (9220, 11106, 13064) are complete. Construction is in progress on 7690, very significant site, is progressing well. Designs are complete for the remaining slips (16981, 10970,13674,14384,10324,13575) and resource consents have been approved where required.
Taihape Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Part of the first package of work awarded on 27 June to TW Civil & Infrastructure. Work will include slips and transport recovery work along Taihape Road. Site establishment expected to begin week of 5 August. Currently engaging with landowners.
Puketitiri Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none">15 sites along Puketitiri Road. Designs for construction in progress for 4 of these, and complete for 9.
Glengarry Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none">5 slips, designs are complete for these, construction not started.
Kereru Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none">4 slips along Kererū Rd, design complete for three of these, repair of one is complete.
Waimarama Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none">6 sites, 5 repairs are complete, design completed but project on hold due to no NZTA funding.
Kahuranaki Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none">4 sites, 3 complete. Design completed on 4th.
Waihau Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none">14 sites, 3 complete.
Slip repairs – Tier 0 & 1 Slips	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Completed

REPORTING ISSUES AS THEY HAPPEN

Silt recovery and construction work is having an impact on already fragile roads. While we have requested contractors review and remedy some of the issues (where possible), we are also aware that some of these will be recurring and ongoing.

We continue to encourage the community to report any issues requiring maintenance. Doing so will ensure this work is allocated to available contractors as a matter of priority. The best way to report issues is by contacting our Customer Services team on 06) 871 5000.

TREC (TRANSPORT REBUILD EAST COAST) UPDATE

The Transport Rebuild East Coast (TREC) Alliance has been set up to plan, organise and deliver much of the recovery and rebuild work needed on the highway and rail networks in Te Tairāwhiti (Gisborne) and Te Matau a Māui (Hawke's Bay), in conjunction with local businesses and contractors.

The Transport Rebuild East Coast Alliance members include Waka Kotahi, KiwiRail, Downer, Fulton Hogan and Higgins. The Alliance will work in conjunction with local businesses and contractors.

The East Coast has a strong pool of hard-working, skilled and experienced contractors, consultants and suppliers who understand both road and rail building and the East Coast whenua. TREC will complement – not replace – existing resource within the region, using an 'East Coast first' philosophy for physical works, with specialists from other regions brought in as required.

ADDITIONAL RECOVERY FUNDING

Through the Government's Budget 2024, NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) and TREC have been allocated an additional \$250m for Recovery work.

Actual figures may vary as Recovery works progress, this funding follows the \$384m investment announced in 2023.

This additional investment will allow TREC (alongside local contractors and suppliers) to continue to deliver state highway Recovery work effectively and efficiently for communities across Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti.

Recovery work on state highways is restoring them back to their pre-weather event condition. Minor resilience improvements may be made as modern standards generally provide a better outcome than what was in place beforehand.

To date more than 80 percent of Recovery work has been completed by locally owned and operated contractors.

Additional Recovery funding for East Coast: \$250m

East Coast

Additional funding allows works to continue on the recovery of the state highway network across Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti.

Repairs include slope stabilisation, retaining wall construction and river scour protection as well as more significant works such as bridge replacements.

Hawke's Bay

This includes the replacement bridge at the existing SH2 Waikare Gorge alignment, as well as further works on the existing SH2 Devil's Elbow corridor.

Areas with a lower number of faults, such as SH50, SH51 and SH2 south of the junction with SH5 will see repairs. Similarly, SH5 through the Esk Valley up to Waipunga, will have all repairs completed. SH38 north of Wairoa to Waikaremoana will also see a number of repairs.

Tairāwhiti

In Tairāwhiti, the funding allows NZTA to continue the recovery work on SH35, including through the Mangahauini Gorge, which will re-open this section of state highway to two lanes.

SH2 north of Gisborne to Ōpōtiki will see significant works take place to ensure this key freight route into Tairāwhiti is safe and accessible.

Outside this funding, maintenance and operations of the network will continue as usual.

PROGRAMME OF WORK

Ongoing recovery works, needed to restore the state highway and rail networks to a functional level will continue. This is focused on keeping networks open and includes works like: slip clearing, stabilisation and protection, river and road edge scour repairs, drainage works, road surface repairs and replacement and guardrail/barrier replacement.

Future rebuild works will be focused on improving the resilience of the state highway and rail network. TREC will need to design and construct differently for the future, with new ways of thinking and collaboration.

The TREC Alliance will also undertake the ongoing maintenance and operations requirements of the state highway network in Tairāwhiti and Hawke's Bay, continuing the recovery efforts that have been ongoing since February 2023.

While recovery and rebuild work is underway, Waka Kotahi will continue with safety, resilience and walking and cycling projects that were underway before Cyclone Gabrielle.

TREC is starting work to replace Hikuwai Bridges No. 1 and No. 2. They aim to open both bridges by the end of 2024.

The Transport Rebuild East Coast (TREC) team hosted a series of community drop-in sessions to update on its recovery work as well as critical resilience projects across the state highway network. TREC is also investigating several potential rebuild projects and asked for community feedback on these. More information can be found on the website here: <https://nzta.govt.nz/projects/transport-rebuild-east-coast/have-your-say>



Damage to SH5 following Cyclone Gabrielle

ESK VALLEY – STATE HIGHWAY 2 AND STATE HIGHWAY 5 UPDATES

STATE HIGHWAY 2

State Highway 2 (SH2) between Ōpōtiki and Ahuriri/Napier is the busiest road in the region and a lifeline route for the East Coast providing connections for communities, freight, business and tourism. It is critical to ensure SH2 is a secure, reliable and safe transport route.

Around 400 sites along SH2 have been damaged by severe weather events. If they deteriorate further, ongoing disruption (road closures, delays) could further impact people's lives and the regional economy.

Recovery work along SH2, including slip repairs and drainage works is well underway. This will address some of the sites - but around 250 sites require more resilient fixes and rebuilding.

TREC will seek initial Crown funding for 116 of the highest risk sites and aim to deliver these rebuild works over the next 5 years.

The SH2 Corridor Rebuild is focused on creating a more reliable route with reduced disruption. Initial investment will address the highest risk sites first and will target changes that will help avoid full closures, so the road can reopen quicker after weather events.

Future investment in SH2 will focus on changes that will reduce the risk of lane or shoulder closures.

Debris from Cyclone Gabrielle has been cleared from the piers and abutments on Waikoau Bridge, so it doesn't weaken the structural integrity of the bridge.

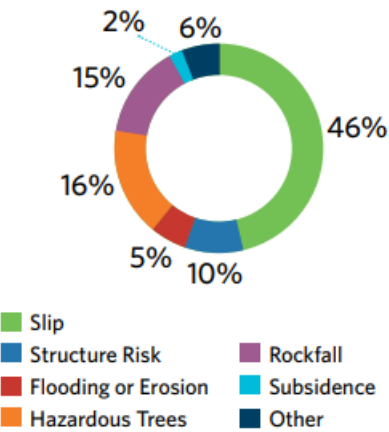


Slip in Mōrere caused by the cyclone



Damage at White Pine Bush

SH2 Existing Resilience Sites



STATE HIGHWAY 5

State Highway 5 (SH5) is a lifeline between Hawke's Bay and the central North Island and a key connector for communities, freight, businesses and tourism. It is critical to ensure SH5 is a strong, reliable and safe transport route.

Over 50 sites along SH5 have been damaged during Cyclone Gabrielle. If they deteriorate further, ongoing disruption (road closures, delays) could further impact people's lives and the regional economy.

Recovery work including slip repairs and drainage works is well underway, addressing many sites, however over 17 sites need more resilient fixes and rebuild funding.

A resilient solution for the Eskdale area is being progressed as a separate project.

The focus for TREC is on the most critical and the straightforward sites that will immediately make a real difference. They will be seeking initial Crown funding for 17 of the highest risk sites, with rebuild work delivered over the next three years.

The SH5 Corridor Rebuild is focused on creating a reliable route with significantly reduced disruption. By improving the highest risk sites first, they can avoid future full closures and the road can reopen quicker after extreme weather events.

Rebuild works include additional slip repairs, rockfall management, stormwater and drainage upgrades, erosion protection, flood management, revegetation and construction of retaining walls at specific sites.

They are also looking at new signs, tree management, culvert and bridge upgrades and improved digital communication. There is an opportunity to deliver four additional safety projects in parallel with resilience works, subject to funding.

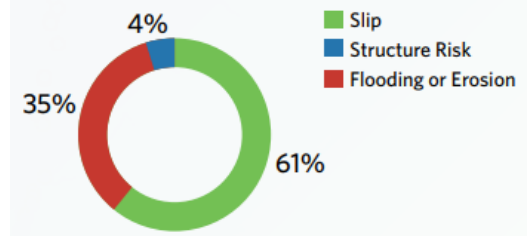


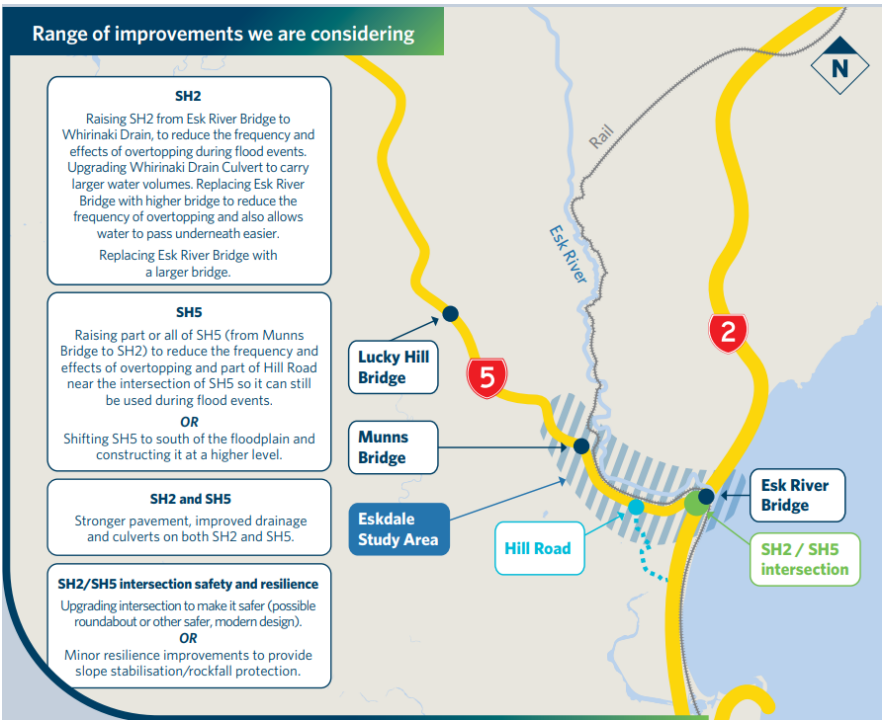
Large underslip at Captain's Culvert



SH5 Mangakopikopiko Stream dropout

SH5 Damage Sites





REBUILDING DEVIL’S ELBOW

Devil’s Elbow on State Highway 2 (SH2) is a priority project for TREC, after suffering significant damage during Cyclone Gabrielle, resulting in road closures. Much of this section of road is still reduced to one lane, causing ongoing disruptions to people’s daily lives and the regional economy.

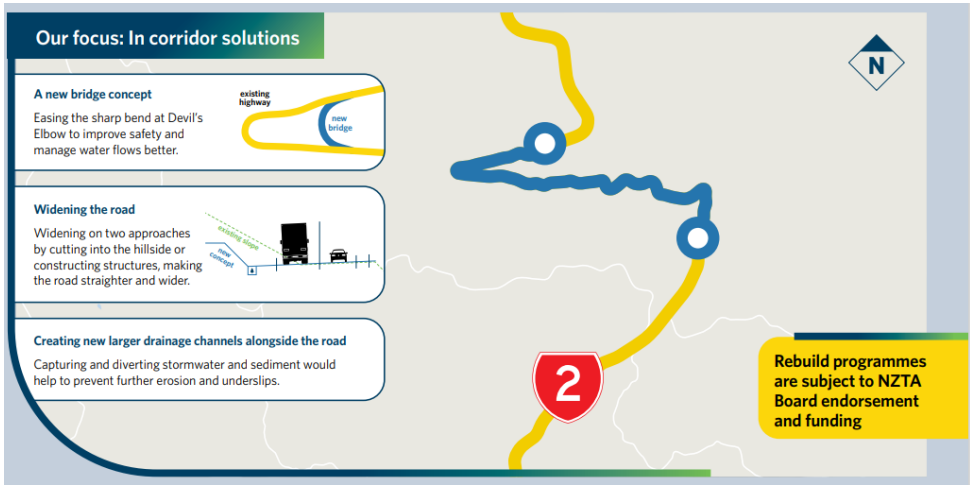
Options to upgrade this section of highway and reduce the risk of it being closed or down to one lane in the future, range from repairs to major works like widening the road (to allow crews to remove slip material without closing the highway) and realigning sections to avoid areas prone to slips and rockfalls.



OTHER WAYS OF SUPPORTING A MORE RESILIENT SH2

Alongside infrastructure, looking at how TREC responds before, during and after events is important. They're also looking at:

- **Network management changes:** Updating response plans with crews ready to reopen the road after extreme weather events. Clearing drains and debris following events.
- **Integrated land use:** Working with councils, landowners and the community to explore measures to stabilise the terrain and minimise the impact of heavy water flow, debris, and sediment on the road.



Damage at the Devil's Elbow from Cyclone Gabrielle

ROCK SCALING ON SH2

Rock scaling at Devil's Elbow and Waikoau Hill: Work is underway at Waikoau Hill to safely dislodge loose rocks and boulders that have been identified for removal (this follows weeks of work at Devil's Elbow). This work ensures safe travel for road users and the crews working onsite during the day, but it also protects our roading infrastructure, minimises rock-related disruptions from falling debris, and helps our hillsides better withstand future weather events.

In early April, SH2 was closed at night for rock blasting at Devil's Elbow which involved blowing up four fairly large rocks measuring 4-5 cubic metres each - around the same size as a Toyota Corolla (that's a lot of rock!)

Crew blasting material into a rock at Devil's Elbow in April

TRANSPOWER TO CONSULT ON REBUILDING REDCLYFFE SUBSTATION ON EXISTING SITE

Transpower, the owner and operator of the national electricity grid, announced in May its preferred plan to improve the resilience of Hawke’s Bay’s electricity supply by strengthening its Redclyffe substation against future weather events.

This is part of the ongoing recovery effort from the major damage done to the region’s electricity infrastructure by Cyclone Gabrielle.



Preferred way forward is to strengthen and improve the Redclyffe substation at its current location.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The preferred way forward will provide the resilience the local community expects far more quickly and at a lower cost than if we built a new substation elsewhere
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transpower estimates it will cost up to \$35 million to rebuild the substation in the same location. This approach will deliver significantly increased resilience for the region within 2-3 years.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Building a new substation at a different location, along with the associated transmission lines and Unison network development, could take 10 years, including land acquisition and consenting, and cost over \$200 million. This option is unlikely to provide any additional resilience above what is achieved by rebuilding on the current site.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Further investment between Unison and Transpower will be required to meet future needs from population growth and increased electrification. The options for meeting the future capacity needs are currently in the feasibility stage.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transpower’s plan is to build new high-voltage equipment and raise the ground level of the substation to protect it from similar weather events in the future.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rebuilding the substation takes into account updated, independent flood modelling to understand the effect of extreme weather events on the Redclyffe site. The new construction will use modern design standards as well as new engineering and technology approaches.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transpower will provide more detail once consultation with the community on the preferred plan begins, expected for mid-2024.

For more information, please go to [Transpower to consult on rebuilding Redclyffe substation on existing site | Transpower](#)

GRAVEL EXTRACTION EXCEEDS TARGETED VOLUMES

Gravel extraction from the Upper Tukituki catchment has already surpassed its initial targeted volume goal of 800,000m³, with more extraction work to come, the Hawke's Bay Regional Council says.

The recently completed Walker Road project allowed for 339,776m³ of gravel to be extracted from sections of the river where extraction had not occurred in more than 10 years.

"This volume of extracted gravel means we've exceeded our initial targets, having already extracted 801,639m³, with another tranche of gravel extraction to come," says Group Manager – Asset Manager Chris Dolley.

This \$8m project – funded from Kānoa – Regional Economic Development & Investment Unit (\$5.12m) and the Upper Tukituki Scheme (\$2.88m) through the Infrastructure Reference Group – aims to extract 800,000m³ in total from a range of sites across the Upper Tukituki within four years.

"Access to the river in this location has now been established and will allow for future extraction in an area that has been difficult to get to."

The next round of extraction went to tender last week. This is to target further extraction of approximately 60,000m³ around the Waipawa township and Makaretu River.



contractors and suppliers."

PARKS AND RESERVES

PUKETAPU PARK

A new play piece, generously funded through community fundraising efforts, has been installed at Puketapu Park.

The park was significantly damaged by Cyclone Gabrielle but has now been restored and improved with the playground reinstated, including a new play piece particularly suited to pre-schoolers.

Thanks to the Puketapu community committee for facilitating the fundraising efforts that included donations from Infratil and Morrison, via Hawke's Bay Foundation, and the Evergreen Foundation.

Work has also started to restore the sports field turf and grass area of the old archery field to its original state ready for sports games. The archery field will be relocated elsewhere within the park, where it will be less likely to clash with other park users.

The Council's plans to upgrade the toilet facilities (to include a parent/baby change facility) have been approved. We are intending to complete the upgrade by the end of June 2024.



Tauroa Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The upper-south end remains CLOSED due to dangerous trees and lack of bridges. Lower Tauroa Reserve is OPEN as is the Tauroa Boardwalk.
Tainui Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hikanui Drive cul de sac entrance, the mountain bike trail, and lower-south end are CLOSED due to slips and trail instability. Lower Tainui Reserve is OPEN.
Karituwhenua Stream walkway in Kingsgate Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The gully track from Te Mata Road to Reeve Drive entrance is CLOSED. The upper track from Te Mata Road through reserve is OPEN.
Maraetōtara Falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Toilets and carpark available and waterfall are accessible, however, trail along stream is washed out or blocked in some places (not continuous).
Puketapu Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">OPEN. Further restoration works including the cricket pitch and archery area will follow in 2024
Eskdale Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">CLOSED until further notice.

TAINUI RESERVE PLANTING DAY

About 40 people took part in a planting day at Hikanui Pā in Tainui Reserve last month, continuing ongoing work to repair severe damage caused by Cyclone Gabrielle.

During the cyclone a large number of exotic trees were impacted around the historic pā site within the reserve, which Council is charged with preserving.

This included about 30 exotic trees falling down, leaving other surrounding trees vulnerable and at risk of damaging the area that's a registered archaeological site, containing features such as ditch and bank, terracing and pits.

In November last year following specialist advice, Council resolved to remove the remaining trees, in order to preserve the pā and keep visitors safe.

That work began in March this year, and once complete stabilisation matting was placed on the steeper areas where it was needed.

Volunteers began re-planting the area with the first of 4000 eco-sourced indigenous trees and shrubs that will be planted this winter.

Eco-sourced plants are propagated from naturally occurring wild populations in the same area, making them more resilient as they are adapted to the local conditions.

The planting day also included the ceremonial planting of a Tainui tree, gifted by indigenous revegetation and rongoā specialist Rob McGowan.

Tainui Reserve is now open for the public to visit but the interior of the pā site remains closed over winter.



ENVIRONMENTAL RESILIENCE POU

2C COMMUNITY UPDATES FROM HAWKE’S BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL – AS OF MAY/JUNE 2024

As part of Hawke’s Bay’s recovery following Cyclone Gabrielle, the Hawke’s Bay Regional Council will deliver six infrastructure repair projects over the next four to five years. These projects will be coordinated by their newly created Programme Management Office, supported by industry experts and assisted by the Regional Recovery Agency.

The following updates relate to the flood infrastructure mitigation projects in the Hastings district.



ŌMĀHU/OHITI ROAD

This work ensures 11 Category 2C properties move to Category 1. Potential solution includes stopbanking, drainage, and stream works.

The planning phase continues to develop for the flood resilience project in Ohiti Road, Omāhu. The hydrological assessment, which measures the flow and amount of water in water channels to evaluate flood risk in an area, and the Cultural Impact Assessment groundwork is complete, and the reports are being reviewed by the team. A Cultural Impact Assessment for the project is now underway. Hawke’s Bay Regional Council also completed a site walk over with local community members to share culturally significant locations.

The project team is also working through survey, scoping, and design needs — this includes looking at the condition and stability of the land (geotechnical reporting) and finding out if there are any lizard and bat habitats to consider as the project progresses.

The HBRC website hub contains updated information for each of the new infrastructure projects underway. This site will be the community’s go to location for updates as the project progresses. It will be continually updated as new information is available to be shared. Link to the Ohiti Road page is here:

[Ohiti Road | Hawke’s Bay Regional Council \(hbrc.govt.nz\)](#)

PROJECT TIMELINE – OHITI ROAD FLOOD MITIGATION

The work can be broken down into phases, as shown in the timeline below.

01. Initiate	02. Plan current phase	03. Execute targeting Summer 2024-25	04. Close out
This phase includes identifying stakeholders, risks, optioneering, site investigations, project briefing and initial budgeting.	This phase includes cultural and stakeholder engagement, site investigations (including Geotech, archaeological and ecological assessments, topographic survey), design work and land access.	This phase includes contract activities, Management, Surveillance and Quality Assurance (MSQA), producing technical reports, and the practical completion of the work.	This phase covers the handover and review activities, with final approval from the project sponsors.



WAIOHIKI

The Waiohiki stopbank project is an initiative by Hawke's Bay Regional Council to construct a new 1080m stopbank that will provide enhanced flood resilience to the Waiohiki community.

The engineering solution for Waiohiki includes a new stopbank, and stream realignment.

The project team is working through land agreements that will allow preparation of the area for stopbank construction and discussions are underway for managing tree removals required within the project area. The proposed realignment of the stream has been finalised.

While HBRC is still in the planning phases, contractors will soon begin enabling work like site preparations and material stockpiling. The project is carefully progressing through the consenting process to ensure the flood resilience work meets all requirements to enable the works to begin later this year.

HBRC continue to collaborate with mana whenua on native planting initiatives, seeking ecological feedback and guidance, and are incorporating recommendations from the Cultural Impact Assessment.

Contractors will soon begin enabling work like site preparations and material stockpiling. The project is carefully progressing through the consenting process to ensure the flood resilience work meets all requirements to enable the works to begin later this year.

The HBRC website hub contains updated information for each of the new infrastructure projects underway. This site will be the community's go to location for updates as the project progresses. It will be continually updated as new information is available to be shared. Link to the Waiohiki page is here: [Waiohiki | Hawke's Bay Regional Council \(hbrc.govt.nz\)](https://www.hbrc.govt.nz/waiohiki)

A community information day was held at Waiohiki Marae on 25 May 2024 where HBRC shared what they were working, stopbank design, enabling works and timeframes. Full presentation can be found here:

[Waiohiki Information Day presentation](#)

PROJECT TIMELINE – WAIOHIKI FLOOD MITIGATION

The work can be broken down into phases, as shown in the timeline below.

01. Initiate	02. Plan current phase	03. Execute targeting October 2024	04. Close out
This phase includes identifying stakeholders, risks, optioneering, site investigations, project briefing and initial budgeting.	This phase includes cultural and stakeholder engagement, site investigations (including Geotech, archaeological and ecological assessments, topographic survey), design work and land access.	This phase includes contract activities, Management, Surveillance and Quality Assurance (MSQA), producing technical reports, and the practical completion of the work.	This phase covers the handover and review activities, with final approval from the project sponsors.



WHIRINAKI

This work ensures 46 Category 2C properties move to Category 1. Potential solution includes stopbanking, drainage, and stream works.

Dedicated technical support people have now been appointed to the Whirinaki project. Work continues reviewing the SH2 culvert, and assessment of the current and future stopbanks.

Hawke’s Bay Regional Council is currently in the planning phase of this project and are making progress in the following areas:

- Working through preliminary designs for the stopbank, road (SH2), and the SH2 culvert.
- Scoping of work required on the Esk River to relieve flood risks. This includes debris removal from the active river channel and edge protection.
- Working through the Resource Consent Application requirements (Order in Council) and submitting in August.

HBRC continue to work with mana whenua representatives from Petane Marae around cultural impacts and protection of the urupā. HBRC chief executive Dr Nic Peet, chair Hinewai Ormsby, and the Māori partnerships and the project management teams have met with marae leaders and landowners to discuss a collaborative approach to the project. As a result, Petane marae has appointed two members to the project team. These members will provide guidance and advice around the design and implementation of any flood protection asset proposed for Whirinaki. They will also assist with providing a cultural impact assessment and advise of best cultural practice.

They’re also expecting results from the ecological survey shortly.

HBRC are also working with landowners that will be directly impacted by the project, discussing land agreements and site access.

Site meetings and discussions with affected landowners, and key stakeholders including Pan Pac.

HBRC have launched a website dedicated to the Whirinaki Flood Resilience Project. This will be a great way to share current information on project progress. It is a work in progress and will be updated as new details are ready to be shared. A link to the page is here: [Whirinaki | Hawke's Bay Regional Council \(hbrc.govt.nz\)](https://www.hbrc.govt.nz/whirinaki)

PROJECT TIMELINE – WHIRINAKI FLOOD MITIGATION

The work can be broken down into phases, as shown in the timeline below.

01. Initiate	02. Plan current phase	03. Execute targeting Summer 2024-25	04. Close out
This phase includes identifying stakeholders, risks, optioneering, site investigations, project briefing and initial budgeting.	This phase includes cultural and stakeholder engagement, site investigations (including Geotech, archaeological and ecological assessments, topographic survey), design work and land access.	This phase includes contract activities, Management, Surveillance and Quality Assurance (MSQA), producing technical reports, and the practical completion of the work.	This phase covers the handover and review activities, with final approval from the project sponsors.



PĀKOWHAI

The Pākowhai project involves re-establishing a stopbank around 8.5km in length along the left bank of the Tūtaekurī-Waimate Stream in two sections:

- The first is re-establishing a stopbank around 5.5km in length along the true left bank of the Tūtaekurī-Waimate Stream east of SH2. This work runs from the State Highway to the secondary overflow stopbank at Hodgson Road.
- The second project involves the creation of a 3km stopbank from Links Road along the Tūtaekurī-Waimate Stream to SH2.

In some areas where the footprint of the previous stopbank has been encroached, there may be the requirement for some stream realignment works to provide enough footprint to build the stopbank. This will manage flooding from the Tūtaekurī-Waimate Stream and increase resilience from some overflow from the existing stopbank scheme.

HBRC is now moving to the next stage of this project, which includes onsite investigations. A desktop archaeological assessment has already been completed with drone surveying and topographical survey underway. Geotechnical, geophysical, ecological, hydrographical, and land contamination investigations will be getting underway shortly.

Conversations with potentially affected landowners for proposed stopbank works are ongoing. Other activities critical in this phase include:

- Developing the project plan
- Identifying project risks
- Estimating project costs
- Undertaking a Cultural Values Assessment
- Progressing design work
- Drafting land easements
- Identifying the location of materials for construction
- Developing consent application.

Hawke's Bay Regional Council has carried out topographical and land contamination investigations in Pākowhai. The land contamination work includes:

- Reviewing published geological info, historical imagery, and the HBRC online hazard portal for HAIL (Hazardous Activities and Industries List) information.
- Undertaking site inspections, which includes taking soil samples, testing for heavy metals, asbestos, organochlorine pesticides (OCP), and total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH).

Their topographical work includes:

- Using unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) to pick up general levels, high-resolution aerial imagery and general topography along the Tūtaekurī-Waimate stream.
- Using UAVs to pick up high-resolution aerial imagery of proposed stopbank alignment.
- Surveying any bridge crossings, pipe bridges and culverts.

Hawke’s Bay Regional Council held a community meeting for Pākowhai on 16 May 2024 to update the community on the latest flood mitigation scheme for the area.

The meeting covered the following information:

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT PĀKOWHAI

Question	Response
Some people in the community haven’t been contacted yet, so how has feedback and information been gathered?	To date, information has been sourced from directly affected landowners in one-on-one meetings, previous affected landowner meetings, and enquiries through to the recovery and the projects team. Properties that sit outside Category 2C have only recently begun being contacted, as the priority has been affected property owners. Flood mitigation options have been developed by technical experts and engineers. We are continuing our engagement with the community and look forward to hearing from more of the community as we further develop the solution.
Where did the water come from during Cyclone Gabrielle?	The flooding in Pākowhai during Cyclone Gabrielle came from multiple sources. Overtopping and eventual breaches of the stopbanks on the Tutaekuri River at Moteo and Ōmaranui and from overtopping and breaches of stopbanks on the Ngaruroro River at Omāhu, all contributed.
Will a stopbank and/or drainage solution protect against another Cyclone Gabrielle-level event?	The proposed stopbanks are designed for a one-in-100-year flood event for the Tutaekuri-Waimate stream with some ability to manage limited overland flow from an over-design event for the Tutaekuri and Ngaruroro. So, while it will provide increased flood resilience, it would not provide full protection from an event the size and scale of Cyclone Gabrielle. Cyclone Gabrielle was a one-in-1000-year event in the Tutaekuri and more than a one-in-700-year event in the Ngaruroro, resulting in significant overland flows from overtopping and breaches of stop banks.
What will happen to the people on the opposite side of the stopbank?	Once the design of the proposed solution is confirmed we can then consider any secondary effects to neighbouring properties resulting from the proposed stopbank and investigate options to reduce negative impacts. This could include improved drainage or additional earth bunds and other measures.
With this proposed concept, will properties in Category 1 and/or 3 remain there?	The proposed concept is focused on moving Category 2C properties to Category 1. There will be no category change to those properties that have been classified as either Category 1 or Category 3. The modelling and surveying works are a key part of investigating the full resilience the solution will provide to all properties in the wider area.
When will construction begin?	We are working toward a start date in October/November 2025. However, there are a lot of factors that need to be assessed and steps we need to go through before we can begin, which may impact this date, including securing permanent land access and surveying works.
If HBRC needs access to our land to build a stopbank, will those landowners be compensated?	If HBRC purchases the land, there will be compensation. The calculation for compensation involves several factors. All these form part of the negotiation and will be different for each property hence an agreement or proposal can’t be provided until the scope and extent of the required access is known.
Is this draft plan going to change much, or is this basically the final plan that may need some tweaks?	We believe this is the best concept. It may change depending on the results of site investigations and conversations with landowners, but the basic concept will remain the same.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT PĀKOWHAI

Question	Response
How is the work to be undertaken in Pākowhai funded?	Central government is contributing 75% of the funding, with HBRC contributing 25% which is rated across the Heretaunga Flood Control Scheme.
Are the rivers being cleared?	Yes, we have a gravel extraction plan that is part of the Heretaunga Plains Flood Control Scheme. Gravel extraction is one piece that can help to increase river capacity and reduce some flood risks, but it will not stop the flooding of rivers during extreme weather events.
Is there any impact from the other flood resilience projects in Hawke's Bay on Pākowhai?	The Regional Council is working on six flood resilience projects, including nearby Waiohiki. While we have different project managers working on these, we make up one large team and will be also considering the projects together — how they may affect and/or complement each other.

PROJECT TIMELINE – PĀKOWHAI FLOOD MITIGATION

The work can be broken down into phases, as shown in the timeline below.

0.1 Initiate Current Phase	02. Plan	03. Execute targeting Summer 2025-26	04. Close out
This phase includes identifying stakeholders, risks, optioneering, site investigations, project briefing and initial budgeting.	This phase includes cultural and stakeholder engagement, site investigations (including Geotech, archaeological and ecological assessments, topographic survey), design work, and land access. This phase will be complete with pre-tender approval, and approval to move into the next phase.	This phase includes contract activities, Management, Surveillance and Quality Assurance (MSQA), producing technical reports, and the practical completion of the work.	This phase covers the handover and review activities, with final approval from the project sponsors.

Geotechnical, geophysical, ecological and hydrographical investigations will get underway shortly. Conversations with potentially affected landowners for proposed stopbank works are still ongoing.

For ongoing information about the project timeline, visit the Pākowhai project page on the HBRC website. It will be updated as new details are ready to be shared - [Pākowhai | Hawke's Bay Regional Council \(hbrc.govt.nz\)](#)

HAVELOCK NORTH STREAMS

Work in June	Work coming up
<p>In the last month we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finalised our recommendation report to the Regional Council, recommending recategorising 2C properties to Category 1• Received applications from community members to join the Programme Steering Advisory Group (more below)• Finalised the evaluation of our maintenance contractor, with an expectation that they will start in early July.• Undertaken a stream-wide access location review and will shortly be prioritising with the new maintenance contractor the addition of extra access points to do their work.• Continued to develop a hydraulic model.• Continued to work with landowners designing bank repair solutions.• Continue developing our stream-wide bank remediation guidance.• Continued to work on options to improve and make more robust some of the stream crossings, and planning for longer term solutions which may involve relocating or undergrounding the crossings.• Continued to develop the Emergency Action Plan and PICs for the dams ready to be tested with our new Project Steering Advisory Group and then the wider community.• Continued to develop our Council/ landowner stream responsibility guidance.• Completed maintenance on the dams with the Regional Council's Works Group	<p>In the next month to six weeks the team is planning to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To hold the first meeting of the Programme Steering Advisory Group, which will include testing the first draft of the Emergency Action Plan before wider community engagement.• To confirm an overarching design partner to progress solutions and commence designing the first stage of our 2c area construction.• Carry out work at the Greenwood Rd intersection to assist in clearing the stormwater culvert inlet and outlet.• Use CCTV to collect data on the school stream pipe that runs underneath schools in Havelock North and joins the Karituwhenua Stream.• Hope to have heard back from HBRC on the 2C memo outlining the change of properties to Category 1.• Hope to have agreed a PDP and milestones with Crown Infrastructure Partners and be able to claim funding.• Progressed and have the maintenance contract well underway and commenced work with them to create further access locations and agreements.• Progressed landowner guidance and clarity on responsibilities.• Progressed planting plan guidance alongside the reserves team.• Progressed bank stabilisation technical options to support landowner decision-making.• Progressed solutions for a handful of Wastewater crossing.
<p>Emergency Action Plan</p>	<p>We now have a draft Emergency Action Plan (EAP) which focuses on evaluating the best methods for getting messages to the community if there is a risk of a dam or stream emergency. We will be bringing the plan to the community for feedback over the next couple of months. We're particularly interested in your thoughts on threat levels and associated notifications, as well as how we're proposing to communicate with the community. We will have the plan at our drop-in sessions to answer questions about it, and we will have an online portal for feedback set up in the coming weeks on our webpage.</p>
<p>Downgrading Properties from Category 2C to Category 1</p>	<p>The Land Categorisation Process and Framework states that Category 2C properties will be released to Category 1 when the following conditions are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A sound concept that has a consenting pathway; and• A legal interest in favour of HBRC in the relevant land; and• Available funding. <p>The project team worked on a report covering these three conditions. We submitted a report to Hawke's Bay Regional Council on 2 July 2024. The final decision for recategorization sits with HBRC. The team is working on a 2C community meeting for the end of July 2024.</p>
<p>Survey of Havelock North streams</p>	<p>The five streams that receive stormwater from the Havelock North dams were surveyed in March 2024. Over five kilometres of stream and 14 structures along the Herehere, Mangarau, Te Kahika, School and Karituwhenua streams were scanned using a drone. Scanning the streams and structures which the streams pass under will help inform the modelling and capacity investigation of each stream including the 2C work, including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Modelling and performance of streams• Design of solutions• Condition assessment of assets• Storytelling of streams challenges and opportunities

	<p>Analysis of data is still underway along with further visualization to assist with other future work like archaeological investigation, site assessments, ecology work and tree or vegetation assessment. Council will share this analysis with the community once it's available.</p> <p>Photogrammetric data (3D information extracted from photographs) was used to capture high resolution aerial imagery, enabling the creation of a high resolution, ortho-rectified aerial map (where image distortions or displacements caused by sensor tilt and the land contours have been removed).</p> <p>The resolution of this aerial map will have a Ground Sampling Distance (GSD) of between 1 and 1.5cm/pixel, which means it has high resolution and details are easily visible.</p>
Maintenance Contractor	<p>Following a tender process, we have a preferred supplier, and anticipate by end of July 2024 a contract will have been awarded and works commencing. The contractor will be looking to undertake the following;</p> <p>Activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inspections of dams and corresponding reports identifying required maintenance tasks.• Response and Investigation of channel/inlet• Clearance of debris upstream of approach channel/inlet structure.• Clearance of debris/excess vegetation accumulated on emergency spillway.• Mowing/scrub bar of grass on spillway and dam embankment• CCTV review of culverts to check alignment and possible settlement or damage.• Inspection of bridges over spillway• Record groundwater level in standpipes – Te Kahika• Stream long inspections corresponding reports identifying required maintenance tasks.• Mowing, scrub bar and weed spraying of stream lengths.• Removal of debris / trees which block the stream channel/culvert structures.

BUDGETS AND SPEND

On 14 November 2023, Council approved \$800,000 through to the end of June 2024 the FY23/24 year, officers are anticipated to have spent circa \$755,000 of this on the work identified above. With an uplift allowed for across OPEX and CAPEX in the 2024 Long Term Plan, as identified in the table below. Additional funding is also set aside through Crown Infrastructure Partners and HBRC co fund over three years.

Funding Source	FY23/24	FY24/25	FY25/26	FY26/27	TOTAL
Hastings District Council – CAPEX (Programme funding)	\$800,000	\$1,525,000	\$976,600	\$2,361,570	\$5,463,170
Hastings District Council OPEX	\$100,000	\$430,000	\$442,040	\$455,370	\$1,427,410
2C - Crown Infrastructure Partners	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$1,500,000	\$7,500,000
2C - Hawke's Bay Regional Council co-fund contribution	\$0	\$1,200,000	\$1,300,000	\$0	\$2,500,000

HAVELOCK NORTH STREAMS AND DAMS PROGRAMME

What we're working on

ON TRACK

AT RISK

OFF TRACK

WORKSTREAM	DETAILS	STATUS	LATEST UPDATE
Uplift in Maintenance and customer enquiries	Prioritising maintenance needed immediately and looking at how current programme can be improved. Increased response to customer enquiries.	60%	Closely monitoring customer queries (see website dashboard). Maintenance plan being developed alongside maintenance contract. Next step: review resourcing and work with landowners and contractor.
Dam safety investigations	Develop an Emergency Action Plan and further understand dam safety regulations and potential impact classification (PIC).	40%	Draft PIC due with Council for review May 2024. Draft EAP to be shared with community for review. Safety assessments planned for Sep/Oct 2024.
Review monitoring and warning system	Review the current telemetry and ability to improve warning systems in dams and streams.	30%	Identified equipment to install, shortlisting locations for install.
Survey and scan the streams	Survey and map the five Havelock North streams and dams.	80%	Survey complete; the team is now analysing the data. This will be shared with the community.
Maintenance contract	Engage a maintenance contractor to manage the planned, corrective, and reactive maintenance.	50%	Register of interest for contract completed early April. Aiming for contract to be signed with a contractor in place by July 2024.
Cat 2C upgrade programme	Develop report for HBRC showing a sound plan that is consentable, with confirmed access rights to upgrade the streams on private and public property, with confirmed funding through a business case for crown funding.	Ongoing	The report to downgrade properties has been drafted; plan to submit it to HBRC in late May 2024. The business case for Crown Infrastructure Partners planned for submission late June 2024. Finalising the scope to engage design partner in May 2024.
Manage erosion risk	Review existing erosion assessments of the streams and investigate a range of engineering solutions to protect banks.	10%	Scoped and working through engagement of design partner; work on two larger slips are underway with design solutions along Mangarau and Herehere streams.
Stormwater strategy	Develop straw man into strategy document. Outline risk profile for stream reaches.	80%	A first draft is complete; will be further refined and brought to the community for feedback in June 2024.
Comms and engagement	Engage community to involve them in strategy development and keep them aware of progress with regular comms.	Ongoing	Providing regular monthly comms through a newsletter. Team is calling for community members to be on a Programme Steering Group.
Review historic info	Pull together historic reports and work done to minimise duplication and reduce community frustration.	100%	This is complete, historic reports register completed and operational.
Property access for maintenance and improvements	Support access improvements and maintenance by clarifying responsibilities and required property rights needed.	20%	Workshop held to test scenarios for the development of guidance. We are creating a strategy for property rights for 2c area proposed works. Creating maintenance locations assessment and landowner and council guidelines.
Modelling	Reset existing hydraulic model and update with post cyclone information, including updated survey information	10%	Scope finalised; working to engage supplier to undertake model update using new information to work alongside 2c works programme.

The team is also working on:

- Archaeological assessment (supplier engaged), arborist review (finalising scope), ecological assessment including cultural values (finalising scope), and development of planting plan (to progress after arborist review). This work will align with the Reserve Management Plan.

- Stormwater Strategy Iteration 1 and 2
- Catchment Management Plan
- Asset Management Plan

HERETAUNGA HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL

hastingsdc.govt.nz
06 871 5000

DAM SAFETY REVIEW

We are well on track to meet the requirements of the new dam safety legislation with the lodgement of the Potential Impact Classification (PIC) assessments. Our dam safety engineer team is planning for the 2024 Intermediate dam safety review (IDSR) which is planned for August and September 2024.

A big part of this is an increased focus on reviewing and managing the recommendations that come out of the annual IDSR. Our new maintenance contractor will be a key part of actioning these.

HN STREAMS AND DAMS PROGRAMME STEERING GROUP

Thank you to everyone who put their name forward to be on the Steering Group for the Havelock North Streams and Dams programme.

Over the few weeks we'll be working through the applications and getting in touch with everyone who applied. We're aiming to hold the first Steering Group meeting by the end of July to start getting feedback from them on different parts of our mahi.

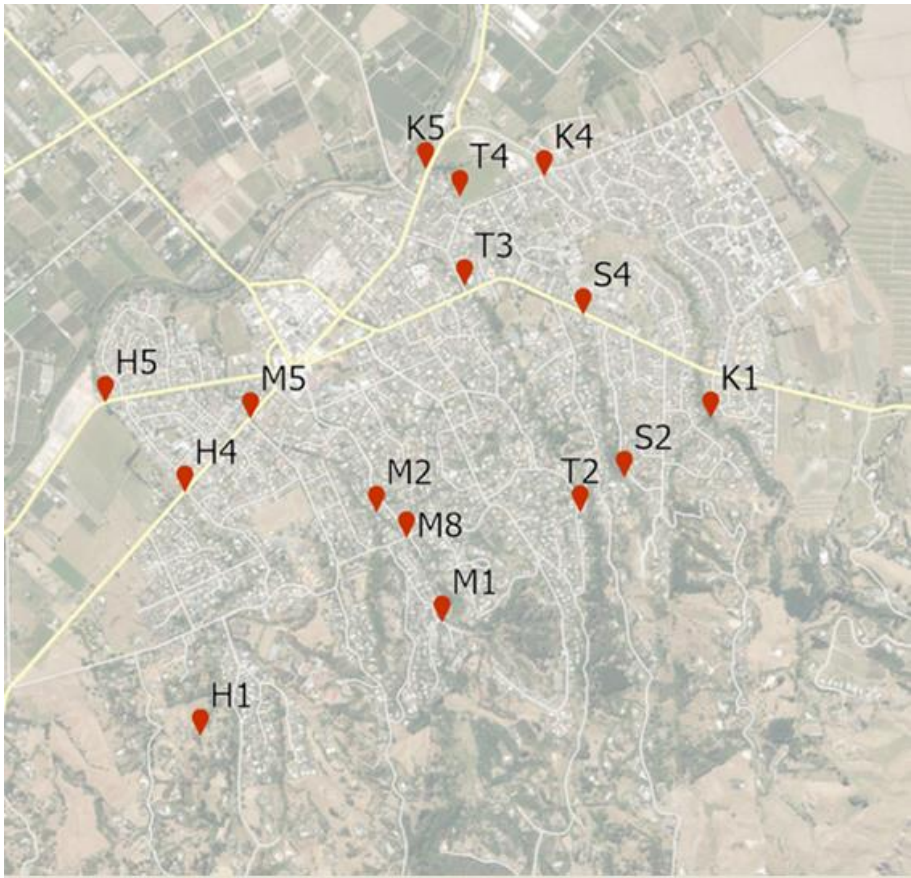
We'll provide updates to the community on what the group is working on in these newsletters. We're expecting the group to meet for the next few years as our work progresses.

The purpose of the group is to reflect community aspirations and provide feedback as the strategy and the programme of works are developed. It will provide input into the development of the strategy, including on items such as the Emergency Action Plan, development of designs, and communications and engagement.

REVIEW AND ADDITION OF STREAM MONITORING

We have been working on identifying locations along the stream to install monitoring devices. These monitors will enable us to monitor stream levels and in time, flow and velocity. We are working with a supplier to finalise type of equipment and installation.

This will tie into our data for the emergency action plan and inform our modelling and understanding of water flows. At a high level, the monitors are proposed at the following locations as indicated on the below map:



ECONOMIC GROWTH POU

HDC continues to play a supporting role within the Economic Growth Pou. Council advocates for the Economic growth of the district by supporting Hawke’s Bay Tourism, and HB Regional Economic & Development Agency initiatives.

HAWKE’S BAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE

HAWKE’S BAY CYCLONE RECOVERY PROGRAMME

Delivered by Hawke’s Bay Chamber of Commerce through the Regional Business Partner Network, the Cyclone Recovery Fund aims to:

- improve the functioning of business in Hawke’s Bay following Cyclone Gabrielle and stimulate the range and quality of training and advisory services available.
- work with SMEs to identify development needs and provide information, advice, services and funding that will address those needs and help SMEs with the aspiration, commitment and potential to recover.

Cyclone Recovery Funding can be accessed by Cyclone-affected businesses to support the cost of accessing Cyclone Recovery Training Services, such as training workshops, courses and/or coaching.

Through this programme, the Chamber is working to enhance impacted business’ capability to manage well-being, financial planning and business resilience. Funding is available up to a maximum value of \$5,000. Funding values and amounts are subject to assessment criteria, and co-funding may apply at the discretion of the Growth Advisor.

The following figures are a brief round-up of some common themes across the Hastings District identified through the delivery of the programme. Reporting dates: December 2023 – May 2024.

	# of registrations	Average FTE count	Common areas of support requested	Common sector/Industries
HASTINGS DISTRICT	27	4	Financial planning Business resilience Governance Leadership Marketing Strategies Managing Resources Business Planning Business Sustainability Business Systems	Construction Retail Trade Professional, Scientific and Technical Services Manufacturing Accommodation & Food Services Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Arts & Recreation Services Health Care and Social Assistance Hospitality (Bar/Restaurant)
ALL HAWKE’S BAY	113	6		

HAWKE'S BAY REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (HBREDA) UPDATE

Support for the economic recovery from Cyclone Gabrielle will be a major focus for the Hawke's Bay Regional Economic Development Agency (HBREDA).

HBREDA was established to contribute to achieving our regional vision of a sustainable, accessible, and resilient Hawke's Bay economy where every whānau and household benefits. The challenges to the region's economy brought about by Cyclone Gabrielle and the choices around future growth opportunities further emphasise the importance of Hawke's Bay having a robust economic development agency and sustainable development economic development plan for the region.

One of HBREDA's ongoing core responsibilities, as outlined last month by the Matariki Governance Group, will be to continue to work alongside the Regional Recovery Agency (RRA) to ensure that recovery-related investment is focused on enabling long-term, sustainable recovery. HBRED will continue to engage with the RRA to identify initiatives to lead, collaborate with and/or support the recovery of the region.

ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

HASTINGS' RETAIL SPEND KEEPS RISING

Retail spending in Hastings continues to grow – outstripping national growth by almost two per cent.

The latest MarketView quarterly report showed that consumer spending in Hastings reached \$318.9 million, up 5.6 per cent on the same quarter last year – nearly two percentage points above the national average of 3.8 per cent. Hastings central city and Havelock North both experienced a five per cent growth in spending.

The highest proportion of growth, 84.3 per cent, came from international visitors, signalling an increase in tourists choosing to spend time in Hastings.

Hastings' growth has been consistent. Over the past 12 months, spending has outpaced the national average by nearly three percentage points – 5.5 per cent compared to the nation's 2.8 per cent. Over the last four years, consumer spending in Hastings has grown on average 6.2 per cent.



LOCAL BUSINESS RECOVERY SNAPSHOT



COOP Coffee

COOP Coffee has reopened on Pakowhai Road after being devastated by Cyclone Gabrielle.



After a complete refurbishment, the doors have opened again for 6 days a week with a huge offering of cabinet food, coffee and doggy treats made inhouse for the canine visitors.



WoolWorks

The largest wool scourer plant in the country has re-opened more than a year on from cyclone Gabrielle in a “big deal for rural New Zealand”. The re-opening of the flood-hit factory on the outskirts of Napier will help [clear a backlog of wool](#) waiting to be scoured, or cleaned, around the North Island. It will also take pressure off the country’s two other wool scourer plants - in nearby Clive and in Timaru.



Hawke’s Bay’s Shed 530 Estate celebrates Platinum chardonnay win while on track to reopen.

“The cyclone totally wiped us out. It bowled three buildings and the water was head-high. It was a torrent and it destroyed everything.

“It was absolutely gutting and, yes, there have been some dark days in the last 18 months but now we can see the light at the end of the tunnel and we have a proposed opening date for early October.

<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/hawkes-bays-shed-530-estate-celebrates-platinum-chardonnay-win-while-on-track-to-reopen/>

IN THE NEWS



Bay yields bumper apple crop (NZ Herald)

The apple and grape picking season is wrapping up in Hawke's Bay, with apple growers reporting a bumper harvest while wineries have seen a relatively small crop of grapes of "fantastic quality". Hawke's Bay grows about two-thirds of the country's apples and is also a well-known wine region.

<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/hawkes-bay-apple-and-grape-picking-season-wraps-up-how-growers-fared/>



Pottery group reopens more than a year after Cyclone Gabrielle flooded studio (NZHerald)

More than a year on from Cyclone Gabrielle, the Taradale Pottery Group at Waiohiki Creative Arts Village has reopened its doors for business after being inundated with water and silt during the early hours of February 14, 2023.

A lot of hard work, volunteer hours and equipment have gone into rebuilding the pottery group's rooms.

<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/napier-courier/pottery-group/>



Finding a new home for studio of potter Helen Mason

The cyclone-ravaged building has been trucked from the [Waiohiki Creative Arts Village](#) near Taradale to her old stomping grounds in Central Hawke's Bay where it will be a new creative project of its own.

<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/finding-a-new-home>



Bay surf life-savers humbled by rescue honour

One of the highest national search and rescue honours has been awarded to Hawke's Bay surf lifeguards for their efforts during Cyclone Gabrielle.

The HB Surf Life Saving New Zealand search-and-rescue (SAR) squad received a Gold Award for the rescue of about 250 people from Esk Valley and Pakowhai at the 2023 New Zealand SAR Awards.

[Hawke's Bay surf lifeguards receive national award for Cyclone Gabrielle rescues - NZ Herald](#)

IN THE NEWS



Group forming directory to connect rural Hawke's Bay residents during emergencies

A rural [Hawke's Bay](#) community group is creating a comprehensive directory "like a phonebook" to help residents find services and connect during emergencies.

RD9 Connected was created by a group of residents involved with [Hastings District Council's](#) community resilience-building initiative after [Cyclone Gabrielle](#).

<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/group-forming-directory>



Why are insurance premiums soaring and is this the start of 'uninsurable' properties? - The Front Page

The Insurance Council expects insurance premiums to level out in the next year, but wants more long-term conversations about the growing risk of extreme weather events for certain parts of the country.

Kris Faafoi, chief executive of the Insurance Council, said that weather events such as Cyclone Gabrielle and the Auckland Anniversary floods are to blame for these rising costs.

<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/business/insurance-council-chief-executive/>



MetService and NEMA unite for better weather warnings

MetService will now provide additional information in its severe weather warnings to help people better understand the impact of incoming weather and what actions to take to stay safe.

The partnership draws on the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)'s advice and expertise on how to respond to and prepare for emergencies and the real time insights about impending severe weather from the team of expert forecasters at MetService.

<https://insidegovernment.co.nz/metservice-and-nema-unite-for-better-weather-warnings>



Waipatu Marae welcomes Governor-General for tour of cyclone damage

Governor-General Dame Cindy Kiro was welcomed on to Waipatu Marae in Ngāti Kahungunu yesterday as a part of an East Coast tour assessing the damage from the deadly Cyclone Gabrielle.

It marks the first time Dame Cindy has visited the marae as the representative of the Crown.

<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/waipatu-marae>

IN THE NEWS



Lucky, the pig that climbed on a mattress during Cyclone Gabrielle, has grown into a big book star

The little pig that became famous for [jumping onto a mattress](#) to save itself from floodwaters during Cyclone Gabrielle is now the star of a book.

<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/cyclone-surviving-little-piggy-has-grown-into-big-book-star/>



Farmy Army: Retired Central Hawke's Bay farmer named Rural Hero at Primary Industry Awards for cyclone recovery work

Mr Macgregor said it was a "no brainer" to come out of retirement and help on farms around [Hawke's Bay](#) after [Cyclone Gabrielle](#). "I saw some terrible stuff, not only on the farm but the toll it took on the families as well - a lot of them didn't know where to go from there."

<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/farmy-army>



Six landowners choose to remain on land deemed risky after Gabrielle

A handful of Hawke's Bay property owners eligible for buy-outs after their land was deemed to be in unsafe areas following Cyclone Gabrielle have chosen to stay where they are.

Of the 166 properties deemed to be in Category 3 zones in Napier and Hastings, six have not engaged in the buy-out process being carried out by local councils.

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/nz-news/350317555/six-landowners-choose-remain-land-deemed-risky-after-gabrielle>



Multi-million dollar fund to pay to relocate cyclone-wrecked marae, homes on Māori land

A multi-million dollar government fund will soon pay to move cyclone-wrecked marae and homes on Māori land out of harm's way.

But no plans for relocation are set in stone yet, and eight months after the council buyouts of other homes began, marae representatives say the Crown's progress has been too slow.

[multi-million-dollar-fund-to-pay-to-relocate-cyclone-wrecked-marae-homes](#)

PRIMARY SECTOR POU

\$410M NEEDED FOR HORTICULTURE SECTOR

A new report has found the Hawke's Bay horticultural sector needs at least \$410 million in additional funding to recover to its pre-cyclone state by 2030.

'The Hawke's Bay Horticultural Sector Economic recovery update: a year after Cyclone Gabrielle', has found while the short-term, critical response to the cyclone was a success, thanks to a timely, joint response between the public and private sectors, at least \$345 million more is needed for replanting and reinstatement and \$65 million more is needed for on-orchard clean up.

The report states Hawke's Bay growers are still facing extremely tough economic conditions a year on from Cyclone Gabrielle. The new report has shown growers are facing tightening margins with increasing production costs and challenges that have been exacerbated by Cyclone Gabrielle's impact on harvests and infrastructure. SMEs in particular have struggled to bounce back post-cyclone.

The horticulture sector is struggling to attract and retain talent, with young people leaving the sector and the region. Limited funding for horticulture education further adds to this challenge, and with the cyclone worsening business prospects in Hawke's Bay horticulture, the sector could lose even more talent.

Since May 2023, the government has provided \$240 million in grants and concessionary loans to support the sector's recovery. Effective clean-up activities and favourable growing conditions have reduced initial economic losses and replanting costs, reflecting a slight positive deviation from initial forecasts, the report says. To strengthen the horticulture sector and achieve long-term resilience, there needs to be targeted support for those most in need, investment in replanting and orchard-based technologies, and the long-term risks posed by climate change need to be addressed.

HORTICULTURE

There is optimism amongst growers despite the challenges they have faced in cyclone recovery. Apple growers have reported a bumper harvest while some wineries have seen a smaller crop of grapes of 'fantastic quality.' Two thirds of the country's apples are grown in Hawke's Bay, along with a significant volume of grapes. The picking season goes from February – late April.

There is a long recovery road ahead for wineries and horticulturalists hardest hit by the cyclone. A newly planted orchard takes seven years to reach full production, however, some growers have decided not to replant in certain sites as the flood risk doesn't justify the heavy capital investment. For others it has made sense to replant.

The quantity of apples picked this season in Hawke's Bay are around the where it was in 2019-2020. This has been great for the industry and great for the growers to have pack sheds full and cool storage space facilities at a premium.

THRIVE – HAG POST CYCLONE GABRIELLE RECOVERY FUND

The HAG (Horticulture Advisory Group) is seeking applications from Hawkes Bay growers effected by Cyclone Gabrielle for a new recovery fund.

They are aware that post Cyclone Gabrielle has impacted people in different ways and to assist them in refining how they deliver this fund, they would like to better understand the individual circumstances, specifically the needs where expert advice has been required to re-build reliance infrastructure, land use and plant variety. If growers would like to apply, they are required to answer the questions in the application.

The applications and insights provided will also assist HAG in understanding the Post Cyclone impact on growers. They will individually assess each applicant that meet the criteria outlined in the form. Growers can apply [here](#).

FARMING

Hawke's Bay sheep and beef farmers are facing one of the toughest periods they've had in recent memory as tough economic and environmental factors compound. The average sheep and beef farm was predicted to end up with a loss of \$23.70 per hectare in May.

Hastings District councillor and Hawke's Bay Rural Advisory Group chairman Marcus Buddo has called for financial support from local and central government for sheep and beef farmers. He said he knew a couple in Hawke's Bay running a summer dry hill farm who faced more than \$400,000 in costs to reinstate their property after Cyclone Gabrielle. At the same time, he said lamb prices had dropped up to 50 percent from the year before from \$100-120 to \$60-70 per head.

Kevin Mitchell, a trustee of the Hawke's Bay Rural Support Trust said cost pressure on lamb and cattle weight gain from a dry autumn, ongoing expenses from Cyclone Gabrielle and low prices for lamb all contributed to the current income situation.

HAWKE'S BAY FARMING FOR RESILIENCE

Update from May 2024

Hawke's Bay is still recovering from the effects of Cyclone Gabrielle. Good decision making will be key for farming families in their recovery and to grow resilience.

The National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) officially declared the arrival of El Niño on 29 September 2023. El Niño can bring increased risks of drought and water scarcity, wildfire, heat-related human and animal health concerns, along with flooding. The Ministry for Primary Industries' (MPI) advice is that "it's important to have a plan and to be prepared".

The Hawke's Bay Farming for Resilience pilot project is a collaboration between AgFirst and MPI initiated to support the region in its readiness for a forecast dry period and the challenging financial pressures sheep and beef farmers are currently experiencing.

The group aims to improve resilience through the development of key messages for communications both to rural stakeholders and communities, but also to provide intelligence to MPI and other agencies on the status of impacts on our farmers and growers.

The project seeks to pilot an integrated framework that includes a panel of local specialists to provide intelligence, insights, and modelled data to communicate near real-time data and forecast scenarios for messaging and potential on-farm interventions.

The reports will be made available to encourage proactive support to the Hawke's Bay farming community. Recipients will include Hawke's Bay Rural Advisory Group (RAG), farmers, and the agribusiness/ rural professional community.

<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/62068-Hawkes-Bay-Farming-for-Resilience-Report-May-2024>

ON-FARMS COSTS LEVEL OUT

Update from June 2024.

Cost pressures have been in focus for much of the last few years, with consumer prices rising at their fastest rate in 30 years. Input costs have similarly seen a greater level of scrutiny than usual, as everyone sought to understand where pricing pressures were headed.

At the peak in mid-2022, on-farm costs rose 15%pa, more than double the peak consumer inflation rate. But inflation has now clearly turned a corner and is moderating, a trend also seen in on-farm costs, with the annual gain to March 2024 just 1.2%pa – the slowest rise since the start of 2021.

ON-FARM COSTS UNCHANGED IN LAST SIX MONTHS

Overall on-farm costs, as measured by the Farm Expenses Price Index (all inputs including livestock) have levelled out over the past six months. On-farm input prices were, on average, the same in the March 2024 quarter as in both September and December last year (see Chart 1). However, rapid increases in recent years mean that on-farm costs at the start of 2024 were still 24% higher on average than at the start of 2021.

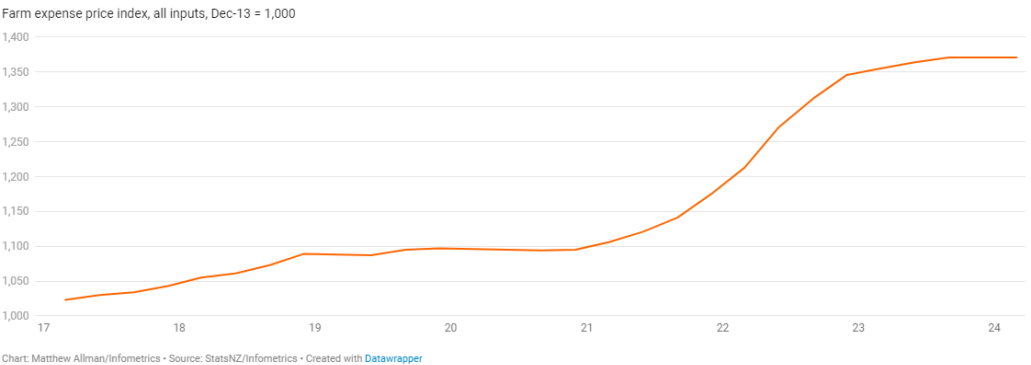
However, on an annual basis there have been mixed changes across cost categories.

Insurance premiums have soared 11%pa, following the adverse weather events of Cyclone Gabrielle and the Auckland Anniversary floods. These events highlighted the need for insurance companies to better price in climate risks. Interest rate costs have risen 7.2%pa, and other key costs such as fuel, electricity and maintenance work were also higher than a year ago.

On the other hand, livestock purchases (-8%pa) have fallen strongly, along with fertiliser (-7%) and seeds have edged down (-2%pa).

Cost pressures continue to hamper the economy, and it is evident that these higher costs have been hitting farmers hard. But the levelling out of on-farm cost pressures, coupled with improving commodity prices across a number of categories, looks to provide some optimism for the primary sector.

Chart 1: On-farm costs unchanged for six months



RURAL NEWS



Workshops to help boost animal welfare capacity during civil defence emergencies

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) has announced that it will lead a national effort to increase the number of New Zealanders trained to care for and handle companion animals during civil defence emergencies.

“In emergencies, people are often reluctant to evacuate if they are not able to take their pets,” Kemp says. “This can put their lives in danger and those of emergency responders.”

<https://www.ruralnewsgroup.co.nz/rural-news/rural-general-news/workshops>



Donated tractors welcome news

After cyclone Gabrielle's effects became apparent, the Commence the Re- Fence initiative was born, with Federated Farmers involving fencing contractors and the 'Farmy Army' volunteers to assist, while machinery dealer Stevenson & Taylor, in conjunction with CNH, donated two tractors – a Case IH JX100 and a New Holland TD5.90 – to help farmers in the Hawke's Bay and Gisborne areas reinstate kilometres of lost fencing.

<https://www.ruralnewsgroup.co.nz/rural-news/rural-machinery-products/donated-tractors-welcome-news>



Damage in Dartmoor Road, Puketapu, Napier following Cyclone Gabrielle. Photo by John Cowpland / alphasix

Cyclones a wakeup call

Cyclone Gabrielle left behind not only devastation, but also the reality that preparing for extreme weather events should be part of every farm's safety plans.

The February cyclone highlighted the importance of keeping everyone safe and the ability to cope without electricity and communications and says Greg Peters, WorkSafe Acting Regional Manager for the Central General Inspectorate, it's been a wakeup call for those living on the land.

<https://dairyexporter.co.nz/cyclones-a-wakeup-call/>



Gabrielle takes bite out of apple and pear hectares

Number of hectares are down but a bounce-back after a good season is predicted by industry experts.

The area planted to apples in 2023/2024 will be substantially lower than before Cyclone Gabrielle, according to a report published this month by the Foreign Agricultural Service of the United States Department of Agriculture based in Wellington.

<https://www.farmersweekly.co.nz/markets/gabrielle-takes-bite-out-of-apple-and-pear-hectares/>



'Cyclone Jimmy': One dog's months-long survival journey after Cyclone Gabrielle

The story of how Jimmy the greyhound cross survived alone through the flooding of Cyclone Gabrielle until he was found months later, badly hurt and emaciated, is not known.

What is known is what happened after he was found – a near-miraculous physical recovery from the edge of death, when the most likely outcome for him was being put to sleep.

<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/cyclone-jimmy>

SILT RECOVERY TASKFORCE

AWARD WINNING INITIATIVE

The Silt Recovery Taskforce has been recognised in this year's WasteMINZ national Awards for Excellence. The joint council initiative won the Most Sustainable/Innovative Waste Disposal Initiative category at the awards ceremony held in May this year.

The Silt, Wood and Waste Recovery Taskforce, a joint Hawke's Bay Regional Council and Hastings District Council initiative, was established in April 2023. It operates as a service model where cyclone affected landowners log a ticket and the Taskforce (which includes a number of contractors and consultants) collects, transports and manages the flood-derived materials at a network of temporary processing and permanent disposal sites.

Along with assisting landowners to reinstate their (predominantly primary production) properties, a priority for the Taskforce from the start has been segregation of waste materials, diversion from landfill and re-use/recycling as much as possible.

To date, approximately 2.6 million tonnes of flood waste has been removed from more than 800 affected properties.

While its core role is waste collection and management, the Taskforce has shown to be so much more than that - championing community clean-up days, providing regular educational video updates to the public, relentless dedication to lobbying for ongoing funding, and leading from the front by demonstrating to the community that even in a disaster scenario, it's still entirely possible to take a responsible and sustainable approach to waste management.

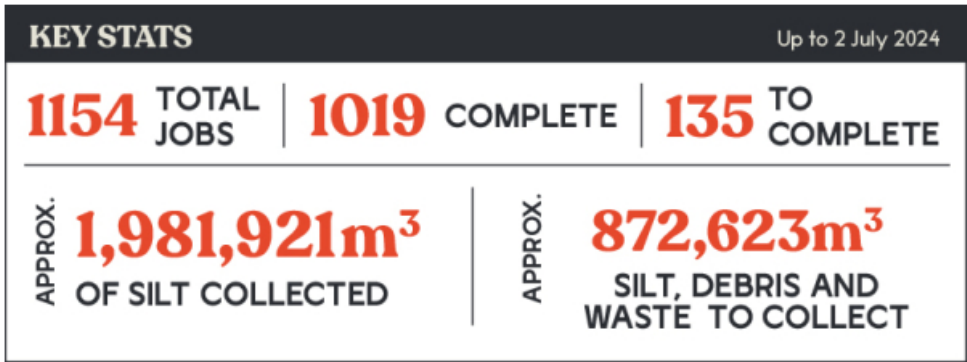
SILT RECOVERY TASKFORCE UPDATE

The Silt Recovery Taskforce have confirmed 12 local contractors to support with collecting material and finishing the remaining collections.

There are 196 silt, debris, and waste jobs to complete and estimate there is 891,058m² cubic of silt, debris and waste to collect.

The team is aiming to have completed these jobs by July, when the focus will move to closing out the remaining silt sites and handing them back to landowners by the end of the year. They will be working as fast as they can to get the 196 jobs completed before wet and wintry weather sets in.

Four sites are open and receiving material as the mahi continues in Puketapu, Pākowhai, Esk Valley and Dartmoor.



Achievements since February to May 2024

- The Taskforce received the Most Sustainable/ Innovative Waste Disposal Initiative award at WasteMINZ conference in Hamilton: <https://www.hbrc.govt.nz/our-council/news/article/1679/silt-recovery-taskforces-approach-to-clean-up-wins-national-award>
- The woody debris project in Wairoa District has completed a recovery of over 55% of the coastline debris.
- At 10/06 - 1147 jobs logged in the system (1137 in April) – 975 complete, 172 outstanding.

Plans for June / July 2024

- Recover an additional 15-20% of woody debris along the Wairoa coastline.
- The wood mulch stockpile site on Pohutukawa Reserve will be harrowed, seeded and returned back to original state.
- Anticipating 95% jobs logged completion by end of July 2024
- Finalizing works required to close out remaining sites.

Key Risks/ Challenges

- Dust from ongoing works affecting surrounding neighbours and there were no grassed paddocks yet. Recovery crews are working to mitigate as best as possible.
- A number of landowners are still not in a position to decide. There is a potential risk not meeting our timeframes. We actively engaging with landowners.
- Sediment controls being continuously improved heading into possible wet season for operating and transition sites.

Key opportunities

- Parklands development will start receiving material since 01 May 2024, NCC funding 60 % of this, Mana whenua pre works blessing held Friday morning 26th April at Esk park.
- Other developments being identified for suitable material. E.g. developments, TREC, Flood scheme works...
- Contractors enquiring about material for future use, coordinating 'free' removal where suitable.
- Working with TREC and HBRC to identify suitable material for project use.

Communications and Engagement

- Communications in May were again low key, following a community newsletter going out in April and work smoothly happening.
- We put out a media release to celebrate the recognition by New Zealand's waste minimisation body of the Silt Recovery Taskforce's sustainable approach to clean up silt and debris.
- The website remains up to date: <https://www.hbrc.govt.nz/our-council/cyclone-gabrielle-response/dealing-with-waste/>

Other notable areas of work

- Plans are being made for clean-up of woody debris on Aropaoanui beach which is littered with woody debris.
- Recent completion of remediation of debris land neighbouring Omahu marae
- Supporting buy out office demolition process to work alongside house demolition team to smooth or remove silt.
- Esk public park clean-up is progressing well, with work extending into recovery of sediment from Hukarere Girls College
- Esk catchment strategy under development by Stantec to inform land levels and contours prior to works completing.
- Wairoa woody debris progressing well with majority of material being burnt, some alternate methods investigated for areas of significance.
- Great partnership with marae and community groups to look to repurpose material:
 - Recycled fence posts through federated farmers across Hawke's Bay:

- Firewood created and distributed in Opoutama/ Blue Bay.
- Shredded material in Mahia (Pohutukawa Reserve) offered to parks and locals before carted excess of site.
- Chipped material at Springfield Reserve planned to be offered to community for collection – planned for July 2024

Check out this update from Taskforce Lead Darren de Klerk as he talks about how we're back into work, the timeframes the team are working to, and more.

**CLICK ON THE IMAGE TO
PLAY THE VIDEO.**



WOODY DEBRIS REMOVAL

Woody debris progressed well with ongoing clean up and management of wood occurring in Māhia, Opoutama, Taylors Bay, Waikare Beach, and Marine Parade.

Crews completed the woody debris clean-up work along the southern part of Marine Parade from Awatoto to Te Awa in February. The left photo shows before, and the right photo after the works were completed.

It took four weeks to clear approximately 3,000 tonnes (the equivalent of about 100 truckloads) of wood.

The crews used an excavator with tree shear for cutting larger logs, an excavator with log grapple, an excavator with slash grapple, a forwarder (all-terrain log mover to bring wood longer distances to the fires), and a digger for extinguishing the fires and general tidy-up.

The wood was stacked and then controlled fires lit with crews working 24-hour shifts to manage the burning. The taskforce and crews worked closely with FENZ to get as much done prior to the restricted fire season being enacted, and then under permit for the last week under a restricted fire season. Great news from FENZ that they have already seen a big difference in callouts along the beach since we completed this work.

FOR SILT TASKFORCE – JOBS UPDATE	Zone	Location	Outstanding	Completed	TOTAL JOBS
	1	Eskdale, Tangoio, Bay View	30	198	228
	2	Pakowhai	10	252	262
	3	Dartmoor/Puketapu North	20	175	195
	4	Puketapu/Omarunui	31	250	281
	5	Twyford, Havelock North	20	146	166
	6	CHB	6	21	27
	TOTAL		117	1042	1159



REPORTING

The following tables are structured to provide the Committee with:

- A snapshot of activities that have been progressed and or achieved in the last quarter.
- An insight into what is ahead for the Council's recovery programme over the next quarter.
- To provide an overview of how the recovery activities are tracking from a risk perspective utilising a basic Red, Amber, Green (RAG) rating. **Green** indicates that the activity is on track to budget, resource, quality, and time. **Amber** indicates that there could be some potential issues that may be adverse in terms of budget, resource, quality, and time, and a **Red** rating means for some reason(s) the activity has experienced some form of constraint that is likely to have an adverse effect on budget, resource, quality, and delivery. This will generally mean an intervention(s) will be required so the activity can be put back on track.
- Noting, that officers will be endeavouring at all times to mitigate any risks before they occur, but also realistic that given the nature of this complex recovery programme and other external factors beyond officers' control, issues will arise from time to time that will test and disrupt the programme in some way shape or form.
- Noting, that there is a wide range of business information informing the following tables, and that the tables are a summation of that data.

SUMMARY OF RISKS AS INDICATED BY ACTIVITY
LEADS

POU	RAG Rating			Summary
	On Track	Caution	Alert	
Support Pou	7	1	0	8
Community and Whānau Wellbeing Pou	16	0	1	17
Infrastructure Resilience Pou	20	16	3	39
Category 3 Voluntary Buyout Pou	4	2	0	6
Environmental Resilience Pou	5	9	0	14
Primary Sector Pou*	-	-	-	
Economic Development Pou*	-	-	-	
TOTAL	52	28	4	84
as of latest				

RISK BREAKDOWN

A consistent theme across Cyclone Recovery is Council's ability to attract capable resources to progress projects. Should the appropriate level of internal resources not be attracted then there will be a reliance on external resources to ensure the delivery of projects.

Support Pou	Caution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Resource Challenges – Recruitment of qualified staff for HDC.Resource Challenges – Projects competing for the same resource. Availability of external resources to commence and or complete the programme of works.
Community and Whānau Wellbeing Pou	Alert	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Resource Challenges – Recruitment of qualified staff.
Resilient Infrastructure	Alert	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Budget challenges – Project complexities and re-designs mean budgets are needing to be re-done.
	Caution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Resource Challenges – Projects competing for the same resource. Availability of external resources to commence and or complete the programme of works.
Category 3 Voluntary Buyout Pou	Caution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Budget challenges – Central Government declined to share cost of demolition of Category 3 homes. This is costly work and has created critical pressure on the Council/ratepayer funding that is available to support this programme.
Environmental Resilience Pou	Caution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Budget challenges – no budget available for restoration of parks and reserves.



**HERETAUNGA
HASTINGS** DISTRICT
COUNCIL

TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O HERETAUNGA
HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL
207 Lyndon Road East, Hastings 4122 | Private Bag 9002, Hastings 4156
06 871 5000 | customerservice@hdc.govt.nz | hastingsthehdc.govt.nz