



**HAWKE'S BAY
REGIONAL
RECOVERY
AGENCY**

Cyclone Gabrielle 2023 Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Recovery Plan

First Iteration

Prepared by the Hawke's Bay Regional Recovery Agency (RRA)

as at 30 September 2023



Disclaimer

The restoration, reconstruction, and improvement priorities listed in this Recovery Plan do not imply Regional Recovery Agency (RRA) responsibility for delivery, funding, or implementation. The RRA acts as a coordinator, not a decision maker, and accordingly makes no assurances regarding the delivery of the priorities or individual programs set out below and in the Action Plan. The RRA disclaims liability for the outcomes, successes, or failures in implementation of the Action Plan, which are beyond its control.

Document information

Endorsement and approval

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Note to the reader

An initial version of this Recovery Plan and accompanying locality plans was provided to Government on 30 June 2023. The accompanying Action Plan was submitted to Government on 21 July 2023. A process of engagement with Government, via the Cyclone Recovery Unit, was then entered into to try to align Government assistance and funding with regional priorities.

This Plan has been further developed since 30 June 2023 for clarity and readability, and to incorporate progress and funding decisions. The Plan reflects the position as at 30 September 2023.

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Karakia

Titiro ake au ki te kāhu e hāro ana, e tui, tui, tui, tuia
E tuia te rangi e tū nei, e tuia te papa e takoto nei
E tuia ngā herenga tangata o Te Matau-a-Māui, ka rongo te pō, ka rongo te ao
E tuia tātau ko ngā muka tangata o rātau mā i ekengia Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa, ā, i takea anōtia i Hawaiki nui,
Hawaiki roa, Hawaiki pāmaomao; te hono i wairua ki te whai ao ki te ao mārama
Tihei Mauriora!

*My attention is drawn to the kāhu soaring and uniting us as one
May it weave above and enmesh below, joining the threads of humanity across Hawke's Bay
May there be peace in death, peace by day in our lives
Joined by the cords of humankind, originating from the great, far and remote homeland, uniting with the
spirits there, emerging into the light, the world of consciousness
May the living spirit be within us all!*

**Kai ngā mana, kai ngā reo, kai ngā pari kārangaranga tō tēnā pito, tō tēnā takiwā, tō tēnā hapū o te rohe
whānui o Te Matau-a-Māui, anei ngā kupu whakamiha ki a tātau katoa.**

*To every voice and face, to you all our esteemed pockets, districts and communities across Hawke's Bay,
greetings and salutations to us all.*

**Tēnā rā tātau katoa e whakamana nei i tō tātau nei Mahere Whakarauora i raro i te āhua o ngā whiu o te
wā me tēnei huripari nunui, arā ko Gabrielle.**

*Greetings to everyone at this time as we acknowledge and champion the recovery plan that has been borne
out of Cyclone Gabrielle.*

**Kai ngā marae, kai ngā hapū kārangaranga, nō mātau te hōnore ki te tukua ngā mihi maioha ki tēnā, ki tēnā
o koutou, otirā, ki a tātau katoa. I te wehi i te ao me ōna āhuetanga, i whai hua tātau i ō tātau hononga,
tētahi ki tētahi, i roto i ngā whānau me te kāinga; ā, mā tērā tātau e whai take kia kotahi anō te anga
whakamua.**

*To the marae and your respective communities across the district, it is with honour and privilege that these
acknowledgements are made to you, to all of us. The times have in their most devastating form rekindled a
fellowship of family and community that provides us the incentive and purpose to move collectively forward as
one.*

**Ka kaha tātau i te kotahitanga. Mā te kotahitanga te pae tawhiti e whakawhānui. Mā tātau katoa te ara
whakamua e para hai iwi kotahi; he hāpori e mahi tahi ana, e whakaaro tahi ana, e whai take tahi ana.**

*Collectively we are strong. Collectively our vision horizon expands. Collectively we are the great architects of
our own destiny, a destiny we will imagine together, as one people; a community with clarity of purpose and
vision.*

Kia ora māi rā tātau katoa!

Greetings to one and all!

Foreword

Tenā koutou,

In the wake of the devastation of Cyclone Gabrielle to our region, it is with a heavy heart and a determined spirit that the Regional Recovery Agency shares the first iteration of the Hawke's Bay Regional Recovery Plan. Our deepest sympathies go out to all those who have been affected by this catastrophic event, particularly families and whānau who have lost loved ones. This is a moment to come together, support one another, and acknowledge the profound challenges we face as Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay.

In the face of adversity, we must rise united, embracing the principles that will guide our recovery and shape our future. In this recovery process, we acknowledge mana whenua and the pivotal role they have played in partnership throughout the response and recovery. Their deep connection to the whenua and their mātauranga Māori has been invaluable in navigating these difficult times. We commit to upholding the principles of partnership as we work hand in hand with mana whenua to rebuild a future that honours our shared heritage and diversity.

As we embark on this journey, we recognize the importance of addressing inequities that exist within our region. Cyclone Gabrielle has indiscriminately affected people from all walks of life, but we must ensure that the burdens of recovery are not shouldered disproportionately by the vulnerable and marginalized.

We must learn from Te Taiao and work with it, rather than against it. The destructive force of Cyclone Gabrielle serves as a reminder of the fragility of our environment and the urgent need for us as a region to build resilience in the face of climate change. As we rebuild our communities, we must do so in harmony with nature, respecting its delicate balance and finding innovative ways to mitigate the impacts of future events. Let us nurture a relationship as kaitiaki, recognizing that the health and resilience of our ecosystems are intrinsically linked to our own well-being.

As a region, we have experienced devastation from Cyclone Gabrielle that will take years to recover from:

- Our regional economy has been heavily impacted and our lifeblood primary sector industries, tourism sector, and other industries have suffered major losses and disruptions to supply chains that undermine business viability, investment decisions and employment for many.
- Our lifeline infrastructure, including arterial roads and bridges has suffered damage and destruction.
- Our people, families and whānau have lost loved ones, homes and livelihoods and continue to suffer impacts to their health and wellbeing.
- Our natural environment (so vital to our regional identity, wellbeing and economy) has suffered from slips, erosion and flooding.

This Plan sets out the outcomes, priorities and actions we need to focus on for our short-term recovery so as a region we can begin building back better, safer and smarter. Building back better, safer and smarter following Cyclone Gabrielle is not just a slogan. It is a call to action that demands our commitment as a region and requires support from central government to achieve. We have a unique opportunity to re-create a region that is stronger, more resilient, and more sustainable than before.

Achieving this recovery will require many entities working together efficiently and effectively. The Regional Recovery Agency, created by the Matariki Governance Group, is a small entity holding the vital responsibility of coordinating regional recovery efforts and bringing together partners such as local government, mana whenua, industry and the Crown to deliver an effective and implementable recovery plan.

Recovery from Cyclone Gabrielle will be a complex and multifaceted task, and as a region we will need to balance the needs of individuals with those of our wider region. There will be hard choices to make. While this Plan focuses on short-term recovery, we also need to start planning and preparing for the medium and longer-term steps to bolster the resilience of our region for the impacts of future events. As part of this, we need to start thinking about our longer-term spatial and asset management plans for the region.

It is critical to note that Hawke's Bay cannot fund and deliver this recovery, and the resilience-building that needs to happen, on its own. Crown funding and assistance over the coming years will be vital. Without it, local authorities and the people of Hawke's Bay would need to shoulder a heavy financial burden that would impact our regional economy and limit our ability to grow, attract talent and invest in the future.

The Regional Recovery Agency is working with central government agencies, councils, the Cyclone Recovery Unit, mana whenua entities and others to advance the recovery actions that need to occur. Recent work includes negotiating how the costs of some of the most urgent recovery actions will be shared between central and local government, and advancing discussions with central government agencies about supporting and funding a range of other actions.

There is much hard work to be done by many and it will take years, not months, for our region to fully recover. As we embark on this journey of recovery, let us remember that we are not alone. Together, we will rebuild our economy, homes and businesses, restore and enhance our communities, and heal the wounds inflicted by this Cyclone. This Regional Recovery Plan is a first iteration of our roadmap towards a brighter future.

Ngā mihi nui, nā,

Oversight Board for the Regional Recovery Agency

Executive Summary

Hawke's Bay faces significant challenges, and opportunities, in recovering from the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle

1. Cyclone Gabrielle struck Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay with devastating force on 14 February 2023. The amount of rain was much greater than the river management system could withstand. Rivers rose rapidly and, in some instances, overtopped stop banks and flood defences leaving significant damage including the tragic loss of eight lives, the displacement of hundreds of families and whānau, destruction and damage to critical infrastructure, significant impacts to the regional economy and primary sector industries, and the isolation of many communities.
2. The Hawke's Bay region immediately came together to support each other through the initial response and to mobilise recovery. On 25 February 2023, Hawke's Bay Leaders released an open letter. Important to this Regional Recovery Plan are the following statements:

Recovering will involve all of us, together. We, your Mayors, Regional Council Chair, and Iwi Leaders are united in our commitment to working together on building back a better Hawke's Bay – mō tatou ki te takiwā o Kahungunu.

One where everyone, everywhere, shares in the prosperity we know we can achieve. One where every household and every whānau can thrive. One where our industries and businesses again flourish and where we are more resilient to climate change. The foundations for building back better are already in place: our strong relationships, our history of working together, and our strong communities – be they communities of common interest like business and industry, or communities of place.

We will work with Government to make sure our region, towns and cities, communities and whānau have the right support through the recovery and rebuild process ahead. As your regional leaders we commit to working hand in hand with you at a local level, to make sure wherever you are in Te-Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay, your place will be better.

Kanohi ki te kanohi, pakihiwi ki te pakihiwi,

Haumi e, hui e, tāiki e!

Face to face, shoulder to shoulder, engaged together,

joined, bound and ready, the call to action."

3. The combination of environmental, economic, infrastructure and social/whānau wellbeing impacts from Cyclone Gabrielle are distributed unevenly across the region and will take years to fully recover from. It is keenly understood what happens when choices must be made that temporarily and permanently affect the livelihood of business owners and their staff. In this region, the economic downturn decisions of the 1980s and 1990s still have generational impacts today.
4. While recovery involves restoring and rebuilding, the region understands that recovery also offers many opportunities for growth. The gap between the impacts of the response and the potential economic growth of recovery needs to be carefully monitored, coordinated and managed. In addition, Cyclone Gabrielle also put the region's vulnerabilities to severe weather events into sharp relief and illustrated the acute need for the region to prepare and build resilience to meet the challenges posed by future events.

Hawke's Bay's recovery from Cyclone Gabrielle will be led locally, regionally coordinated, and nationally supported

5. The Hawke's Bay encompasses a large geographic area with four territorial local authorities, Hawke's Bay Regional Council, six post settlement governance entities, four Taiwhenua and Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated. The approach to Recovery in the Hawke's Bay is based on the principles of locally led, regionally coordinated, and nationally supported. This means that, where possible, local councils, iwi/Māori organisations, and other local entities will progress their recovery actions independently.
6. Matariki Governance Group (MGG) is the partnership of Hawke's Bay regional leaders (including the leaders of Ngati Kahungunu Iwi incorporated, Post-Settlement Governance Entities (PSGEs), Mayors and Chairs of local authorities) that provides regional leadership to drive economic success through combining health, social, cultural, environmental and business initiatives.
7. Following Cyclone Gabrielle, the Regional Recovery Agency (RRA) was established by the Matariki Governance Group to coordinate Hawke's Bay's planning and recovery from the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle funding from the Government. The RRA is an important enabler and coordinator of regional recovery by providing a regional coordination function that organises efforts across the many entities involved in recovery at a local level (such as local authorities, iwi and hapū through their relevant PSGEs, non-government organisations and government agencies). This function ensures that recovery activities are planned and implemented efficiently, opportunities to build ongoing resilience and equity are seized, and recovery is underpinned by a clear plan that Hawke's Bay can drive towards. The RRA itself does not possess a statutory function or decision making role, and does not directly plan, lead and deliver recovery initiatives or projects.
8. The RRA also plays a critical role as an advocate for Hawke's Bay by securing national support through coordinating and articulating to central government what the region needs to support recovery (including funding needs).

This Regional Recovery Plan sets out the overarching direction for recovery and the short-term activities needed for restoration of Hawke's Bay

9. The RRA is focused on supporting the Hawke's Bay region to build back better, safer and smarter through a recovery approach that is locally led, regionally coordinated, and government supported. Building the region back better, safer and smarter will take years to complete, and while the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle are still being assessed and realised in some areas, early activities and steps towards recovery and resilience are starting now.
10. In the six months since the event, a significant number of actions have commenced and/or are completed. Funding to complete these initial actions was sourced from a number of different agencies. Silt removal, clean up, temporary bridges and road repairs are all examples of important work that has been undertaken.
11. This Regional Recovery Plan has been prepared by the RRA to set out the pathway for how Hawke's Bay will recover from the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle. It draws on local-level planning led by local authorities and other entities to set out the overarching outcomes for recovery over the short, medium and long terms and then focuses on the short-term recovery activities for restoration, including:
 - Making the environment safe, addressing areas of critical need and restoring lifelines and our regional economy (including our vital primary sector industries)
 - Understanding the impacts of the event in more detail so that medium and longer-term recovery and resilience steps are well informed and targeted
 - Taking the initial steps towards building longer-term recovery and resilience.

- Local plans developed by a range of local entities, including mana whenua and other communities of geographic and cultural commonalities – such as Pacific peoples – to identify their recovery needs and priorities.
12. The Hawke’s Bay is subject to external influence, therefore the recovery journey and actions within this plan are dynamic. As the global, political, and economic environment continues to evolve, the plan will need to be periodically reviewed to ensure that the recovery efforts remain adaptable, effective, and responsive to changing circumstances. This acknowledges the need for an agile and proactive approach to recovery planning, enabling Hawke’s Bay to effectively navigate external shifts and sustain a resilient trajectory towards restoration and growth.
 13. This document is the first iteration of recovery planning for Hawke’s Bay and focuses on regional-scale **Restoration** activities, and first steps towards **Reconstruction** and **Improvement**. This document outlines the overarching outcomes for recovery over the short, medium, and long-term, and focuses heavily on what the most urgent priorities are during the 6-15 months following the event.
 14. A second iteration of the Regional Recovery Plan will be completed between in early 2024, which will shift focus towards the 12-24 months following the event and beyond. The second iteration will focus on how to channel recovery investment to make our infrastructure, economy and community systems more resilient to future events, and ensure that we capture opportunities to prove how our region works for its people. The second iteration of the plan will set out the medium and longer-term steps on the recovery pathway in more detail (which involve reconstruction and improvement) and will be developed based on a better understanding of the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle and a richer evidence base. This iterative approach to recovery planning is based on a ‘continuous improvement’ approach where the RRA will lead the way in refining and updating the recovery pathway as it develops and evolves over time.
 15. Realising the recovery priorities in this document depends on local-level recovery initiatives and projects being successfully delivered. The RRA will play a key role in coordinating and overseeing the local-level progress needed to support recovery in line with this Plan. This document sets out the strategic direction and highest priorities for recovery (the Action Plan prepared separately by the RRA sets out the ‘long lists’ of actions to be progressed across the region). **The top 14 recovery priorities set out in this Regional Recovery Plan, in no particular order, are to:**
 1. Continue removing and cleaning up silt and debris
 2. Restoring and enhancing flood protections
 3. Prioritise environmental restoration actions with a view to enhancing resilience to future events through designing solutions that work with the environment
 4. Prioritise the rebuild of critical roading and rail routes (including bridges)
 5. Plan and prioritise key road, rail, electricity, telecoms, three waters and other key infrastructure assets so that they are more resilient, fit for purpose and provide a basis for future economic activity and regional prosperity
 6. Implement Category 3 residential property buyouts to assist those most affected
 7. Provide funding support for critical primary sector industries badly affected by the cyclone
 8. Ensure homes are repaired and support is provided to ensure housing is provided at a healthy, liveable standard
 9. Work in partnership with iwi/Māori and other organisations to help ensure adequate provision of additional housing in the short term and address housing inequities in the medium to longer term

10. Provide local communities with resources to provide ongoing psychosocial wellbeing support both in the short term and as recovery continues
 11. Provision of a range of mechanisms to support the different needs of businesses including a working capital scheme, and the provision of concessionary loans
 12. Support economic recovery by investing in capability support, assistance and infrastructure that creates a platform for economic growth and regional prosperity
 13. Supporting Māori initiatives and partners to deliver recovery solutions 'by Māori for Māori' including support for communities undertaking the restoration of the mana and mauri of marae.
 14. Utilise a progressive procurement approach and local businesses, labour, skills and experience to undertake regional recovery where possible, and identify and fill any regional labour, skills and experience gaps where needed.
16. Across the 14 priority actions, \$1.4761 Billion dollars of funding has been confirmed through contributions from the Crown and other entities leading actions (including contributions across councils and Mana Whenua groups). This has been a result of Hawke's Bay as a region coming together as one and advancing together.
17. Strong relationships and partnerships at a regional level will be vital for ensuring the successful recovery of Hawke's Bay following Cyclone Gabrielle. While this Regional Recovery Plan sets out the initial steps towards recovery, how it is implemented in ways that meet the aspirations of local communities will only be successful through close working relationships between the RRA, entities at a local-level, and agencies in central government. Underpinning success will be the need to effectively resource partners, and guide investment for the programme of recovery work.

As local-level views and priorities underpin this Regional Recovery Plan, so do the obligations and commitments made between partners in relation to Te Tiriti o Waitangi, mana whenua and mana whakahaere

18. One of the principles of the Hawke's Bay Recovery Framework is genuine partnership with Māori. The Local Government Act 2002 stipulates that local governments must uphold the principles of *Te Tiriti o Waitangi*, and promote opportunities for Māori to contribute to its decision making process. The Matariki Governance Group, a partnership of regional leaders, upholds Te Tiriti through their Partnership principle - *"In the spirit of the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi; (the Treaty of Waitangi); partnership, participation and protection are fundamental to our way of working. This means whānau, hapū and iwi Māori will be involved at all levels across strategy, decision-making, planning and delivery with a focus on co-design and safeguarding Māori cultural concepts, values and practices."*
19. The RRA was established by the Matariki Governance Group (MGG), and while the RRA itself is not a treaty partner, it upholds Matariki's Partnership principle in respect of cyclone recovery in Hawke's Bay.
20. There are many pieces of legislation, public sector policy statements and settlement agreements relevant to Hawke's Bay that define Māori entities and set out the principles and requirements to account for Te Tiriti o Waitangi and mana whakahaere. In the context of Hawke's Bay recovery, a working definition of mana whakahaere means the power, authority, and responsibilities of whānau, hapū and iwi Māori to make decisions in partnership to enable Hawke's Bay to build back better, safer and smarter.
21. As future recovery plans are developed, it is expected that local decisions and actions (including monitoring activities) will maintain and strengthen this partnership approach and continue to be enhanced in the second iteration of the Regional Recovery Plan.

Headline recovery investment – progress report

22. Expended and committed funding by the Crown and Local Authorities (LA) as of September 30, 2023, stands at \$1.4761 Billion. The breakdown below indicates the significant funding that has been dispersed to the initial response in assisting affected peoples, communities, and businesses to get back on their feet, while also providing investment for initiatives that have assisted and continue to assist with the restoration of critical lifeline networks, the clearance of silt and debris, funding that will allow people to move forward through the buyout of category 3 properties and allocations toward future recovery projects including the provision for significant regional resilient infrastructure such as bridges and roads.
23. The table below only includes publicly available, non-comprehensive data, and may be missing data from Government ministries and agencies including, the Ministry of Education, Te Whatu Ora, Kiwirail, Transpower, NEMA and Te Puni Kōkiri. It also excludes direct funding allocations from other NGO's including the Red Cross, Eastland Central Community Trust, the Hawke's Bay Foundation, the Hawke's Bay Mayoral Relief Fund, and the many others that have supported the region in the response and recovery efforts to date, for which the region is gratefully appreciative of.

INITIATIVE	ACTION	CONTRIBUTION	
		Crown	LA
Regional Settlement between the five Hawke's Bay Councils and the Crown Total: \$630.15m	Flood Protection - \$247.65m Investment toward works programmes and assets for regional flood protection measures and assets which will be delivered by the Hawke's Bay Regional Council on behalf of the region. Including projects in; Wairoa district (\$70m), Heretaunga Hastings district (\$96.7m), Central Hawke's Bay district (\$17m) and \$24m for telemetry upgrades, pump station repairs and upgrades, scheme reviews, and provision for possible additional works following the stop-bank technical review.	\$203.5m	\$44.15m
	Road Transport - \$260.0m Investment into regional transport projects including replacements for the Te Reinga Bridge in the Wairoa District (\$14m), the Puketapu, Matapiro, and Aropauanui Bridges in the Hastings District (\$65m), multiple roading projects within the Central Hawke's Bay and Hastings districts (\$176m), and a regional culvert replacement programme (\$5m).	\$260.0m	
	Future of Severely Affected Land (FoSAL) - \$122.5m Provision for the property buy-out programme of properties classified as Category 3, located within the Hastings District Council and Napier City Council boundaries. <i>Note: The Government contribution is nett of insured properties insurance settlements with the level of compensation provided being based on an up-to amount. This figure excludes the Whenua Māori owners and government negotiation process that at the time of release was still under consideration by all effected parties.</i>	\$67.5m	\$55.0m

INITIATIVE	ACTION	CONTRIBUTION	
		Crown	LA
Support toward the Region's Immediate Response Total: \$570.08m	Whanau and Community Wellbeing response - \$31.65m <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civil Defence Payments (MSD) NGO and community group support (MSD) Supporting response efforts in Māori communities (TPK, Whānau Ora & Te Arawhiti) Mental health & wellbeing support (TWO) Reimbursement for marae, iwi, recognised rural and community groups (NEMA) Funding for local food providers (MSD) Mayoral Relief Fund contribution (DIA) Temporary Housing (TAS) 	\$11.5m \$3.0m \$4.93m \$0.67m \$0.35m \$0.8m \$1.1m \$9.3m	
	Infrastructure response - \$334.05m <ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Highway network (Waka Kotahi) Regional Rail network (Kiwirail) Regional and local transport network (Waka Kotahi & Local Authorities) Critical lifeline reconnections (Assets owners Transpower, Chorus, Vector) Coastal shipping link between Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti (MBIE) 	\$150m TBA \$176.4m TBA \$1.38m	\$6.27m
	Environment Response - \$150.08 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Silt and debris management (DIA) Solid household waste removal (NEMA) Woody Debris disposal (MfE) 	\$132.0m \$12.9m \$5.18m	
	Primary Sector response – \$30.7m <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for the primary sector via MPI 	\$30.7m	
	Economic and business response - \$22.1m <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business Support Package (MBIE) 	\$22.1m	
	Transitioning to recovery - \$1.5m <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business Support recovery structures (DIA) 	\$1.5m	
	Whanau and Community Wellbeing Initiatives - \$53.51m <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temporary Housing (HUD) Temporary Accommodation Services (TAS) Community Connectors (MSD) Employment recovery programmes (MSD) Food security (MSD) Social Sector Recovery Plan (MSD) NEMA Recovery funding (NEMA) 	\$14.09m \$16.06m \$1.0m \$9.5m \$0.8m \$11.74m \$0.32m	
Investment toward the Region's transition to and future Recovery Total - \$275.9m			

INITIATIVE	ACTION	CONTRIBUTION	
		Crown	LA
Investment toward the Region's transition to and future Recovery cont. Total - \$275.9m	Infrastructure Initiatives - \$196.72m <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional cycleway & trail restoration & improvements (MBIE) Regional Tourism Infrastructure (MBIE) Regional Waste Minimisation projects (MfE) Protection of Waipawa's water treatment plant (DIA) Wairoa Airport Runway Extension (MBIE) WDC to restore and improve the River Reserve (MBIE) Regional State Highway Improvement Programme allocation (WK) (TBC) 	\$1.92m \$1.5m \$3.1m \$2.5m \$1.2m \$1.5m \$185.0m	
	Environment Initiatives – \$13.6m <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Silt and debris management further funding (DIA) Hill Erosion Pole Planting Programme (MfE) 	\$10.0m \$3.6m	
	Primary Sector Initiatives - \$0.98m <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting under-serviced rural communities (MPI) NIWE Loan Guarantee Scheme providing relief to affected firms seeking commercial lending. NIWE Primary Producer Finance Scheme to provide access to capital for affected growers and farmers unable to access lending without further support. 	\$0.98m TBC TBC	
	Economic Initiatives - \$3.7m <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase support to cyclone-impacted businesses (MBIE) Hawke's Bay Tourism Cyclone Recovery Programme (MBIE) Accommodation for rebuild workforce - Tātau Tātau o Te Wairoa (MBIE) 	\$1.5m \$1.2m \$1.0m	
	Transitioning to recovery initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support of Regional recovery structures (DPMC) 	\$7.39m	

Next phase of recovery planning – Plan 2.0

24. Work has commenced on the next phases of recovery planning – Reconstruction and Improvement, which centre on building Resilience and capturing opportunities presented by recovery investment. Regional priorities are being identified to form the basis of both Plan 2.0 and discussions with the incoming Government. In contrast to the wide range of needs and actions identified through the first round of locality and recovery planning, Plan 2.0 will focus on a small, tight set of priorities likely to address major cyclone impacts and deliver strategic level recovery improvements for Hawke's Bay.

25. While these priorities are still in development, they are likely to include a focus of the following areas:

Continued Restoration	Resilience and Opportunity Capture
Silt and Debris Removal	Housing (addressing housing shortages)
Emergency Housing	Infrastructure Investment for Resilience and Growth
Orders in Council / Regulatory Relief (housing relocation)	Orders in Council / Regulatory Relief (flood protection works)
	Workforce Development

- There may also be further help required to assist the recovery of the primary sector.
- Allied to core Recovery work, further Resilience building priorities are also emerging around water security, fit-for-purpose Health Services and Hospital redevelopment, and Freight, Logistics and Roading matters.

26. Further information on these Plan 2.0 priorities will be released when they have been developed and discussed with Government.



Photo: Hawke's Bay Regional Council

Overview of this plan

Recovering from Cyclone Gabrielle

27. While Hawke’s Bay has faced extreme weather events before, and recovered from them, Cyclone Gabrielle was one of the most significant weather events to impact the region on record. Fully recovering from Cyclone Gabrielle will require major changes to what the region looks like, where people live, how people interact with nature, and where people work and play. There will be parts of Hawke’s Bay that will be changed significantly and permanently because of Cyclone Gabrielle.
28. This Regional Recovery Plan is the first iteration of the plan for how Hawke’s Bay will recover from Cyclone Gabrielle. It sets out how recovery will take place across multiple outcome areas in ways that collectively will support our region to build back better, safer, and smarter. This plan has been drafted by the RRA, and represents the regional-level themes and priorities for recovery from across local-level plans developed by councils, mana whenua entities, and others. In line with the RRA’s role as the regional ‘systems integrator’ of recovery efforts, this plan provides a regional summary of the recovery pathway, the actions that need to take place, and the funding and support needs of the region.
29. This Regional Recovery Plan provides the recovery pathway for the first fifteen months post event (February 2023 to May 2024). It introduces the overarching pathway for recovery but primarily focuses on the initial **Restoration** activities that need to take place in the short term, but also signals future **Reconstruction** and **Improvement** activities.
30. The second iteration Regional Recovery Plan (developed between late 2023 and early 2024) will more fully set out the **Reconstruction** and **Improvement** activities to take place over the medium and long terms.

1. Restoration	2. Reconstruction	3. Improvement
Short Term ≈ the first 6 - 9 months post event Making the environment safe, addressing critical needs, restoring lifelines and our regional economy, understanding the impacts, and laying the foundation for longer-term recovery and resilience	Medium Term ≈ 9 - 18 months post event Restoring major services, buildings and infrastructure and envisioning the future.	Long Term ≈ 18+ months post event Making Hawke’s Bay a more resilient and better place to live

The Regional Recovery Agency and Matariki Governance Group

31. This document has been prepared by the Hawke’s Bay Regional Recovery Agency (RRA) and approved by the Matariki Governance Group (MGG). The MGG was established to provide regional leadership for Hawke’s Bay to support economic success through combining health, social, cultural, environmental and business initiatives. MGG is a partnership of key regional leaders including:¹
- Central Hawke’s Bay District Council (Mayor Alex Walker) (MGG Co-Chair)
 - Hastings District Council (Mayor Sandra Hazlehurst)
 - Hawke’s Bay Regional Council (Chair Hinewai Ormsby)

¹ There are currently two vacancies.

- Napier City Council (Mayor Kirsten Wise)
- Wairoa District Council (Mayor Craig Little)
- Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement Trust (Chair Liz Graham)
- Mana Ahuriri Trust (Deputy Chair Chad Tareha)
- Maungaharuru-Tangitū Trust (Chair Tania Hopmans)
- Ngāti Hineuru Iwi Trust (Chair Mana Hazel)
- Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated (Chair Bayden Barber)
- Ngāti Pahauwera Development Trust (Chair Toro Waaka)
- Tātau Tātau o Te Wairoa (Chair Leon Symes) (**MGG Co-Chair**).

32. Following Cyclone Gabrielle, the MGG established the RRA to provide regional leadership to manage the scale of the recovery required. This model is based on a commitment to recovery, positioning for the greatest strategic impact to unlock investment and sustainable development for Hawke’s Bay.

33. To direct the recovery, MGG endorsed the Hawke’s Bay Recovery Framework (the Framework) setting out how multiple entities and layers of recovery will work together in partnership to advance the regional objective of building back better, safer and smarter. This Framework organises recovery activities around six Pou that cover the main elements of recovery:

Environmental Resilience	Economic Growth
Whānau / Community Wellbeing	Primary Sector
Resilient Infrastructure	Recovery Transition

34. The Framework also includes a set of key guiding principles that will underpin how different entities will work together to advance recovery:

Genuine partnership with Māori	Addressing inequities
Stronger productive economy	Fit-for-purpose infrastructure and lifelines
Climate resilience and adaptation	Working with Te Taiao not against

35. These six guiding principles inform and underpin the planning in this document. Further information on the Hawke’s Bay Recovery Framework can be found in section 3.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi

36. The principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, as articulated by the Courts and Waitangi Tribunal, provide the framework for how genuine partnership will be given effect to in regional recovery effort. To align with MGG, we have used their Partnership principle and way of working:

In the spirit of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi; partnership, participation protection and equity are fundamental to our way of working. This means PSGEs, hapū, whānau and Māori communities will be involved at all levels across strategy, decision-making, planning and delivery with a focus on co-design and safeguarding Māori cultural concepts, values and practices.

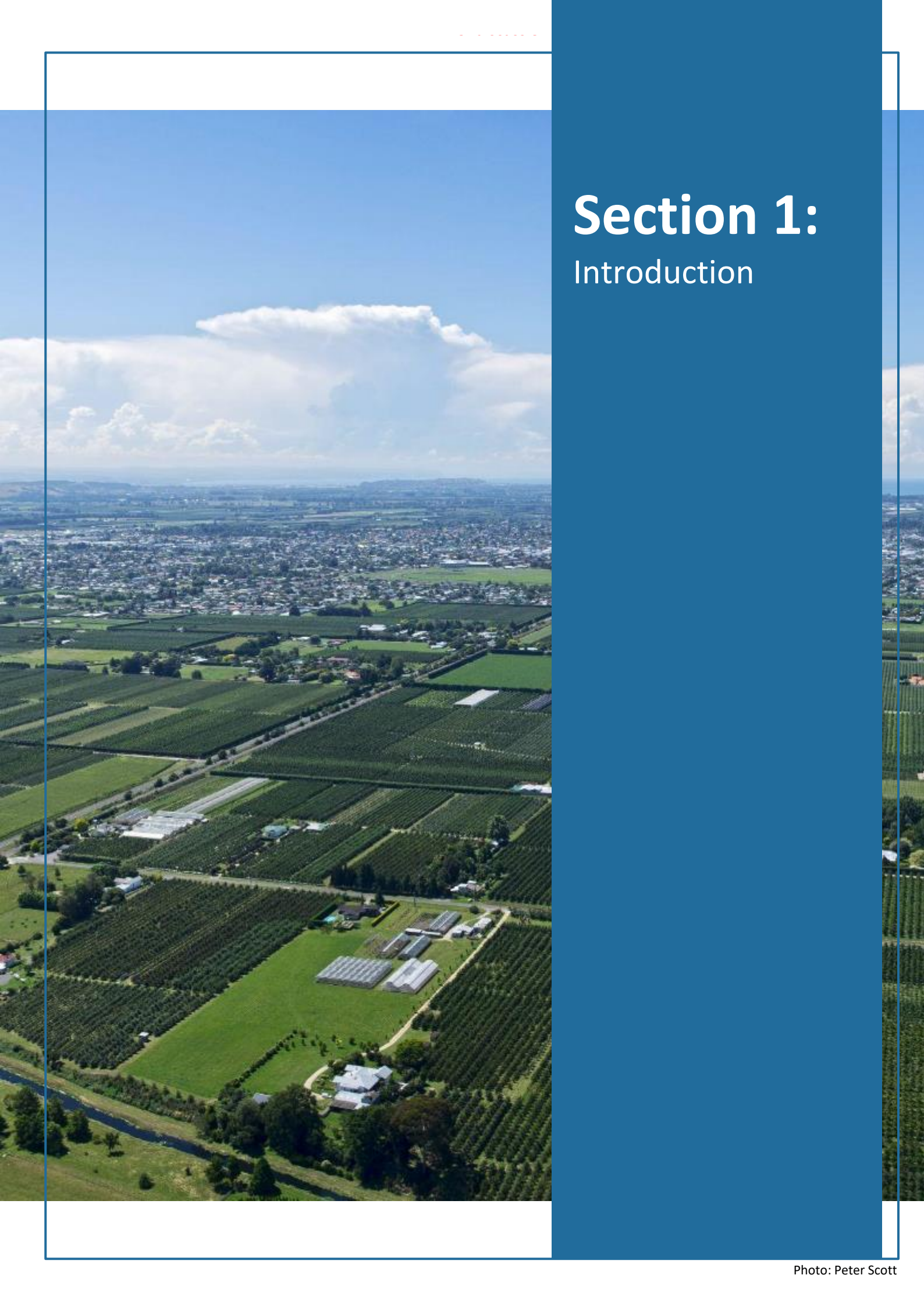
37. In addressing inequities there will be active recognition of the different outcomes that are not only avoidable but unfair and unjust. Equity requires that each partner demonstrates an authentic commitment to achieving equitable outcomes, access to services and resourcing. This approach complements the obligations of central government acting as the Treaty partner and ensuring ongoing engagement and dialogue.

Structure of this document

38. This Regional Recovery Plan includes six sections:
- **Section 1: Introduction** explains the purpose of this plan, how it has been developed, and the next steps for planning.
 - **Section 2: Cyclone Gabrielle and its Impacts on Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay** sets out the profile of the region and the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle
 - **Section 3: How regional recovery will be coordinated and implemented** sets out the role of the Regional Recovery Agency (RRA) the phases of recovery and the Hawke's Bay Recovery Framework
 - **Section 4: The pathway towards building back better, safer and smarter** explains the overarching direction for recovery across the short, medium and long-terms and presents the target outcomes underpinning recovery
 - **Section 5: The short-term recovery plan for Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay** sets out the outcomes and priority actions that will be taken to advance recovery over the short-term
 - **Section 6: Implementation, monitoring and reporting** sets out how this plan will be implemented and funded, and how progress will be monitored and reported on.
39. A glossary of key terms (including Te Reo Māori terms used) is also included. Appendices set out further detail. A detailed Action Plan (with estimated costs, potential funding sources, timing and status of recovery actions) has also been released by the RRA to set out additional detail on planned recovery actions (please see the document ' *Cyclone Gabrielle 2023 Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay Regional Action Plan* ' on the RRA website).

Providing feedback on this plan

40. This Regional Recovery Plan has been prepared to inform the people of Hawke's Bay (and government) about the plan for recovery following Cyclone Gabrielle.
41. If you would like to provide feedback on this this first iteration of the Regional Recovery Plan to the Regional Recovery Agency, you can contact us at: enquiries@hbrecovery.govt.nz or visit us at: www.hawkesbayrecovery.nz.
42. This Plan is also informed by the local-level recovery planning undertaken by Local Authorities, and hapū and iwi Māori. If you have questions or feedback about the recovery actions taking place in your area, or want to know more about upcoming recovery planning and consultation opportunities, you can contact your local council. You can also find the first iterations of Locality Plans on your local council's website for more detail on the recovery actions taking place in your area.



Section 1:

Introduction

The focus of this plan and how it has been developed

This plan sets out the pathway for recovery

43. The purpose of this Regional Recovery Plan is to set out the pathway for how Hawke's Bay will recover from the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle so that regional recovery is coordinated and underpinned by a single plan, and so that the Hawke's Bay can advocate for support with a single 'voice'.
44. This Plan defines the overall pathway and outcomes for recovery to build the region back better, safer and smarter over the short, medium and long terms (see Section 4). It then focuses in on the outcomes, objectives, priorities, and actions needed to support short-term recovery (see Section 5).
45. Short-term recovery typically focuses on Restoration in the first six to nine months post event – with elements including making the environment safe, addressing areas of critical need, restoring lifelines and regional economy, understanding the impacts, and taking initial steps towards building longer-term recovery and resilience. While the focus of this plan is on the short-term, it covers the first fifteen months post event (February 2023 to May 2024) and focuses on both short-term **Restoration** activities as well as initial **Reconstruction** and **Improvement** activities too.

This plan draws on local-level planning to present a single recovery plan across Hawke's Bay

46. This document has been informed by a locally-led and regionally coordinated approach to recovery planning. Local Authorities across Hawke's Bay recently partnered with mana whenua (people of the land) to engage with communities² to understand local priorities for recovery and to co-develop Locality Plans. Locality Plans are recovery planning documents that set out at the local level:
 - How each locality intends to recover from the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle
 - The recovery actions that will be undertaken
 - Required decisions
 - How actions will be funded and delivered.
47. The Hawke's Bay Regional Council also developed an Environmental Resilience Plan providing a clear direction and pathway for recovery of the environmental resilience of the region. Other groups also developed their own local plans for recovery (including PSGEs, hapū authorities, Pacific peoples, regional social service leads and others) and shared these with the RRA³. The RRA analysed these local level plans in drafting this Regional Recovery Plan. This Regional Recovery Plan presents a single regional level view of the recovery direction and actions across local level plans to help align and coordinate recovery activities and to advocate for the support needed to advance recovery at a local level. The plans considered in preparing this document are listed in Appendix 1.

² In this Regional Recovery Plan, 'communities' are defined in a broad sense to capture groups with a shared interest based on geographic, demographic, industry, and cultural commonalities. This broad definition reflects the fact that Locality Plans and local plans were developed not only for, and by, specific geographic areas, but also for more specific population groups (e.g. whānau, hapū, iwi and Pacific peoples' groups) and areas of interest to reflect the fact that recovery needs and aspirations often vary by different community groups. The term 'geographic communities' is used where this document refers only to communities of location.

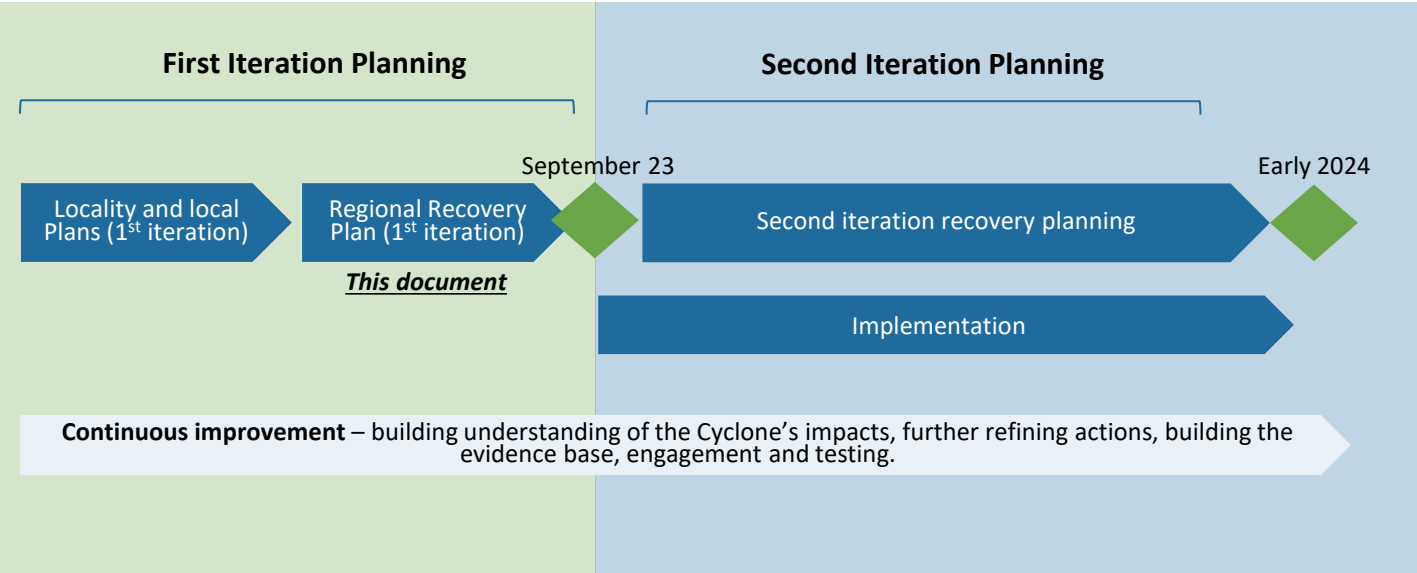
³ Locality Plans are documents developed to provide a recovery plan for a specific locality. Local plans are plans developed by mana whenua and other groups to define their own local-level recovery plans and aspirations. Social sector plans were developed by Regional Public Sector Leads to outline the recovery needs and plan for the region across the different dimensions of government social service provision.

48. This Regional Recovery Plan does not replace or supersede any Locality Plans, the Environmental Resilience Plan or local plans. These Plans will continue to be important recovery documents and will continue to be owned and implemented by those who developed them. This Regional Recovery Plan also does not repeat the content of all Locality and local plans in full, but presents their key themes, priorities, actions, and enablers for recovery at a regional level.
49. This Regional Recovery Plan sets out this regional view to enable regional-level prioritisation of activities, alignment of recovery efforts and direction, and to provide the basis to advocate for (and coordinate) government funding and assistance.

This is the first iteration of the Regional Recovery Plan

50. This Plan is the first iteration of the recovery plan for Hawke’s Bay. It focuses on the recovery activities that need to occur to address short-term needs and lay the foundation for longer-term recovery and resilience building over the medium and longer-terms. The Action Plan presents comprehensive action plans for each of the six Pou.
51. This first iteration Regional Recovery Plan will be followed by a second iteration of the Regional Recovery Plan. This will be developed over late 2023 and early 2024 to set out the medium and longer-term recovery activities (with a focus on Reconstruction and Improvement).
52. Developing two iterations of the Regional Recovery Plan ensures that planning is undertaken with continuous improvement in mind – each iteration will build on earlier work, consider lessons learned, strengthen the understanding of impacts and be based on a stronger evidence base.
53. Figure 1 below sets out the position of this Regional Recovery Plan (first iteration) within this iterative recovery planning and implementation approach. The detail for how the second iteration recovery planning process will work is still being confirmed.

Figure 1: Phasing of recovery planning, action planning, and implementation



54. The RRA recognises that recovery planning has been completed at pace to understand and plan the short-term recovery of Hawke's Bay. The tight timelines to develop first iteration Locality Plans, the Environmental Resilience Plan, local plans, and this Regional Recovery Plan means that only limited consultation and engagement has been undertaken and the level of evidence and data on the impacts of the Cyclone are, (in some cases), limited at this stage.
55. The RRA therefore recognises the risk that some plans may not fully reflect the views of all groups within a community. There will be more time for consultation and evidence building as part of developing second iteration plans.
56. The tight timelines, to develop this document also means that there are gaps and recovery needs, initiatives and priorities that are not yet known. Some of these gaps and unknown areas will only become known once further work is done to understand the impact of Cyclone Gabrielle.
57. The second iteration of the Regional Recovery Plan will look to address more of these unknown areas as part of a continuous improvement process.



Photo: Hastings District Council

Section 2:

Cyclone Gabrielle
and its impacts on
Hawke's Bay



The focus of this plan and how it has been developed⁴

Key features of Hawke's Bay

58. The Hawke's Bay region spans an area of 14,164 square kilometres that approximately 182,700 people call home. It encompasses five major river systems and many smaller coastal catchments. The major systems include Wairoa, Mohaka, Ngaruroro/Tūtaekurī, Tukituki (Upper, Middle, and Lower), and Pōrangahau catchments. The smaller coastal catchments include Kopuawhara, Opoho, Ohuia/Whakakī, Waihua, Waikari, Aropaoanui, Waipatiki, Te Ngarue, Esk, Ahuriri, Karamū/Te Awa o Mokotūāraro (formerly Clive), Pouhokio, Mangakuri, Pourerere, Whangaehu, as well as several additional smaller catchments flowing directly to the sea.
59. The region has a diverse, largely rural, landscape comprising of mountain ranges to the north and west, 350 kilometres of diverse coastline (cliffs, estuaries, sand beaches, gravel beaches), major river systems, productive plains, and hill country. Notable landforms in our region include Lake Waikaremoana, Māhia Peninsula, Cape Kidnappers and Te Mata Peak.
60. The Hawke's Bay region encompasses the four local Territorial Authorities of Wairoa District Council, Napier City Council, Hastings District Council and Central Hawke's Bay District Council, with the Hawke's Bay Regional Council providing oversight of the region's environment. The main cities are located close to each other, Napier on the coast, and Hastings 17 kilometres inland. Smaller towns are Wairoa, Waipawa and Waipukurau and other small settlements are found throughout the region.
61. Hawke's Bay has a diverse and culturally rich landscape. Ngāti Kahungunu iwi spans from Paritū north of Māhia to Tūrakirae on the south Wellington Coast. Ngāti Kahungunu has four Taiwhenua or districts in Hawke's Bay. Across Hawke's Bay, there are six PSGEs representing local hapū: Tātau Tātau o te Wairoa and Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Trust in the Wairoa district, Ngāti Hineuru Iwi Trust, and Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement Trust in the Hastings district, with Maungaharuru-Tangitū Trust across parts of Hastings and Napier districts, Mana Ahuriri Trust across both the Hastings and Napier cities. Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement Trust is also within the Central Hawke's Bay district. PSGEs play a vital role in bringing their knowledge, perspective and worldview to ensure sustainable cultural, social, economic and environmental wellbeing and development of their people and places. There are also 79 marae across Hawke's Bay.
62. Hawke's Bay has a regional Gross Domestic Product of \$9.093 billion for the year ended March 2020⁵. Farming, horticulture (apples, stone fruit, vegetables), wine, forestry and tourism are key industries to the regional economy. The creation of highly productive soils on the Heretaunga Plains from alluvial deposits means the region is well known for its high-quality food and beverage production. For example, two thirds of New Zealand's apples and pears are grown in Hawke's Bay.
63. With a temperate climate and high-quality accommodation, hospitality and events, tourism plays a significant role in the region's economy. Art Deco celebrations, the Mission Concert, Horse of the Year Food and Wine Classics (FAWC), many other notable events, and the Hawke's Bay cycle trails all draw domestic and international visitors to the region.

⁴ This regional profile of Hawke's Bay draws on the profile of the region set out in section 4 of the document *Hawke's Bay Regional Council Environmental Resilience Plan Cyclone Gabrielle 2023*

⁵ Statistics New Zealand. Regional Gross Domestic Product: Year ended March 2020. Accessed at: <https://www.stats.govt.nz/information-releases/regional-gross-domestic-product-year-ended-march-2020>

64. Transport linkages traverse the region with State Highway 2 running north to south and State Highway 5 running east to west. The region is also connected through Napier Port which supports the exports of wood and produce and enables cruise liners to dock during cruise season. Railway also connects the region to the south. Hawke's Bay Airport is the main regional airport. These transport linkages support the supply and demand of goods, people, talent and services coming to and from the region.

Hawke's Bay has a history of extreme weather events

65. While Hawke's Bay is known for its temperate climate it is vulnerable to extreme weather conditions and has a history of significant weather events that have shaped the environment. Since 1867 there have been numerous major storms resulting in severe flooding in Hawke's Bay. The records date back 156 years and NIWA's Historic Weather Events Catalogue has ninety-seven separate events recorded. Notable weather events include:
- The Easter Friday Floods of 1897, which saw the Ngaruroro River breach its banks resulting in houses and bridges being swept away including the rail bridge at Waitangi near Clive.
 - March 1924 saw very heavy rain and floods in the Hawke's Bay and northern districts. The heavy rain followed a very dry period resulting in widespread flooding and extensive damage, including to roads and bridges. There were many large wash outs and several bridges around the district were washed away or damaged.
 - February 1938 Kōpuawhara Stream, located near the Māhia Peninsula flooded suddenly early in the morning of 19 February. A 5-metre wall of water hit the nearby Kōpuawhara No. 4 public works camp, sweeping the huts away and killing 21 people. The public works camp was one of a series of camps set up for construction workers building the Wairoa-Gisborne railway, just before the Second World War. The camp was on the banks of the Kōpuawhara Stream and was made up of houses for married men, which were located on the higher ground, and a cookhouse and huts for 47 single men, which were located close to the stream bank.
 - April 1938 saw prolonged heavy rain over three days which caused severe flooding. Most roads suffered from slips or flooding. The hardest hit area was Esk Valley where most homes and farmland were buried by silt or damaged by floodwaters and landslides. In the lower Esk Valley, an area of 710 hectares was silted to an average of at least 1 metre and depths of 3 metres were found over larger areas. In the wider region there was unprecedented damage to roads, bridges, fences, livestock, and other property.
 - In August 1951, Hawke's Bay rainfall saw rivers and streams in Hawke's Bay rise unexpectedly to flood levels following heavy rain. 1000 acres (405 ha) of pasture and cropping land was underwater. The areas most severely flooded were Meeanee, Pakowhai, Raupare, and Kereru. Severe flooding occurred in Karamū, Pakowhai and Raupare when water ponded behind the floodgates to the Ngaruroro River. The flooding was caused partly by the flooding in the Ngaruroro River and partly by the flood level in the Karamū Stream.
 - Cyclone Bola in 1988 struck the Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti, resulting in continuous torrential rain for three days. This resulted in devastating floods, landslides, mass erosion, power outages, road closures and the failure of wastewater systems. Flooding affected some 3600 hectares of farm and horticultural land, with the associated losses estimated at \$90 million. Insurance payments for the whole event, at the time, totalled \$37 million excluding Earthquake Commission claims.
66. Cyclone Gabrielle illustrated the vulnerabilities across Hawke's Bay to the impacts of severe flooding – including the limitations of existing infrastructure and the vulnerabilities of certain geographic areas. The impacts of climate change will likely result in more frequent, and severe, rainfall and flooding events for Hawke's Bay in the future. Therefore, building the region's resilience to the impacts of similar events in the future is critical.

Cyclone Gabrielle's impacts on Hawke's Bay

67. Originating in the Coral Sea in early February 2023, Cyclone Gabrielle tracked south and struck Aotearoa between 12 to 16 February 2023. On 13 and 14 February 2023 Cyclone Gabrielle impacted Hawke's Bay, resulting in damage, destruction and tragic loss of life.
68. Cyclone Gabrielle was one of the most significant weather events to impact the region on record – delivering winds of up to 120 kilometres per hour, heavy rain (250 to 240 millimetres in the ranges) and storm surges on the coast. The amount of rain was much greater than the river management system could withstand. Rivers rose rapidly and, in some instances, overtopped stop banks and flood defences.
69. Cyclone Gabrielle is likely to be the costliest non-earthquake natural disaster event in Aotearoa New Zealand's history, with the costs of this event being second only to the costs of the 2010 and 2011 Canterbury Earthquakes⁶. Cyclone Gabrielle had significant impacts across the region's economy, infrastructure, whānau and community wellbeing, natural environment, primary sector, and isolated areas. A summary of the impacts is set out below. Appendix 3 sets out specific examples of damage across the region, and also highlights of how the region has recovered to date.

Economy

70. Cyclone Gabrielle has had a significant impact on the Hawke's Bay regional economy. Many businesses experienced damage to their premises and key infrastructure. Local primary industry sectors suffered severe damage to their produce, lands, premises, and supply chains – with resulting impacts on business revenue, employment, and business planning and growth that will have implications for years to come. Local tourism was also hit hard – with lost tourism revenue from the cancellation of key events and ongoing impacts associated with lower visitor numbers.
71. Devastation from Cyclone Gabrielle has caused significant economic impacts including:
 - Direct damage to business and the wider economy through loss of premises and key infrastructure
 - Decline in business in key sectors including hospitality, accommodation, retail, horticulture, primary and in key locations such as Awatoto, Wairoa and Whirinaki
 - Damaged or destroyed infrastructure necessary for business including transport links, utilities and communications
 - Horticultural (including viticulture) and agricultural land was affected including loss of crops and livestock
 - Lost tourism revenue from the cancellation of key events and ongoing impacts associated with lower visitor numbers
72. For some sectors and businesses, they had already been in recovery mode due to COVID-19, so Cyclone Gabrielle has compounded existing stressors related to vulnerable sectors such hospitality, accommodation, exporters and small businesses.
73. Government has released over \$22 million in business support grants of up to \$40,000 to over 1,400 eligible applicants in Hawke's Bay. Government also allocated \$62.6 million of funding to support the removal of silt and sediment deposited on commercial entities' lands in the region.

⁶ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). Cyclone Gabrielle's impact on the New Zealand economy and exports – March 2023. Accessed at: mfat.govt.nz/en/trade/mfat-market-reports/cyclone-gabrielles-impact-on-the-new-zealand-economy-and-exports-march-2023/

Infrastructure

74. Infrastructure across the Hawke's Bay was significantly impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle. Throughout the region stop banks breached and buildings, roads, bridges, community facilities, water infrastructure, power supply and telecommunications were either damaged or completely destroyed. The total cost to remediate and future-proof infrastructure will run into the billions of dollars.

Stop banks

75. There were approximately 6 kilometres of breaches in the 248 kilometre stop bank network and a further 28 kilometres of the stop bank network were damaged by erosion.

Bridges, roads and rail

76. The sheer volume of water and debris caused extensive damage and total destruction to parts of the bridge, roading and rail network. In some bridge locations, debris became trapped on the upstream side of the bridge, limiting the flow through the bridge opening, which led to high water levels in the river channel on the upstream reach from the bridge.
77. Some areas were completely inaccessible, and a number of properties continue to have limited access due to tracks or bridges remaining unpassable. Culverts across the region were blocked with a combination of woody debris, leaf litter and silt. There is extensive clean-up, repair and reconstruction required across the culvert network.

Water infrastructure

78. Some water and wastewater treatment plants were adversely impacted – either by inundation, land movement or by the loss of power and communications required to monitor and run plants.

Waste infrastructure

79. The volume and contents of household, putrescible, commercial, hazardous, construction and demolition solid waste has been significant. In some places the increase from the one event has superseded a normal six monthly intake of waste. In addition to solid waste, tens of thousands of tonnes of silt have been piled and/or redistributed across the region.

Reserves, parks and community facilities

80. Facilities across the region have been affected, including parks, reserves, campgrounds, skate parks, public amenities and playgrounds. These are important infrastructure for community wellbeing and tourism.

Power and telecommunications

81. Days passed without power or communication networks in many areas. The impact of those failures isolated these areas further, made it difficult to understand need, meant that some infrastructure was rendered inoperable, and that core supplies were either unavailable or in short supply (e.g. fuel).

Whānau and community wellbeing

82. The impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle on community and whānau wellbeing are yet to be fully understood. Impacts on health and wellbeing are likely to be wide-ranging, persist long after the event and can disproportionately affect vulnerable populations⁷. Māori, Pacific peoples, tāngata whaikaha (disabled people), seniors, migrant communities and those living in rural Hawke's Bay are all likely to experience greater levels of hardship from the impacts of the cyclone.

Connectedness

83. Cyclone Gabrielle led to the isolation or displacement of communities throughout the region. Many communities quickly established their own community-led hubs. These hubs played a crucial role in enabling effective communication, ensuring the well-being of people, families, and Māori whānau and facilitating access to essential supplies. Māori and Pacific peoples' communities continue to mobilise to meet the needs of their affected families and whānau.

Cultural Impacts

84. The cyclone has resulted in the loss and damage of treasured taonga, carvings, pā sites, and other culturally significant sites. This destruction deeply affects the wellbeing of affected communities. The displacement of several urupā (burial grounds), marae buildings and kaumātua (aged) flats has created distress and exacerbated losses for hapū and Māori communities. Displacement of Māori whānau poses a threat to the connection they have with whenua (land), an intrinsic part of wellbeing for Māori. Land categorisation decisions are likely to further affect Māori connections with whenua.

Marae

85. The cyclone's impact on cultural infrastructure, particularly marae, has had a profound effect on those affected Māori communities. The damage to these significant sites has disrupted the ability to maintain connections, use the marae fully, and provide manaakitanga (hospitality and support). Without functioning marae, the connection to place is at risk. Marae have supported each other, utilising other Marae as welfare response and recovery hubs.

Welfare

86. During the response to Cyclone Gabrielle, the region witnessed a remarkable display of support for immediate needs and welfare provisions. This included the delivery of essential supplies such as food, medical supplies, fuel, and water to rural and isolated communities, the dedication of volunteer workforces, the establishment of food distribution networks, civil defence payments, and the allocation of grants to bolster response efforts.
87. Cyclone Gabrielle has left many grappling with job uncertainty, redundancies, and financial hardship. As a result, the number of people relying on welfare assistance is higher than usual for this time of year, and far greater than the impacts of COVID-19 on the region. This increase can be attributed, in part, to the devastating consequences of the cyclone on the region's primary industries, particularly horticulture, and the significant wellbeing impacts on those involved in Hawke's Bay's primary industries.

Safety and security

88. The impacts of the cyclone destruction on the immediate safety and security of the community included the tragic loss of life, the loss of homes, marae, taonga, animals, and livelihoods. As a result, many people, families and whānau face displacement, financial stress, isolation, trauma, and heightened concerns regarding community safety and security.

⁷ Nomura et al. Social determinants of mid- to long-term disaster impacts on health: A systematic review, International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction, Volume 16, 2016, Pages 53-67, ISSN 2212-4209, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdrr.2016.01.013>

89. In addition to these immediate impacts, communities have identified several ongoing factors that exacerbate the impacts. These include isolation due to damaged infrastructure, decisions regarding land use, and the still present damage to homes, businesses, and all important community assets such as schools, kōhanga reo (Māori language preschools) and marae.
90. Regional rescue infrastructure was also stretched due to the major demands on response and rescue services. For example, the region's rescue helicopter service faced huge demands for rescue support, resulting in commercial helicopters providing response and rescue services. This illustrated the need for the region to review the scale and resilience of its response and rescue services going forward.

Health

91. The Cyclone has resulted in immediate health impacts including an increase in leptospirosis cases and reports of minor skin infections due to exposure to contaminated water and silt. These health concerns occur alongside the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. During recovery, there will be continued environmental health impacts to consider. As the silt dries, it generates dust, leading to decreased air quality. Water quality in rivers, streams, estuaries and maritime environments, which are vital for recreation and gathering of kai, may also be negatively affected. Furthermore, there is a potential for an increase in pests such as mosquitoes and vermin, posing additional health risks.
92. People, families and whānau (and their wider communities) will grapple with significant psychosocial impacts. Coping with the loss of life, destruction of homes, and impacts on whenua will be emotionally challenging. Communities highlighted the impacts on tamariki (children), rangatahi (youth), and kaumatua (aged people of status) who have experienced the loss of kōhanga reo, schools, marae, and homes. Secondary stressors, including infrastructure damage, loss of income, and disruptions to healthcare services, will compound the emotional burden and stresses faced by many.

Housing/Accommodation

93. Hawke's Bay faced a severe housing shortage before Cyclone Gabrielle and this shortage has been compounded by the cyclone's impacts. Displacement has occurred both due to direct flooding damage and indirectly through increased competition for already limited housing stock. Approximately 2 percent of the housing stock in Hawke's Bay was affected with red or yellow stickers, mostly in Hastings District, with 30 percent of housing damaged in Wairoa.
94. A number of affected families and whānau are uninsured or underinsured for home and possession losses. The full scale of the cyclone's impact on housing is yet to be fully quantified due to the ongoing assessment of land categorisation. Housing conditions have far-reaching implications for health and are only likely to be worsened by the cyclone's impacts. Māori and Pacific peoples are much more likely to face challenges such as overcrowding and damp housing which significantly increase the risk of poor health outcomes.



Photos: Wairoa District Council

Natural environment

95. Cyclone Gabrielle has had a significant impact on the natural environment. Much of the impact of Cyclone Gabrielle on our environment has yet to be quantified. Key impacts on the environment included:
- **Land:** The cyclone caused numerous slips and landslides, stream, and riverbank erosion, and buried some land under meters of silt. Erosion and associated sediment have ecosystem impacts from the loss of soil and through deposition in lower catchment areas.
 - **Air:** The cyclone left substantial amounts of silt across the landscape. There is a decrease in air quality and as the silt dries it contributes to windblown dust. Burning of woody debris and waste has contributed to air pollution.
 - **Water:** Some of the Council's State of the Environment monitoring sites have been found to have minimal or no aquatic life while other macroinvertebrates and fish were present when the flood waters started to recede. Erosion has impacted on the taonga and biodiversity of waterways.
 - **Biosecurity:** Flooding displaced many pest animal populations from their natural habitat and may exacerbate biosecurity risks by enabling the wider spread of plant pests such as Chilean needle grass.
 - **Waste:** Flooding collected vast amounts of silt and wood debris and channelled it through the extensive river network and out to sea. Woody debris has been deposited on coastlines, riverbanks and mouths, piled up at bridges and washed onto flooded land. The flooding also resulted in large volumes of waste from flooded homes, rural properties and infrastructure. There are considerable silt deposits and contaminated flood damaged items on roadsides across the region.
 - **Marine and coast:** There are large amounts of debris, sediment and waste in the moana which has affected marine life and ecosystems.
 - **Climate Change:** The impact the initial clean-up is having on the emissions profile of Hawke's Bay is likely significant. This impact is made up of a reduction of sequestration due to a loss of trees and soil, and an increase in emissions from fossil fuels burnt such as generators, heavy machinery, increased heavy vehicle movements and an increase in aircraft movements as part of the response.
 - **Whānau, hapū, and iwi Māori:** Whānau, hapū, and iwi Māori have lost (through damage and safety concerns) access to and usability of customary fishing, food gathering sites, and practices and have also lost Taonga through tree and land damage. There are some impacts to kōiwi (human remains) and historical burial sites, including some which are pre-colonial.

Primary sector

96. Farms, forestry blocks, orchards, vineyards, fishing locations, and rural businesses across the region have been impacted. Impacts across the region affecting the primary sector include:
- **Lost production:** Direct loss of revenue due to lost production including fruit, wine grapes, plants, and vegetables lost or damaged in floodwaters and under silt; animals who were killed in floodwaters or due to exposure; inability to fish due to debris and silt; limited access both within farms and forests and to and from processing sites.
 - **Clean-up:** Significant cost associated with the removal of silt, woody debris, and other debris on affected productive land and infrastructure compounded by a lack of access to contractors with the capability to complete the works.
 - **Damage:** A significant amount of farm/orchard infrastructure is damaged. This includes orchard systems and netting, fruit trees and vines, fencing, access tracks, water infrastructure, dairy sheds, and ancillary farm buildings.

- **Access:** The continued road closures and reduced access to infrastructure are affecting the ability to move products and access markets both domestically and for export. It is also difficult to access inputs for many operations.
- **Wellbeing:** Debt levels are increasing due to the loss of revenue and increased costs. Uncertainty around ongoing and incoming regulations, increased pest and disease pressure, isolation, and ability to retain staff are also having a negative psychosocial impact. There is also a lack of certainty on what support could be provided for recovery, making it difficult for sector members to make decisions on what and when to undertake activities such as silt removal, replanting, and replacing infrastructure. Due to the seasonal nature of the sector, some of these decisions are required in specific windows of time to achieve longer-term production. Uncertainty is having both a cumulative negative financial and psychosocial impact on wellbeing.

97. There is the potential in the long-run for significant loss of employment if some of these businesses (particularly horticulture, forestry contracting, and manufacturing operations) have to right-size to survive or worst case, exit. This, however, needs to be considered within the normal seasonal and market-driven employment shifts of these industries.

Horticulture (including Viticulture)

98. Perennial crops suffered a loss of approximately 35 percent of 2023 production value⁸. The horticulture industry is a significant regional employer. The peak seasonal period ended approximately six weeks early due to a lower volume of fruit resulting in approximately 1600 workers finishing their casual work earlier than normal. The economic impact is approximately \$520 million in direct costs and \$560 million in replanting and reinstating damaged orchards (like for like). Cropping land was directly impacted by flooding with a significant loss of annual crops. which will have an ongoing and long-term impact on the economic health of the region and the ability to supply food domestically.

Pastoral (including Dairy)

99. There has been a loss of revenue associated with not being able to maximise stock performance impacted by access, infrastructure damage, pasture loss and an inability to maximise available feed. The economic cost to the region consists of approximately \$180 million in direct costs for uninsured damage to production and infrastructure on farms⁹. There is approximately 3 to 5 percent pasture loss across the region (topsoil has been removed).
100. Flooding displaced many pest animal populations from their natural habitat and may impact on biosecurity risks from the wider spread of plant pests, such as Chilean needle grass.
101. Dairy farming businesses were also affected with around a third of Hawke's Bay dairy farms having to dry off their herds due to the inability of Fonterra to collect milk. A number of other dairy farms have been impacted through the loss of pastoral grazing land, and supplementary feed reserves.

Forestry

102. Forestry damage is estimated to be moderate and includes tree and infrastructure damage. Forestry crop damage is approximately \$165 million. This can be insured against although often is not for storm damage. Infrastructure damage including access ways, bridges, and culverts has cost upwards of \$30 million for the region. Much of the infrastructure damaged was uninsured and uninsurable. Forestry contractors have been unable to work in many cases due to impaired access to forests. Financial costs have so far been estimated at approximately \$9 million.

⁸ BCG/Rokit, Hawke's Bay Horticultural Sector Economic recovery following Cyclone Gabrielle, 30th March, 2023. Note: These numbers have not been independently verified by the Regional Recovery Agency.

⁹ This estimate was developed based on work carried out by Beef+Lamb New Zealand incorporating work completed by AgFirst Gisborne.

103. Forestry covers a significant proportion of steep hillsides. Its destruction has added debris into rivers and oceans. There has been significant concern across the region that forestry debris and woody debris contributed to much of the woody debris spread by flood waters. The impact of this on the perception of the industry has been negative and caused associated psychosocial impacts for the workforce.

Food Manufacturing

104. Fruit and vegetable processing industries shut down for several weeks. They are now using imported ingredients to replace lost crops. The cost of replacement ingredients will be tens of millions of dollars above what domestic products would have cost.

Seafood

105. Fishing boats were unable to operate for several weeks. Debris washed into the bay includes wood, silt, apples, onions and household waste. This is being collected in fishing nets (and causing damage to nets and other infrastructure including boats) up to nine kilometres offshore.

Mixed Income Blocks

106. Members of this group may be leasing land to orchardists or growers and there is growing concern that leaseholders may start to abandon the land leaving the landowner without the ability to clear it in some cases. There may be significant psychosocial impacts being felt by this group due to their uniqueness and relative lack of support structures.

Māori Landowners

107. Māori whenua owners were significantly affected, especially those Trusts who own and operate forestry blocks. Some Māori-owned orchards suffered severe damage.

Isolated communities

108. Damage and destruction to infrastructure and the natural environment left many remote and rural communities across the region cut off. While connections to many of these areas have since been restored, some reconnection measures are only temporary, some geographic communities continue to be isolated and reconnections to several areas remain vulnerable to future flooding events.
109. Several Locality Plans emphasised the need for these geographic communities to be resourced and supported so they are able to independently respond to the impacts of future flooding events. Locality Plans emphasised that, at the time of their development, there were approximately two geographically isolated communities in each of the Heretaunga/Hastings and Wairoa areas (connections to the isolated communities in Heretaunga/Hastings were established in late July 2023).



Photo: Timothy James Carrington



Section 3:

How regional
recovery will be
coordinated and
implemented

The Regional Recovery Agency

Coordinating recovery planning, prioritisation and implementation

110. This Regional Recovery Plan has been developed by the Hawke's Bay Regional Recovery Agency (the RRA). The RRA is an enabler and coordinator of regional recovery and is responsible for coordinating the planning and implementation of recovery activities across Hawke's Bay needed to build the region back better, smarter and safer post-Cyclone Gabrielle. Key roles of the RRA include:
- Identifying and prioritising regional recovery opportunities and priorities
 - Supporting the prioritisation of how funding is to be allocated to recovery activities
 - Coordinating work with councils, central government and other entities on the Future of Severely Affected Locations (FOSAL) across Hawke's Bay
 - Receiving, triaging, packaging and sharing advice with the Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Taskforce, Ministers and others
 - Identifying the policy and regulatory enablers of recovery and interfacing with central government to discuss settings that can better enable recovery or address any policy and regulatory gaps or barriers (a summary of key legislation relating to recovery is included in Appendix 4)
 - Convening organisations and agencies involved in recovery and drafting and developing the recovery plan to direct recovery at the regional level
 - Overseeing and monitoring the implementation of recovery objectives
111. The RRA itself does not directly interact with affected communities, determine the initiatives for each community's recovery, or deliver recovery projects. Further, the RRA does not possess a statutory function or decision making role, and has no delegated functions from central or local government. These roles are led and delivered by local authorities and entities leading local recovery efforts, who have a first-hand view of Cyclone Gabrielle's impacts at the local level. Locality Plans and local-level plans prepared by local authorities and other entities set out planned actions that are to be led and delivered at the local level. See your local council's website for its Locality Plan.
112. Instead, as a 'systems integrator', the RRA plays a fundamental role in coordinating implementation across the region to ensure efforts are efficiently directed to where they are most needed, a clear recovery pathway is provided and duplication of effort is avoided. A list of some of the entities involved in recovery is set out in Appendix 2.
113. The RRA does not receive and distribute recovery funding but plays an important role in advocating for and securing the funding needed to advance recovery across the region. This approach ensures that recovery funding is allocated efficiently and directly to entities leading activities on the ground.

The RRA is continuing to embed and evolve

114. The RRA was announced in March 2023 and was initially established with a small team, an interim recovery manager and interim operating model. While the RRA is still early in its establishment and operations, it is making strong progress on coordinating early recovery planning and building strong relationships with key entities involved in recovery.
115. The RRA has secured funding for 2023/24 and 2024/25 following engagement with central government. This funding will further enable the RRA to develop and embed its team, operating model, and coordination and advisory roles even further.

Recovery phases and how this Plan fits within these phases

The three phases of recovery

116. Recovery is defined as the coordinated efforts and processes to bring about the immediate, medium-term and long-term holistic regeneration of a community following a civil defence emergency¹⁰; Recovery is often thought of as having three key phases:

- **Restoration** - Immediate Recovery/short-term recovery
- **Reconstruction** - Medium-term Recovery
- **Improvement** - Long-term Recovery

116. These recovery phases overlap, and typically have different lengths of time and intensities of work. The diagram below sets out the planned recovery activities within each of these phases for Hawke's Bay.

Figure 2: Three phases of recovery

Phase	1. Restoration	2. Reconstruction	3. Improvement
Timing	Short Term ≈ the first 6-9 months post event Making the environment safe, addressing critical needs, restoring lifelines and our regional economy, understanding the impacts, and laying the foundation for longer-term recovery and resilience.	Medium Term ≈ 9-18 months post event Repairing and reconstructing major services, buildings and infrastructure and envisioning the future.	Long Term ≈ 18+ months post event Making the Hawke's Bay a more resilient and better place to live
Description	Restoration is an opportunity to gain an initial view of the current state. The Regional Recovery Plan produced in this phase will focus on short term recovery needs.	Reconstruction provides the opportunity to build a clearer picture of the recovery plan and actions needed and to implement medium-term priorities to rebuild.	Improvement is when the longer-term recovery decisions and actions for improvement and resilience will be implemented.
Key actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First iterations of Locality Plans, local plans, Environmental Resilience Plan and Regional Recovery Plan are developed. ● The RRA is established to coordinate recovery. ● Commence work on the Future of Severely Affected Locations (FOSAL). ● Prioritise, seek and negotiate funding following Budget 2023. ● Negotiate and agree Crown funding contributions to property buyouts and flood protection as a result of FOSAL and other recovery costs. ● Engage with central government agencies about funding and support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Second iteration Locality Plans, local plans, Environmental Resilience Plan and Regional Recovery Plan are developed. ● Start planning recovery activities for potential funding via Budget 2024. ● Ongoing coordination with systems integration across the Hawke's Bay region. ● Coordinating implementation of short-term recovery activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Finalising and implementing the longer-term recovery initiatives and steps towards resilience. ● Planning and implementing large-scale infrastructure investments and developments (that may have been planned in early phases of work).

¹⁰ Section 4 of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002.

This plan focuses on the short-term recovery phase (Restoration)

117. The Hawke's Bay region faces long-term recovery challenges. Due to the extent of damage across Hawke's Bay's economy, communities and environment, recovering from the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle will take years to fully complete. The three phases of Restoration, Reconstruction and Improvement will need to be coordinated, sequenced and worked through over time.
118. This document primarily focuses on the Restoration phase above and the initial steps towards Reconstruction and Improvement. As such, the focus of this plan involves addressing the acute areas of need right now, understanding the impacts of the event in more detail, and laying the foundation for longer-term recovery and resilience. Medium and longer-term recovery activities are also indicated where they are already known. The second iteration Regional Recovery Plan (to be completed in early 2024) will succeed this plan and set out the medium and longer-term (Reconstruction and Improvement) pathway in more detail once this planning has been completed.



Photo: Hastings District Council

The approach for recovery

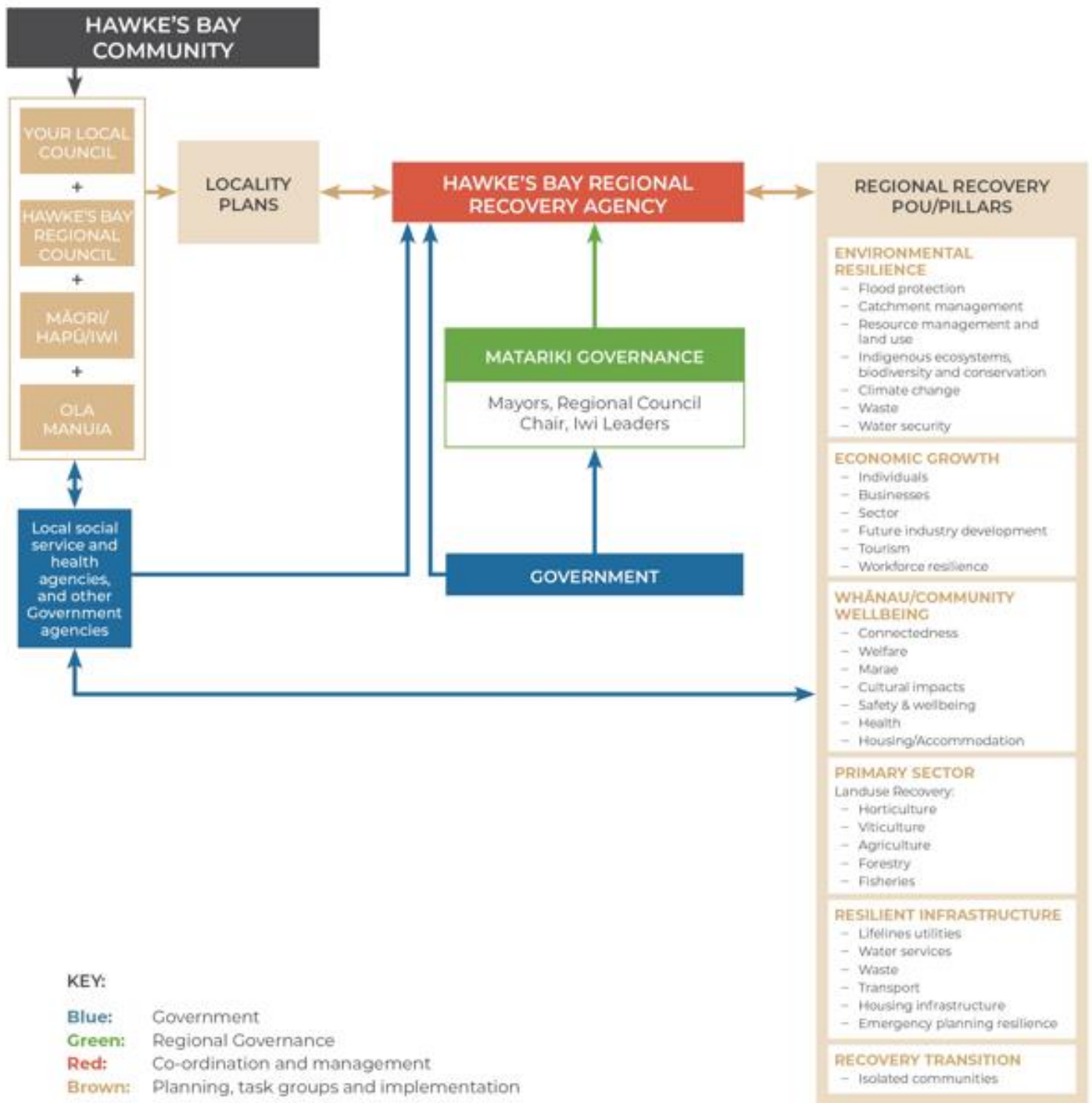
Locally led, regionally coordinated and government-supported recovery

119. The approach to recovery for Hawke's Bay will be locally led, regionally coordinated and government supported:
- **Locally led:** recognises that local communities have their own recovery needs and aspirations unique to their local areas that will need to be progressed. In some cases, recovery activities will be led and delivered at the local level by local entities and groups.
 - **Regionally coordinated:** reflects that while local-level recovery needs and opportunities may differ across communities, there will be areas where recovery aspirations align across the region. Therefore, recovery needs to be regionally coordinated to ensure that support is directed to where it is most needed and to avoid duplication of effort.
 - **Government supported:** recognises that the size and impact of Cyclone Gabrielle means that Hawke's Bay cannot fund and implement the recovery activities needed on its own. The Government has committed to supporting Hawke's Bay's recovery from the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle.

The Hawke's Bay Recovery Framework and Recovery Pou

120. Matariki Governance Group (MGG) is the partnership of many regional leaders, provides regional leadership across Hawke's Bay required to support economic success through combining health, social, cultural, environmental, and business initiatives.
121. Coordinating and integrating the entities involved in recovery at local, regional, and national levels is an important function of the RRA. Following Cyclone Gabrielle, the MGG has developed the Hawke's Bay's Recovery Framework (the Recovery Framework) to set out how recovery planning and implementation will work in practice and how the different entities will work together with the aim of building Hawke's Bay back better, smarter and safer.
122. In this Framework, recovery will be organised and supported in ways that reflect the following key principles:
- A genuine partnership with Māori
 - Addressing inequities
 - A stronger and more productive economy
 - Fit for purpose infrastructure and lifelines
 - Climate resilience and adaptation
 - Working with Te Taiao, not against.
123. The Recovery Framework (Figure 3) and its principles will guide recovery activities and support how the region prioritises resources (including funding). Recovery actions will deliver on, and be undertaken in line with, these principles.

Figure 3: The Hawke's Bay Regional Recovery Framework



124. Key features of the Recovery Framework above include:

- Local councils and mana whenua co-developing Locality Plans for recovery. Iwi, hapū and other groups will also develop their own local plans for recovery.
- The RRA will coordinate recovery actions across the region, including with industry and the Crown
- The RRA will then combine Locality Plans, the Environmental Resilience Plan and other local plans into a Regional Recovery Plan for Matariki Governance Group to approve
- Local councils and government agencies will be responsible for funding and delivery
- The RRA will coordinate, direct and oversee implementation of recovery at a regional level.

125. The Recovery Framework includes six Regional Recovery Pou (pillars) for coordinating and organising recovery activities and for guiding the planning work of the RRA. Organising recovery activities by Pou ensures that all areas of recovery across Hawke’s Bay are appropriately aligned and supported.

Figure 4: The Regional Recovery Pou

Environmental Resilience	Economic Growth	Whānau and Community Wellbeing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Resource Management and Land Use ● Indigenous Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Conservation ● Climate Change ● Waste ● Water Security ● Catchment Management ● Flood Protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Individuals ● Businesses ● Sector ● Future Industry Development ● Tourism ● Workforce Resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Connectedness ● Welfare ● Marae ● Cultural Impacts ● Safety & Wellbeing ● Health ● Housing/Accommodation
Primary Sector	Resilient Infrastructure	Recovery Transition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Land use Recovery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Horticulture — Viticulture — Agriculture — Forestry — Fisheries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lifelines Utilities ● Water Services ● Waste ● Transport ● Housing Infrastructure ● Emergency Planning Resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Isolated Communities ● Resourcing for resilience

126. These six Regional Recovery Pou provide the basis for organising the objectives, priorities, and actions set out in this Regional Recovery Plan. Section 5 sets out specific recovery plans for each Pou.
127. While the Recovery Framework distinguishes recovery activities by six unique Pou, the activities and outcomes within these Pou are often inter-related. For example, repairing and rebuilding key infrastructure supports economic outcomes (by increasing productivity and reconnecting supply chains) that in turn results in enhanced production in the primary sector and enhanced community wellbeing by restoring transport connections. Key interdependencies between Pou are outlined in the Action Plan.
128. There are also significant recovery decisions that will cut across Pou. For example, decisions on how severely affected land will be zoned or categorised for future use will have implications for how and where people live, work and play across the region.

Section 4:

The pathway
towards building
back better, safer
and smarter



Building Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay back better, safer and smarter

Recovery outcomes for Hawke's Bay

129. It is important at the outset of any recovery to define the pathway for recovery and the overarching outcome that recovery is driving towards. Defining the overarching outcome early ensures that recovery activities over the short, medium and long-terms are organised around a consistent direction that supports the sequencing of recovery initiatives.
130. The overarching outcome underpinning Hawke's Bay's recovery across the short, medium and long-terms is:

The Hawke's Bay region is built back better, safer and smarter, through the development and delivery of a locally led, regionally coordinated and nationally supported recovery plan for Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay.

131. This outcome recognises that recovery does not mean only aiming to reset the region back to its pre-Cyclone position and levels of activity but to enhance and build resilience over time so that the people of Hawke's Bay can have confidence that the future impacts of severe weather events can be managed, and the reputation of the region as a great place to live, work and do business can be retained. With a history of significant flooding events across the region, and the looming threat of more frequent and severe weather events in future, Hawke's Bay needs to:
- **Build back better** by not only repairing damage but also taking steps and making investments to build Hawke's Bay's resilience to extreme weather events in the future
 - **Build back safer** by thinking about how we respond to and manage the risks to human life, property and livelihoods in future extreme weather events
 - **Build back smarter** by planning and making informed decisions about where and how we live, work and play across the region based on the underlying risk and potential impacts of future extreme weather events.
132. Building the region back better, safer and smarter requires improved outcomes to be achieved across all six Pou. No one Pou will achieve the recovery outcome above in isolation. The RRA has drawn on Locality Plans, the Environmental Resilience Plan, and local plans to develop outcomes for each of the six Pou that will collectively contribute to a region that is built back better, safer and smarter.

Figure 5: Outcomes for the six Recovery Pou

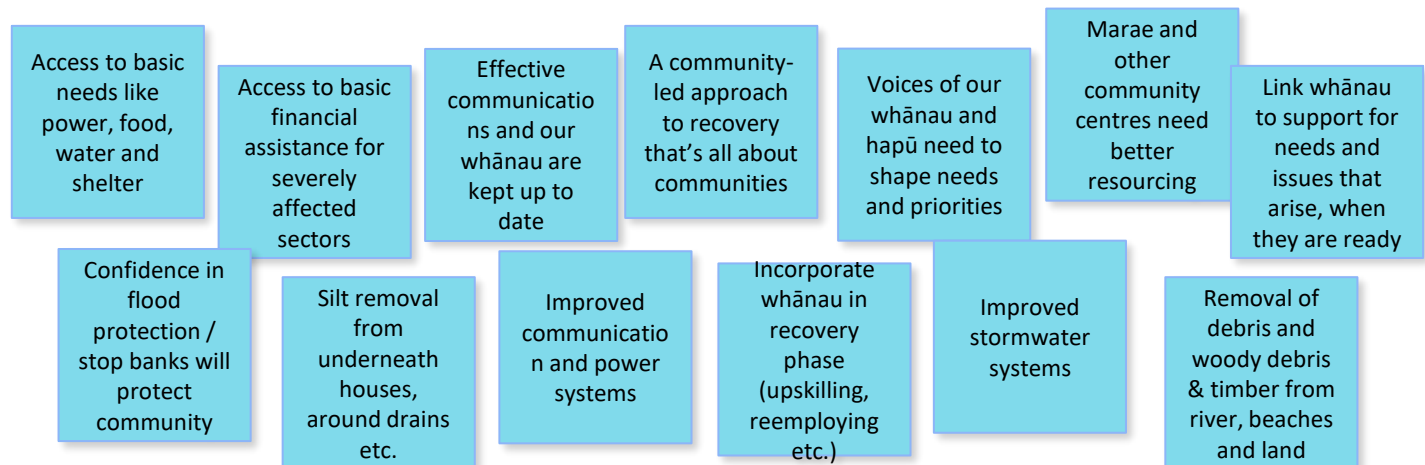
Environmental Resilience	Economic Growth	Community and Whānau Wellbeing
Te Taiao is restored, protected and enhanced throughout recovery.	There is a strong and productive economy and sustainable business activity, including for Māori businesses.	All people, families and whānau in affected communities have access to essential services, shelter, health, psychosocial and wellbeing support.
Primary Sector	Resilient Infrastructure	Transitioning to Recovery
The Hawke's Bay primary sector is sustainable and provides meaningful employment and economic opportunities for families, whānau and businesses.	Essential services, public and critical lifeline infrastructure are restored and made more productive and resilient.	Hawke's Bay communities are reconnected and are better prepared and coordinated for future emergency events.

133. The overall outcome for recovery, and the six outcomes above, are given effect to through the specific objectives, priorities and recovery actions in Section 5.
134. The Outcomes Framework (page 43) sets out how the priorities across the six Pou will contribute towards objectives for recovery in each Pou above. Summaries of the specific recovery activities and actions within each Pou are described in detail in the Action Plan.

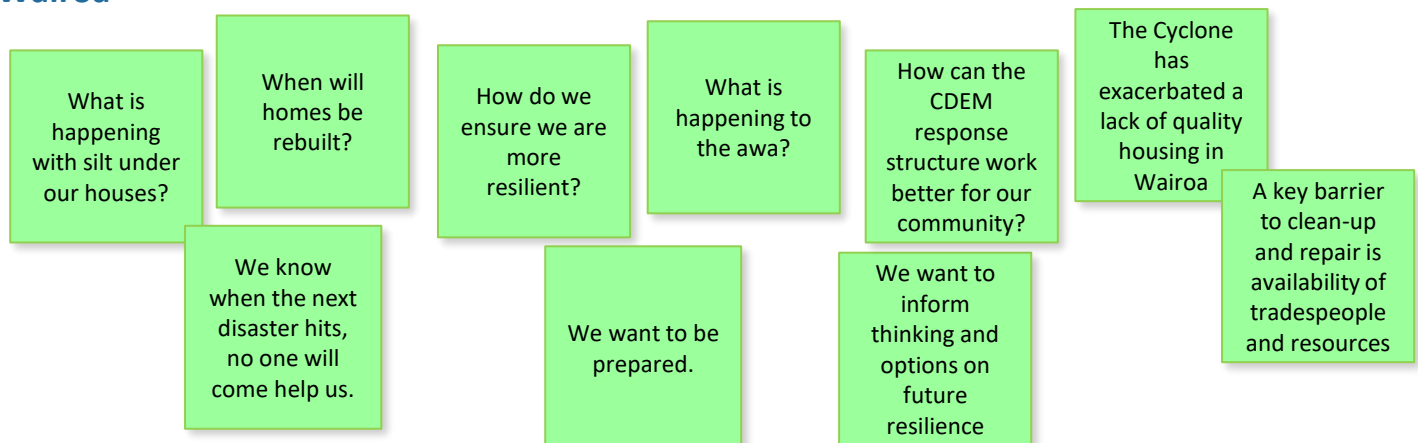
What's important for Hawke's Bay communities?

The Locality Plans and other local plans were developed through direct discussions and engagement with local communities and the people affected by Cyclone Gabrielle. Below is a summary of key feedback from community hui and meetings (as contained in Locality Plans - see Locality Plans for more detail).

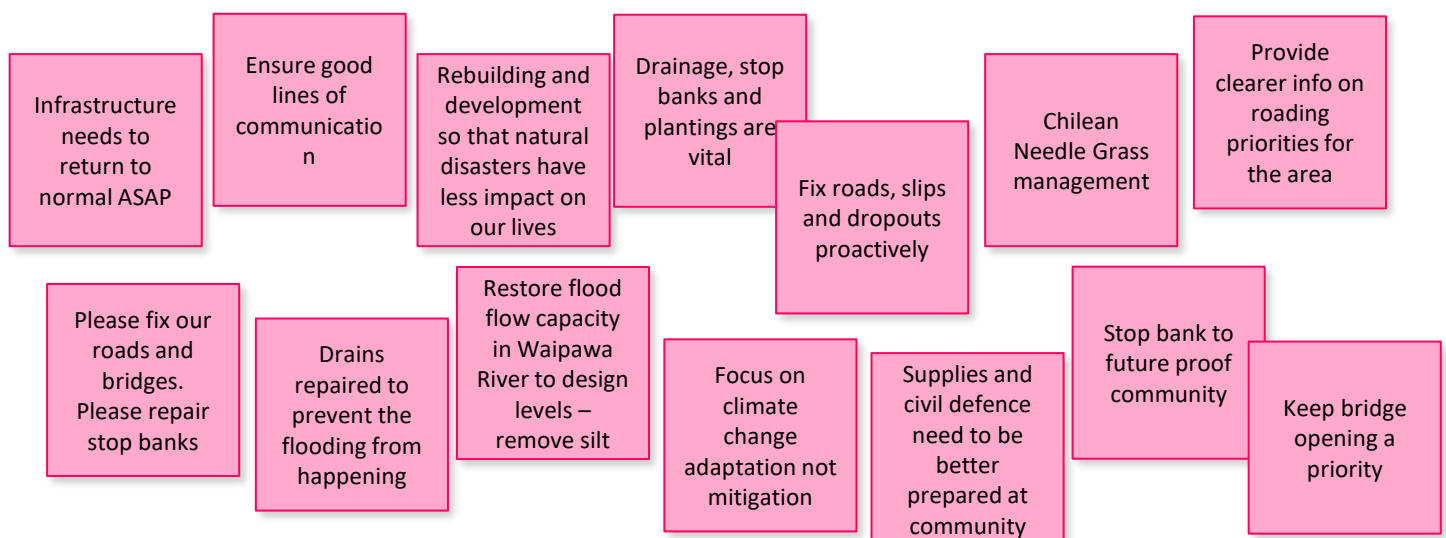
Ahuriri Napier



Wairoa



Tamatea Central Hawke's Bay

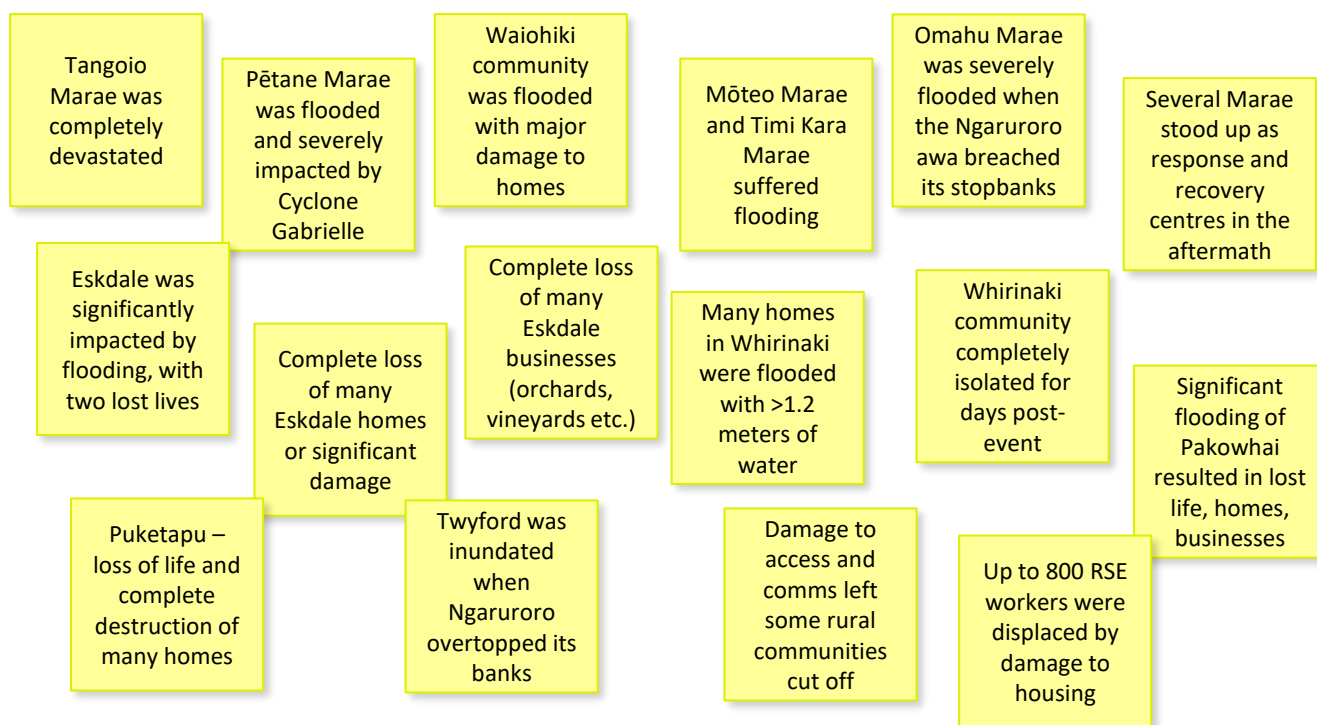


What's important for Hawke's Bay communities?

Heretaunga Hastings

Hastings' Locality Plan acknowledges that the voice of the community is not well represented in this document. Communities in Hastings were heavily impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle and some are still actively responding to the consequences of the event. With the short timeframe to produce the Locality Plan it was felt that the added pressure of community engagement was too much.

However, key impacts across Hastings communities included:



Key themes from Locality Plans and local plans

135. Plans received by the RRA included a range of key themes about what is important for recovery that the RRA has considered and reflected in this Regional Recovery Plan.

Addressing inequities

136. Several plans emphasised that the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle have exacerbated areas of inequity that already existed in the region. For example, in several areas there was a shortage of warm, dry and safe housing prior to Cyclone Gabrielle. The damage and destruction of housing caused by Cyclone Gabrielle in some areas has made the shortage of quality housing worse in the short term. Considering the impacts on economic and employment inequity is also important.
137. There is also a need to consider how whenua Māori (Māori lands) is treated and supported to recover, with Central Government overseeing this process. Whilst land categories have not been fixed, any process will need to mitigate any further alienation of whenua Māori.
138. This Regional Recovery Plan recognises that recovery activities should be progressed in ways that seek to address, where possible, inequities across Hawke's Bay communities.

Supporting Mana Motuhake

139. Whānau, hapū, iwi Māori and other local groups emphasised in their plans the importance of Mana Motuhake (self-determination) and being able to self-determine and deliver their aspirations for recovery, with support from the Crown. Several Locality Plans noted that local mobilisation and action was a key part of the response and initial recovery until links with communities could be re-established.
140. Actions and priorities in this Regional Recovery Plan recognise the importance of Mana Motuhake and seek to provide ways to resource and enable local entities to drive their own recovery priorities.

Delivering clear communication and engagement

141. Feedback from plans, and engagement with other community groups and entities, noted that clear and proactive communications and engagement with communities should be undertaken to ensure clarity on the recovery actions and activities, when they will happen, and how they will impact communities.

Pou should be treated as intrinsically inter-related

142. Several plans emphasised that recovery activities should not be 'siloed' within specific outcome areas. Recovery activities in one area often directly relate to those in another Pou.
143. While the Recovery Framework organises the recovery activities by six Pou (or pillars) to align and coordinate activities, the activities and outcomes within Pou are intrinsically interrelated and need to be closely coordinated through implementation to ensure that outcomes across all Pou are aligned.

Focusing on addressing areas of immediate need

144. Plans emphasised the short-term focus should be on responding to immediate recovery needs and rapidly working to address areas of immediate need and restoring essential services and lifelines at pace (e.g. restoring critical infrastructure, repairing lifeline services etc.).

145. This Regional Recovery Plan takes a short-term focus on addressing areas of immediate need during this time as initial steps on the pathway towards longer-term recovery for the region.

Building resilience into recovery

146. Plans emphasised that just building back to pre-Cyclone is not enough given that extreme weather events will become more common and more severe with the impacts of climate change. Not seizing opportunities now to build in resilience could result in the region being severely impacted by similar events in future or may result in the activities and investments for short-term recovery being repeated in the future.
147. There is also recognition to enable the application of mātauranga Māori (body of knowledge) in accordance with the existing repositories of mātauranga, tikanga (customs and protocols) and decision-making authorities of whānau, hapū and iwi Māori.
148. While fully considering and building resilience into key infrastructure will take time, steps can be taken now to support community level resilience to future events, while resilience should be built into key projects and activities for recovery.

Considering recovery across the region

149. Plans emphasised the importance of taking a cross-regional lens to recovery. Because the people of Hawke's Bay live, work and play across the boundaries of Territorial Local Authorities, the Regional Recovery Plan needs to take a single and holistic view of recovery needs and priorities that takes this into account.
150. This Regional Recovery Plan takes a whole of Hawke's Bay focus and seeks to coordinate and align recovery activities across localities at a regional level.

Enabling community-led recovery

151. Plans emphasised the important role that communities played in organising response and recovery activities and outlined the key role that communities should continue to play in both recovery planning and delivery, as well as being resourced and enabled to respond to future weather events. Communities also want continued opportunities to feed their views into ongoing recovery planning and activities.
152. This Regional Recovery Plan recognises that many recovery priorities and actions will be led and delivered at the local level. Where needed, the RRA will advocate for the resources needed by these local-level recovery initiatives to enable them to be implemented.

Key recovery risks

Cross-cutting risks to delivery

Risks	<p>A key enabler for recovery is funding. Local authorities and other entities are clear that the scale of damage across the Hawke's Bay region cannot be met by them alone – Crown support is needed. Already the Crown has directed and committed to substantial investment towards recovery efforts. However, the actions that need to take place over the coming years to build Hawke's Bay back better, safer and smarter already exceed amounts directed by the Crown. As a result, the RRA and local councils will need to continue to work with central government over the coming years to advocate for, and seek, additional funding for recovery.</p> <p>This Regional Recovery Plan sets out recovery activities at a regional level by drawing together the key themes and priorities across Locality Plans and other local plans. Because this Regional Recovery Plan takes a whole-of-region focus to recovery planning it relies on the work and leadership of local authorities and other entities leading recovery actions to progress and successfully deliver their planned actions and activities, with the RRA playing a coordination role to align planning and implementation and advocate for support. As such, a key risk for the RRA is that the direction and success of this plan depends on actions and activities being successfully delivered that the RRA does not directly lead.</p>
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Economic Growth

Risk	<p>If regional economic sectors and industries contract or fail, the impacts of these failures will not only be felt by the affected employers and employees – the costs and negative impacts of these failures will be felt across the region. It is therefore vital that recovery holds a strong focus on supporting regional business and economic activity. Support for key regional sectors, like our primary industries, will be vital for supporting economic prosperity from which we all benefit.</p> <p>Ensuring access to the right skills and experience to enable recovery is vital.. Repairs and reconstruction of infrastructure will require specialist planning and engineering expertise, as well as skilled labour. Primary industries will require personnel to repair their operations and support future harvests and production. Shortages of the labour and skills needed for recovery could result in delays to certain activities. This may be further compounded by inflated labour costs, or trade-offs between actions competing for the same pool of skills and experience. The pipeline of work and available local/regional resources will need to be constantly reviewed and managed closely to ensure the right mix of local/regional skills is balanced against the time required to grow capable resources, timing availability and price.</p>
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Whānau and Community Wellbeing

Risk	<p>Risks to whānau and community wellbeing following Cyclone Gabrielle are wide-ranging and will disproportionately affect vulnerable populations, particularly Māori and Pacific peoples, further entrenching existing inequities in health outcomes and the social and economic conditions that affect health.</p> <p>There is the risk that if secondary stressors, such as loss of income, damaged infrastructure, unmet housing needs and impacts of land categorisation decisions, are insufficiently addressed this will compound the emotional burden and psychosocial impacts faced by people, families and whānau and negatively impact community resilience. This will be exacerbated further if communities are not involved in recovery processes.</p>
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Primary Sector

Risk	<p>The Hawke's Bay primary sector is at the heart of the regional economy. There is a risk that, without support, producers could abandon land and this abandoned or unmanaged land will cause further impacts on Te Taiao including through increased pest and disease pressure, erosion, woody debris and silt in non-optimal locations, and water pollution.</p> <p>The effects of primary sector contraction or business failures and reduced operations should also not be underestimated. Our primary sectors require support that is targeted and tailored to the nature of their industry, and what they grow and produce. This support will provide the confidence sectors need to invest in rebuilding their operations and preparing for future growth.</p>
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Key recovery risks, continued

Resilient Infrastructure

Risk	<p>Not enough government support for the infrastructure repairs, restoration, and resilient improvements needed across the region may result in significant costs being borne by local authorities, potentially significant rates increases, and reducing the affordability of Hawke's Bay as a place to live and do business.</p> <p>Poor prioritisation and not looking forwards (as well as backwards) while we think about what a thriving and resilient future-proofed Hawke's Bay looks like may mean that less happens at a slower rate while resources are competed for and spread thinly.</p> <p>There is a risk to the region that we deploy all resources into temporary measures and then are left with a social, economic and infrastructure deficit for years to come. This risk means we need to be accurate and patient with the recovery and strike a balance between quick fixes and more durable solutions, including funding pathways.</p> <p>It is also important that resilient infrastructure recovery considers more than the recent impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle and that future resilience needs are factored into the recovery. Not doing this would be a missed opportunity and put the wellbeing of Hawke's Bay communities and the economy at risk.</p>
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Recovery transition

Risk	<p>If recovery does not focus on re-establishing, but also strengthening, connections to isolated areas it is likely that future events will again sever the connections to many isolated and rural communities. In addition, if opportunities are not taken to give local communities and groups the resources and capabilities that they need to respond to events in the future it is likely that the impacts of future events may be even more significant.</p>
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Change of Government

Risk	<p>A shift in political leadership could result in changes to existing policies, laws, or funding priorities. This could lead to disruptions in the implementation of recovery initiatives, changes in funding allocations, or shifts in strategic priorities.</p>
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Hawke's Bay Recovery Outcomes Framework for restoration, reconstruction, and improvement

The RRA has developed the following Outcomes Framework to set out how the overarching outcome for recovery will be realised through the contributions across six Pou. This Outcomes Framework is intended to not only underpin this Regional Recovery Plan but also subsequent iterations focusing on medium and longer-term recovery (Reconstruction and Improvement).

The Hawke's Bay region is built back better, safer, and smarter, through the development and delivery of a locally led, regionally coordinated and nationally supported recovery plan for Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay.

Cross-cutting outcomes					
Governance structures			Partnership with mana whenua		
Effective governance structures and processes are in place to facilitate and support a regionally led recovery, with governance structures reflecting partnership under Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Communications between all entities involved in recovery from governance levels down are clear, appropriate, and timely			Mana whenua are partners in the recovery, including through governance and decision-making. The values, interests and aspirations of mana whenua are recognised and supported.		
Environmental Resilience	Economic Growth	Whānau and Community Wellbeing	Primary Sector	Resilient Infrastructure	Recovery Transition
Outcomes for each Pou					
Te Taiao is restored, protected and enhanced throughout recovery.	There is a strong and productive economy and sustainable business activity, including for Māori businesses.	All people, families and whānau in affected communities have access to essential services, shelter, health, psychosocial and wellbeing support.	The Hawke's Bay primary sector is sustainable and provides meaningful employment and economic opportunities for people, families, whānau and businesses.	Essential services, public and critical infrastructure are restored and made more productive and resilient.	Hawke's Bay communities are reconnected and are better prepared and coordinated for future emergency events.
Objectives for each Pou					
Negative impacts of the Cyclone on Te Taiao are arrested and Te Taiao is rehabilitated to a healthy and well-functioning state with resilience to future climate change.	Ensure that the Hawke's Bay economy is supported to resume operations (where feasible), access the necessary resources to recover in the short term, attract visitors and investment and maintain employment rates to pre-cyclone levels.	Ensure essential needs are met for people, whānau and communities. In the longer-term key objectives are that community aspirations for recovery are identified and supported and community connection, safety, psychosocial, health and wellbeing supports are enabled.	Ensure that the primary sector is supported to recover from the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle, with a focus on restoring profitable and sustainable land and water use that is resilient to future weather events.	The Resilient Infrastructure Pou seeks to ensure the resilient and safe repair and rebuild of essential community infrastructure across Hawke's Bay so that communities are protected from the impacts of increasingly severe and unpredictable weather events.	Ensure that all geographic communities that continue to be isolated because of Cyclone Gabrielle or other future events are supported and reconnected and increase the capability of communities to deal with the impacts of severe and adverse climatic/weather events and other natural events.

Environmental Resilience	Economic Growth	Whānau and Community Wellbeing	Primary Sector	Resilient Infrastructure	Recovery Transition
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Top Priority actions

There are a wide range of recovery actions that need to take place across the Hawke's Bay region to advance recovery. The lists below are the highest priority actions for the RRA. They are not exhaustive. A full list of actions is included in the Action Plan.

- | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue removing and cleaning up silt and debris • Restore and enhance flood protections <i>(also relates to Resilient Infrastructure)</i> • Prioritise environmental restoration actions with a view to enhancing resilience to future events through designing solutions that work with the environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of a range of mechanisms to support the different needs of businesses including a working capital scheme, and the provision of concessionary loans • Support economic recovery by investing in capability support, assistance and infrastructure that creates a platform for economic growth and regional prosperity • Utilise a progressive procurement approach and local businesses, labour, skills and experience to undertake regional recovery where possible, and identify and fill any regional labour, skills and experience gaps where needed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure homes are repaired and support is provided to ensure housing is provided at a healthy, liveable standard • Work in partnership with iwi/Māori and other organisations to help ensure adequate provision of additional housing in the short term and address housing inequities in the medium to longer term • Provide local communities with resources to provide ongoing psychosocial wellbeing support both in the short term and as recovery continues • Supporting Māori initiatives and partners to deliver recovery solutions 'by Māori for Māori' including support for communities undertaking the restoration of the mana and mauri of marae | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide funding support for critical primary sector industries badly affected by the cyclone | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoring and enhancing flood protections <i>(also relates to Environmental Resilience)</i> • Prioritise the rebuild of critical roading and rail routes (including bridges) • Plan and prioritise key road, rail, electricity, telecoms, three waters and other key infrastructure assets so that they are more resilient, fit for purpose and provide a basis for future economic activity and regional prosperity |
|--|---|---|--|--|

The following priority action cuts across all six Pou:

- Implement Category Three residential property buyouts to assist those most affected.

Decisions on the Future of Severely Affected Locations in Hawke's Bay

153. Impacts and damage to land and homes varied widely across Hawke's Bay. Some areas were devastated by flooding and silt accumulation while other areas were relatively unaffected. Some low-risk land areas will be able to be rebuilt on. For other areas, the risk of future impacts will be able to be mitigated through flood defences, while other areas will need to be retreated from (in terms of residential activity) where elevated levels of risk cannot be effectively mitigated.
154. The RRA has heard clearly through the Locality Planning process, and from communities, that certainty is required quickly about how land will be categorised and utilised in the future so that affected homeowners have certainty on how their land is categorised so they can move forward and repair, rebuild or consider a buyout offer for their property. This work is being led by Local Government with support of Central Government. The RRA has been providing coordination support for the negotiations between Local and Central Government to determine the Crown contribution to voluntary buyouts. Note, the RRA is not a decision maker in respect of these matters, and has no delegated authority in the assessment or categorisation of affected properties or any consequent financial arrangements between the Crown and Councils, and Councils and landowners.
155. Central Government, through the Cyclone Recovery Unit is also leading engagement with mana whenua and the development of guidance and policy to affected lands under Te Ture Whenua Māori.
156. Local and regional councils, and central agencies have assessed affected properties against a framework of three categories:
- **Category 1: Low Risk** – Repair to previous state is all that is required to manage future severe weather event risk. This means that once any flood protection near the property is repaired, the home can be rebuilt at the same site.
 - **Category 2: Managed Risk** – Community or property-level interventions will manage future severe weather event risk. This could include the raising of nearby stop banks, improving drainage or raising the property. Category two is split into three sub-categories:
 - **2C** - Community level interventions are effective in managing future severe weather risk event. This could include local government repairs and enhancements to flood protection schemes to adequately manage the risk of future flooding events in the face of climate change effects
 - **2P** - Property level interventions are needed to manage future severe weather event risk, including in tandem with community level interventions. This could include improved drainage or raising houses for example.
 - **2A** – Potential to fall within 2C/2P- but significant further assessment needed.
 - **Category 3: High Risk** – Areas in the high-risk category are not safe to live in because of the unacceptable risk of future flooding and loss of life. Homes in these areas should not be rebuilt on their current sites.
157. The Hawke's Bay Regional Council, and the Government's Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Taskforce have been working to assess future severe weather risk in areas across the region. This process has involved looking at information from a range of sources, including the Hawke's Bay Regional Council, the Ministry for the Environment, and claims data from insurance companies.

158. The risk assessment and land categorisation process to date has been completed in phases:

- From 1 June 2023, Councils started making direct contact with impacted property owners. This included those with properties in Category 1 areas whose properties were damaged because of the cyclone, as well as those with properties which have been provisionally placed into Category 2 or Category 3 areas.
- Those with properties provisionally placed into Category 2 or Category 3 areas were informed that more work was underway to determine the land categorisation for their area. This included gathering further information from a variety of sources, including property owners and impacted residents, before any final decision can be made. A more detailed review of the initial assessment data, including an independent review, was then completed.
- From mid-June, Councils engaged directly with property owners and impacted residents in each area. Central Government (led by the Cyclone Recovery Unit) commenced direct engagement with PSGEs, affected hapū and Māori communities, taiwhenua and marae to undertake a parallel Kaupapa Māori process specifically for whenua Māori (Māori lands). This process is ongoing.
- In late July, it was announced that more than half of the residents located in provisional Category 2 and Category 3 areas across Hawke's Bay have been moved to Category 1.
- Between July and early August, negotiations between central and local government progressed on how the most urgent cyclone recovery costs were to be shared between central and local government. Negotiations resulted in an agreement that the costs of buyouts for Category 3 residential properties were to be shared 50/50 between Councils with Category 3 residential properties and central government (with the Government contributing up to an estimated \$67.5 million). Central Government contributions to other urgent recovery costs were also agreed – including \$203.5 million for flood protection in the region and \$260 million for specific transport infrastructure projects and programmes.
- During this period, the Hastings District and Napier City Councils developed their policy for the buyout of Category 3 residential properties. Contract with property owners commenced in early October 2023.
- The Hawke's Bay Regional finalised land categorisation work in late September and advised property owners in early October 2023.

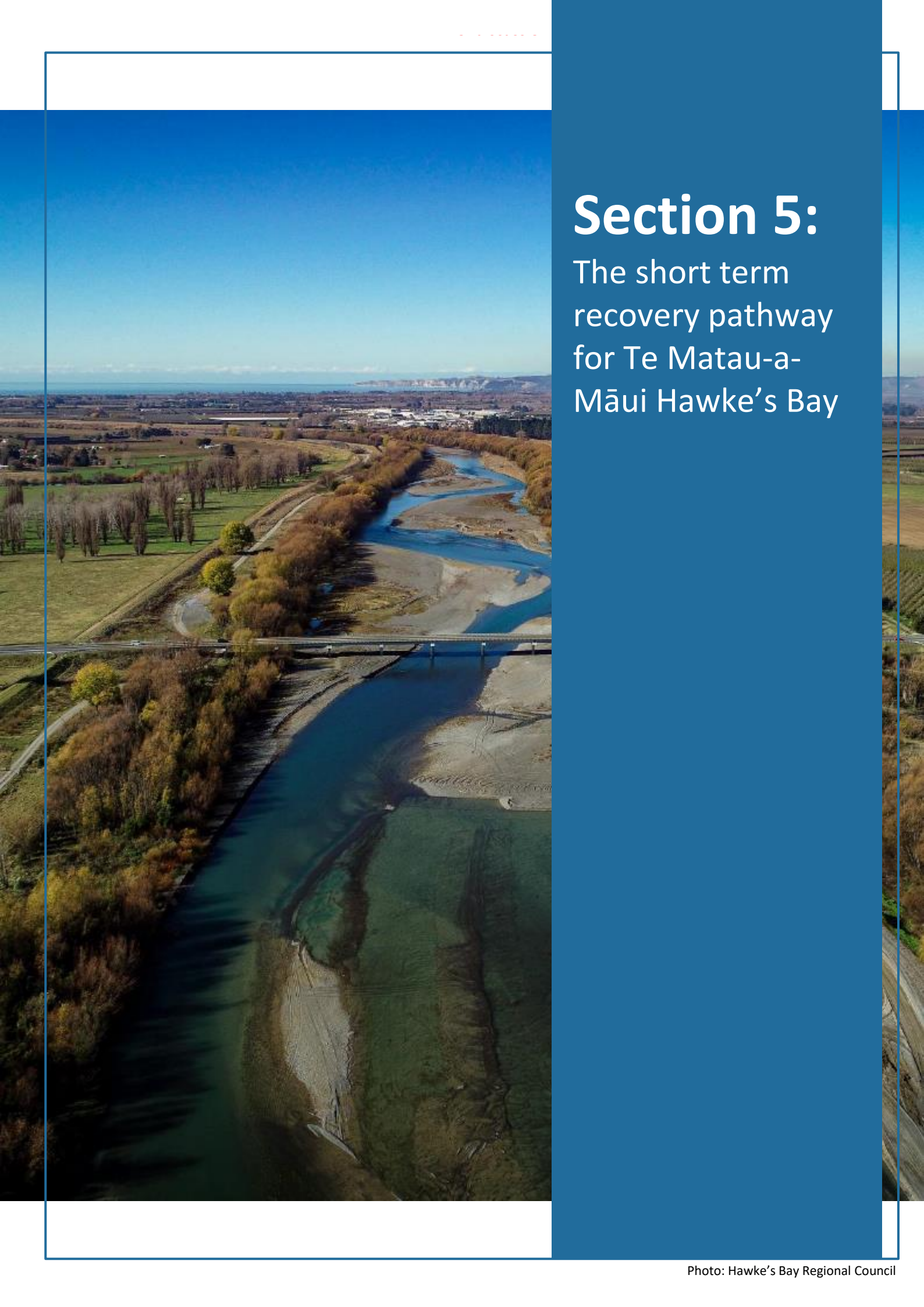
159. The focus of work on Future of Several Affected Land (FOSAL) to date has been on residential property. The RRA's role in this work has been to support negotiations between Local and Central Government on Crown funding for voluntary buyouts and other recovery activities, and to coordinate activity between the Councils. The RRA is not a decision maker in this process, and does not have a role in the negotiations between councils and homeowners on voluntary buyouts.

160. It is important to note that this is uncharted territory for how Aotearoa New Zealand deals with natural disasters of this scale. Any decisions made must have future and inter-generational safety at their heart and, while Councils do not yet have all the answers, Councils advise that they are committed to sharing what they do know, when they know. Similarly, new policy will be required to mitigate any impacts for whenua Māori (Māori land) as land holdings are already small due to historical actions and cannot be easily replaced. This risk needs to be carefully balanced with the need for safety with the connections to ancestral lands, surrounding environment and cultural infrastructure such as marae and urupā (burial grounds).

161. Flood protection, restoration and improvement will play an important role and is inextricably linked to land use, categorisation, and the risk assessment process. Flood protection is a key priority under both the Resilient Infrastructure Pou (Flood control including drainage and stop banks) and the Environmental Resilience Pou (everything else related to flood protection). As noted above, central government has committed \$203.5 million towards flood protection (in addition to the Regional Councils \$44m) in the region to help mitigate future flooding risks and impacts.
162. Given that land use decisions will directly influence the types of activities that can be undertaken and where, decisions on land categorisations and flood protections will underpin and influence recovery across all six Pou. Progressing this work rapidly not only provides certainty to affected homeowners but also ensures that short-term recovery decisions can be made based on certainty of how land can be used in the future.



Photo: Central Hawke's Bay District Council



Section 5:

The short term
recovery pathway
for Te Matau-a-
Māui Hawke's Bay

The short-term pathway towards building back better, safer and smarter

The focus of initial recovery activities is on Restoration

163. Building back better, safer and smarter will take time to fully complete. It is important to acknowledge that recovery needs to be carefully and accurately planned, and patiently delivered, to ensure that the right investments and interventions are made in the right places, at the right time.
164. There is an important balance to be struck between progressing work to meet immediate needs and 'quick fixes' versus taking the time to fully understand the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle and to plan how to best recover from these impacts. If recovery activities are rushed, then as a region we risk encountering a social, economic, environmental and infrastructure deficit for years to come.
165. In line with the three phases of recovery (in Figure 2 – page 30) the focus of short-term recovery is on Restoration over the first six to nine months post-event. This includes:
- First making people and the environment safe, addressing areas of critical need and restoring lifelines and our regional economy (including our lifeblood primary industry sectors)
 - Understanding the impacts of the event in more detail so that medium and longer-term recovery and resilience steps are well informed and targeted
 - Taking the initial steps towards building longer-term recovery and resilience.
166. The short-term recovery actions under each of the six Pou are predominantly focused on delivering against these three key elements in the short term. Medium and longer-term actions are also noted where these are already known. See the Action Plan for more detail on the actions to be progressed under each of the six Pou.

Making people and the environment safe, addressing areas of critical need and restoring lifelines and our regional economy

167. Fully recovering from the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle will take years to complete, but there are activities that need to happen now to address some of the acute negative impacts of the Cyclone. Addressing these short term impacts is a key focus for this Regional Recovery Plan.
168. Supporting a strong and productive regional economy needs to be at the forefront of our short-term recovery, as a strong and productive economy underpins how we will achieve outcomes across all Pou and is vital for making Hawke's Bay a great place to live, work and visit. Within the Economic Growth Pou, the short-term focus is on supporting businesses affected by Cyclone Gabrielle to provide certainty for investment and employment decisions, to support job retention and access to talent across the region, and to utilise a progressive procurement approach to regional recovery. In the Primary Sector Pou, delivering targeted support to our lifeblood primary sector industries to recover from the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle on their operations is a short-term priority.
169. Another key focus of short-term recovery involves repairing and restoring critical infrastructure and lifelines within the Resilient Infrastructure Pou (including reinstating transport access to geographic communities, restoring rail and roading, and restoring three waters assets).
170. Short term recovery also has a focus on supporting the people, families and whānau affected by the Cyclone through ensuring access to dry, warm and safe housing, and providing communities with ongoing psychosocial and wellbeing support within the Whānau and Community Wellbeing Pou.

171. Restoring and strengthening connections to isolated geographic communities (or those with tenuous connections) is also an area of critical short-term need and this is a priority within the Recovery Transition Pou.
172. Within the Environmental Resilience Pou, the focus is on rehabilitating the environment – including rehabilitating impacted sites and restoring and improving flood protections. Cleaning up waste and refuse (including silt and debris) is a critical short-term focus as part of making the environment safe and for addressing the impacts of waste on production and human health and wellbeing.

Understanding the impacts of the event in more detail

173. The sheer scale and complex environmental and geotechnical impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle will take time to fully comprehend. Some recovery activities require this work to be done before they can be progressed.
174. Further work to understand the impacts of the Cyclone on infrastructure (and identifying and addressing any gaps in understanding) is an important part of establishing the infrastructure programme under the Resilient Infrastructure Pou.
175. Understanding the impact of the Cyclone on Te Taiao is also a priority under the Environmental Resilience Pou and will directly inform steps towards building resilience into the regional environment (such as progressing natural approaches to erosion control). Further work is also a priority to understand the impacts of the Cyclone on landowners, farmers, foresters, fishers and growers in the Primary Sector Pou.

Taking the initial steps towards building longer-term recovery and resilience

176. Building more resilience into our environment, infrastructure, and economy is vital if the region is to withstand similar extreme weather events in the future. Climate change will result in extreme weather events becoming more common and forceful in the coming years so building resilience will protect the recovery gains made in the short-term and minimise the impacts of future weather events.
177. Infrastructural resilience is an important focus for the Resilient Infrastructure Pou – which prioritises a range of resilience actions such as ensuring resilience of the roading network over winter, planning and designing future resilience into the land transport network, and identifying where greater resilience is needed in critical lifeline infrastructure. The Environmental Resilience Pou also prioritises work to understand and build resilience into the natural environment, while the Primary Sector Pou prioritises supporting resilience across key impacted sectors.
178. Building resilience is also an important focus for the Economic Growth Pou – which prioritises work to enable impacted locations to tailor solutions to manage the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle and to build regional prosperity and ensure future economic growth in their areas.

Our Top Priorities for Recovery

Through analysis and consolidation of Locality Plans and other local plans, the RRA has identified a short-list of top regional priorities for recovery to focus where efforts, investment and coordination is most needed. This list below represents the most important areas of recovery based on three prioritisation factors:

1. Is an action critical for supporting and improving the wellbeing of the people of Hawke's Bay?
2. Is an action critical for supporting the productivity and prosperity of the regional economy (e.g. supporting businesses to recover and thrive, supporting key economic sectors, and underpinning employment)?
3. Is an action a vital pre-requisite or enabler of recovery?

Many of the top priorities below are Restoration focused but are important enablers of Reconstruction and Improvement. The priorities below represent broad areas of focus for the region, and each relates to a number of specific actions that will be advanced at either a regional or local level in progressing recovery.

The top priorities have been developed by the RRA to elevate the key actions that are most vital for addressing the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle, and to ensure that efforts, funding and support can be directed to the most critical tasks as a priority. Note, these priorities are not the full list of actions that need to take place across the region, and are they are *not* listed in order of priority. The Action Plan prepared by the RRA includes the longer lists of actions that need to take place under each Pou.

The restoration, reconstruction, and improvement priorities listed below do not imply RRA responsibility for delivery, funding, or implementation. As noted elsewhere in this plan, the RRA acts as a coordinator, not a decision maker, and accordingly makes no assurances regarding the delivery of the priorities or individual programs set out below and in the Action Plan. The RRA disclaims liability for the outcomes, successes, or failures in implementation of the Action Plan, which are beyond its control.

Priority	Why this is important
1. Continue removing and cleaning up silt and debris	Clearing silt and debris enables access to homes and businesses, addresses the wellbeing risk of exposure to debris and silt, and is a pre-requisite to enable many Reconstruction and Improvement actions.
2. Restore and enhance flood protections	Flood protections prevent or reduce impacts of future extreme weather events and are a precondition for many recovery activities to ensure recovery actions and works are protected from the potential future impacts of flooding.
3. Prioritise environmental restoration actions with a view to enhancing resilience to future events through designing solutions that work with the environment	Restoring the natural environment, and building resilience, is vital for mitigating the current and future impacts of extreme weather events on our lands, waterways, flora and fauna (with flow-on impacts and benefits for wellbeing and the regional economy – particularly sectors that work with the natural environment, such as the primary sector).
4. Progress roading and rail restoration (including bridges), with the prioritisation of critical routes	Roading, rail and bridges are critical transport connections for the people of Hawke's Bay to enable access to homes and places of work, and for local businesses to move people, product, and access supply chains efficiently and effectively.
5. Plan and develop priorities for the infrastructure lifelines rebuild (with funding needs identified and implementation to follow) so that roads, rail, electricity, telecoms, three waters and other key infrastructure assets are more resilient, fit for purpose and provide a basis for future economic activity and prosperity	<p>Infrastructure provides and enables critical lifeline connections across the region that are vital for the wellbeing of the people of Hawke's Bay as well as the pre-conditions for the regional economic success of the region (by enabling businesses to operate, access import/export sector's supply chains etc.).</p> <p>Cyclone Gabrielle revealed where further resilience in infrastructure is required, and funding strategies are vital for rebuilding and enhancing these critical infrastructure enablers.</p>

Our Top Priority Actions, continued

Priority	Why this is important
6. Implement Category Three residential property buyouts to assist those most affected	Category Three buyouts provide homeowners with payment and certainty to move on with their lives given the impacts of damaged or destroyed housing on peoples' wellbeing.
7. Provide funding support for critical primary sector industries badly affected by the cyclone	Without financial support many growers and producers across key sectors (including the Horticultural and Pastoral sectors) may struggle to remain viable – which will have a significant impact on Hawke's Bay's economy.
8. Ensure homes are repaired and supports provided to ensure housing is provided at a healthy, liveable standard	Healthy and liveable homes are vital for physical and psychosocial wellbeing. Repairs to homes to make them healthy and liveable have flow-on benefits for occupants in terms of psychosocial wellbeing, health, education and employment outcomes.
9. Work in partnership with iwi/Māori and other organisations to help ensure adequate provision of additional housing in the short term and address housing inequities in the medium to longer term	In areas of Hawke's Bay there was a shortage of housing pre-Cyclone that has been exacerbated by Cyclone Gabrielle. Warm, dry, quality housing is a critical requirement for peoples' wellbeing and providing housing solutions is an important enabler of wider recovery decisions.
10. Provide local communities with resources to provide ongoing psychosocial wellbeing support both in the short term and as recovery continues	The psychosocial impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle will take years to be fully felt. Resourcing local community providers of services and support to understand the impacts and help those affected will alleviate the longer-term wellbeing impacts that may be socialised wider in the community over many years if not addressed.
11. Provide a range of mechanisms to support the different needs of businesses including a working capital scheme, and the provision of concessionary loans	Supporting businesses with mechanisms such as concessionary loans (and other forms of targeted support) will help these affected businesses to weather the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle on their financial positions, in turn supporting healthy Hawke's Bay businesses and employment.
12. Support economic recovery by investing in capability support, assistance and infrastructure that creates a platform for economic growth and regional prosperity	Hawke's Bay businesses have been affected to varying degrees based on their location, type of operations, and product. Providing capability support such as access to Regional Business Partners and expert business advice will help enable businesses with planning to get back on their feet and return to viability / profitability.
13. Support Māori initiatives and partners to deliver recovery solutions 'by Māori for Māori' including support for communities undertaking the restoration of the mana and mauri of marae	Māori hold their own aspirations and thinking on what's important for their recovery and wellbeing post-Cyclone Gabrielle. Partnership is a vital enabler of these aspirations and to enable Māori iwi, hapū and whānau to recover. In addition, this priority recognises the vital importance of Marae as hubs for community wellbeing (as well as response and recovery) given that many Marae were seriously impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle.
14. Utilise a progressive procurement approach and local businesses, labour, skills and experience to undertake regional recovery where possible, and identify and fill any regional labour, skills and experience gaps where needed	<p>Progressive procurement involves looking beyond just price when making purchasing decisions to also consider the wider social value of procuring from local, Māori-owned or Pacific peoples'-owned businesses. Utilising progressive procurement can support the economic prosperity and wellbeing of local firms, employers and employees that are engaged to undertake recovery work.</p> <p>Utilising local labour, skills and experience can also ensure that the economic impetus of spending on recovery can benefit the wider regional economy by ensuring that spending on contracts, works, products and labour stays within the Hawke's Bay region. Any gaps and needs in skills, experience and labour that cannot be met within the region will be drawn from elsewhere to ensure that recovery progress is not hampered by skills shortages.</p> <p>The pipeline of work and available local/regional resources will need to be constantly reviewed and managed closely to ensure the right mix of local/regional skills is balanced against the time required to grow capable resources, timing availability and price.</p>

How recovery will be advanced for each Pou

What will happen under each Pou to drive recovery in the short-term

179. The RRA has carefully analysed Locality Plans, the Environmental Resilience Plan, and local plans in preparing short-term plans for each of the six Pou. The following sections summarise the key recovery objectives and priorities across each Pou at a high level to provide a sense of the overall pathway for short-term recovery. **For more information on recovery actions, full action plans for each Pou (with indicative timings and costings) are included in the Action Plan.**

How to read the following Pou summaries

The next section summarises the specific outcomes, objectives and priorities within each Pou:

Outcomes: are the visions of what successful recovery will look like for each of the Pou (the vision or desired future state for a successful recovery)

Objectives: outline how the recovery activities in the Pou will contribute to the improved outcomes targeted for each Pou.

Areas of focus: These are the most important areas of recovery under each Pou and are the key areas under which recovery actions are categorised and organised.

Priority Actions: These are the Top Priority Actions within each Pou. It is important to note that these are just a small selection of the actions being advanced under each Pou. The full list of recovery actions is set out in the Action Plan.



Environmental Resilience



Recovery Outcome	Te Taiao is restored, protected and enhanced throughout recovery.
Recovery Objective	Negative impacts of the Cyclone on Te Taiao are arrested and Te Taiao is rehabilitated to a healthy and well functioning state with resilience to future climate change.
Areas of focus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understand the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle: Understand the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle on the region's environment and the desired recovery trajectory for improved resilience of Te Taiao. 2. Clean up and manage waste: Clean up and manage waste refuse including silt, woody debris, and general waste. 3. Restore and improve flood protection: Restore and improve flood protection across the region, through changing our relationship with rivers and floodplains. 4. Ensure the recovery of Te Taiao is managed in partnership with Tangata Whenua: Ensure the recovery of Te Taiao is managed in partnership with Tangata Whenua including marae, hapū, communities and landowners. 5. Rehabilitate impacted sites: Rehabilitate sites of ecological and indigenous significance, threatened species and biodiversity that were impacted. 6. Progress natural approaches to work with Te Taiao rather than against (especially for erosion control): Rethink where and how we rebuild to prevent ongoing erosion through plantings and other natural approaches. 7. Support emissions reductions: Rehabilitate the natural environment to support emissions reductions and transition to sustainable land uses that protect, enhance and restore the natural environment.
Priorities <i>(for a list of all actions see the Action Plan)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue removing and cleaning up silt and debris • Restoring and enhancing flood protections • Prioritise environmental restoration actions with a view to enhancing resilience to future events through design solutions working with and not against the environment



Recovery Outcome	There is a strong and productive economy and sustainable business activity, including for Māori businesses.
Recovery Objective	<p>The key objective for short-term recovery is that the Hawke's Bay economy is supported to resume operations (where feasible), access the necessary resources to recover in the short term, attract visitors and investment and maintain employment rates to pre-cyclone levels.</p> <p>This short-term objective will lay the foundation for longer-term objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sectors and businesses recover and are stronger 2. Employment rates are maintained, and more employment opportunities are available 3. Local businesses and communities are resilient 4. Hawke's Bay continues to be seen as a great place to visit and invest – with regional visitor numbers and tourism expenditure returned to pre-cyclone levels or better 5. Businesses determine and inform their recovery in the short to longer-terms.
Areas of focus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Business recovery: Regional businesses, including Māori businesses, affected by Cyclone Gabrielle are supported in their recovery to provide certainty for investment and employment decisions. 2. Business recovery: Impacted locations hold tailored solutions to manage their direct Cyclone impacts to recover and build resilience. 3. Regional economy recovery: Unemployment is managed, supporting job retention and local jobs, and key sectors have access to the necessary labour, skills and experience needed to advance their recovery (access to labour, skills and experience is a vital enabler for all Pou – particularly the Resilient Infrastructure and Primary Sector Pou). 4. Regional economy recovery: A regional economic view (informed by businesses and key sectors) informs recovery planning and investment and future resilience for the Hawke's Bay economy. 5. Regional economy recovery: Regional recovery utilises a progressive procurement approach to guide investment of recovery monies to enable multiple benefits for local and increased diversity of suppliers and people development.
Priorities <i>(for a list of all actions see the Action Plan)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support economic recovery by investing in capability support, assistance and infrastructure that creates a platform for economic growth and regional prosperity • Provision of a range of mechanisms to support the different needs of businesses including a working capital scheme, and the provision of concessionary loans

Whānau and Community Wellbeing



Recovery Outcome	All people, families and whānau in affected communities have access to essential services, shelter, health, psychosocial and wellbeing support.
Recovery Objective	<p>The key objective in the immediate term is to ensure essential needs are met for people, whānau and communities.</p> <p>In the longer-term, key objectives are that community aspirations for recovery are identified and supported and community connection, safety, psychosocial, health and wellbeing supports are enabled.</p>
Areas of focus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Empower and support communities to develop their own community plans and ensure communities receive sufficient support and resource to empower and assist them in informing, delivering and sustaining whānau and community recovery. 2. Enhance community health and wellbeing by identifying and meeting the wellbeing and psychosocial needs of people, families and whānau and ensure targeted and innovative approaches are taken to ensure equitable outcomes for whānau and communities. 3. Co-ordinate and deliver a psycho-social response that adapts to community and cultural needs to strengthen resilience and wellbeing of people, families and whānau. 4. Ensure people, families and whānau have access to safe and warm housing including quality temporary accommodation, repairing homes to a healthy and liveable standard, and increasing housing supply. 5. Collaborate on service delivery across government agencies, families and whānau, local authorities and service providers.
Priorities <i>(for a list of all actions see the Action Plan)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure homes are repaired and support is provided to ensure housing is provided at a healthy, liveable standard • Work in partnership with iwi/Māori and other organisations to help ensure adequate provision of additional housing in the short term and address housing inequities in the medium to longer term • Provide local communities with resources to provide ongoing psychosocial wellbeing support both in the short term and as recovery continues • Supporting Māori initiatives and partners to deliver recovery solutions ‘by Māori for Māori’ including support for communities undertaking the restoration of the mana and mauri of marae

Primary Sector



Recovery Outcome	The Hawke's Bay primary sector is sustainable and provides meaningful employment and economic opportunities for people, families, whānau and businesses.
Recovery Objective	The primary sector is supported to recover from the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle, with a focus on restoring profitable and sustainable land and water use that is resilient to future weather events.
Areas of focus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess the immediate impacts of the Cyclone on landowners, farmers, foresters, fishers, and growers. 2. Address the acute and immediate impacts to ensure 2024 production is supported where possible and necessary farm business decisions can be made. 3. Support rural wellbeing and ongoing resilience including exiting with mana. 4. Support landowners, farmers, foresters, fishers, and growers to make longer term decisions and maintain their workforce to restore production, profitability levels, and their environment, including for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Horticulture: restoring infrastructure, retaining permanent employees (particularly specialists), and damage removal. b. Pastoral: erosion control, restoration of infrastructure and access, and management of feed throughout the year. c. Forestry: restoring infrastructure and access and managing woody debris. d. Food manufacturing: further monitor and assess potential industry barriers and develop practical mitigations. e. Fishing: support fishers to adapt to ocean debris and retain their staff where practical. f. Mixed income blocks: ensure targeted support is given to prevent issues arising from the abandonment of land. g. Nursery industry: support recovery and investigate opportunities to accelerate and reduce barriers to upscaling. 5. Manage the natural environment used by the primary sector effectively by effectively managing pests and diseases, biodiversity, the environment, and land-use.
Top Priority Actions <i>(for a list of all actions see the Action Plan)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide funding support for critical primary sector industries badly affected by the cyclone (Action 4.1)

Resilient Infrastructure



Recovery Outcome	Essential services, public and critical infrastructure are restored and made more productive and resilient.
Recovery Objective	<p>The Resilient Infrastructure Pou seeks to ensure the resilient and safe repair and rebuild of essential community infrastructure across Hawke's Bay so that communities are protected from the impacts of increasingly severe and unpredictable weather events. In the longer term, the Resilient Infrastructure Pou seeks to develop a robust recovery plan beyond the initial response that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensures utilities and transport routes are restored and resilient 2. Commercial and primary infrastructure is rebuilt and improved 3. The rebuild and improvement of infrastructure supporting residential property is rebuilt and improved, and 4. Public infrastructure is resilient to future risk and of high quality. <p>The longer-term plan will also seek to identify and deliver on opportunities that future-proof the Hawke's Bay with emerging technologies, innovations and opportunities</p>
Areas of focus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coordinating asset planning and delivery across Hawke's Bay involving work to understand and assess the impacts of the event on region-wide infrastructure, developing longer-term regional plans for infrastructure and developing partnership and procurement for delivery. 2. Specific programmes of works across: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Flood control (stop banks, flood control infrastructure and drainage systems) b. Land transport (roading, bridges and rail) c. Lifeline utilities (power and telecommunications) d. Three waters (stormwater, wastewater, and drinking water) e. Parks and Reserves/Community Facilities f. Labour provision and supply chain g. Housing and industrial infrastructure h. Land use change/resource i. Waste infrastructure. <p>Planning for future resilience is also required now in support of the long-term recovery and given the long lead times necessary for infrastructure projects. Such thinking needs to consider critical issues like water security, freight distribution and emerging technologies.</p>
Priorities <i>(for a list of all actions see the Action Plan)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoring and enhancing flood protections • Prioritise the rebuild of critical roading and rail routes (including bridges) • Plan and prioritise key road, rail, electricity, telecoms, three waters and other key infrastructure assets so that they are more resilient, fit for purpose and provide a basis for future economic activity and regional prosperity

Recovery Transition



Recovery Outcome	Hawke's Bay communities are reconnected and are better prepared and coordinated for future emergency events.
Recovery Objective	Ensure that all geographic communities that continue to be isolated because of Cyclone Gabrielle or other future events are supported and reconnected and increase the capability of communities to deal with the impacts of severe and adverse climatic/weather events and other natural events.
Areas of focus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting isolated geographic areas in Heretaunga/Hastings: supporting two isolated geographic communities: Moeangiangi Station and Te Kuta Station. This area of focus is now complete. Supporting isolated geographic areas in Wairoa: supporting two isolated geographic communities: Glenbrook Road/Waitaha Road/Taits Road community and Mangapoike Road community. (Nuhaka River Road also remains closed). Supporting communities to be better prepared and informing the response review: strengthening communities' capability and preparedness for future disasters and feeding into the anticipated review of the Hawke's Bay Civil Defence and Emergency Management (HBCDEM) response to ensure lessons learned from the response and initial recovery are captured, interpreted and reflected in how the region responds to future events. Adopting review recommendations to enable infrastructure and emergency responses to be able to better respond: strengthening communities' and business capability and preparedness for future disasters through adopting the regional recommendations that result from announced reviews. Examples include aiding hapū, marae, and other groups in preparing for organised responses, as well as enhancing essential response assets (i.e., the Hawke's Bay Regional Rescue Helicopter, and ensuring Fire NZ possesses sufficient assets for effective response).
Priorities <i>(for a list of all actions see the Action Plan)</i>	There are no specific priorities identified under the Recovery Transition Pou.

Section 6:

Implementation,
monitoring and
reporting



Photo: Hastings District Council

How recovery will be implemented

Coordinating implementation across Pou

180. Much of the recovery effort will be 'locally led' by organisations with responsibility for specific infrastructure or areas or work. These recovery actions, unless they require Government assistance (outside of normal practices) or coordination with actions of other organisations, can proceed without RRA involvement. However, as set out in this Plan, there are many recovery actions that need to be phased and implemented and many entities involved in implementation – including local and regional councils, government agencies, non-government organisations (NGOs), PSGEs, businesses, Pacific peoples' community groups, and local sector groups.
181. While the RRA will not itself deliver, fund or implement specific recovery projects, it will play an important part in coordinating implementation across the six Pou. Pou Coordinators based within the RRA will coordinate implementation of recovery activities. Pou Coordinators will also provide a direct link between the recovery activities for each Pou, and the central recovery planning and coordination work led by the RRA.

Accountability

182. As the agency responsible for coordinating regional recovery planning, one of the RRA's roles is to assure funders that activities being funded are being undertaken and successfully implemented in line with expectations. Achieving the outcomes in this Regional Recovery Plan rests to a large extent on the successful delivery of local-level recovery initiatives in Locality Plans, the Environmental Resilience Plan and local plans, together with actions by government agencies such as Waka Kotahi. Local entities (including Local Authorities and central government agencies) are responsible for leading implementation and delivery of many of these initiatives.
183. The RRA will work closely with these entities to ensure that recovery initiatives necessary for achieving this Plan are appropriately planned, resourced, and delivered. The RRA's reporting will measure progress against these local-level recovery initiatives and any risks or issues to implementation, as part of reporting to central government on how regional level recovery is progressing.

The cost of recovery, and funding

Estimated cost of recovery actions

184. Based on the actions set out in this Plan, and Action Plan, the RRA estimates the total indicative cost of proposed recovery activities to be approximately **\$4.918 billion**. This amount includes cost estimates for short-term Restoration activities as well as Reconstruction and Improvement activities over several years, as reflected in the Action Plan. A more detailed breakdown of cost is set out in the Action Plan.

Crown funding for recovery

185. Funding will be an important enabler of recovery activities. While many recovery activities are funded (wholly or in part) by insurance payments or funds held by councils, Locality Plans and local plans emphasised that in many cases the cost of actions and initiatives for recovery will go beyond the ability of local authorities, communities and ratepayers to pay for them alone.
186. Crown funding to support recovery activities is therefore a vital enabler for many of the priorities and actions in this Regional Recovery Plan (alongside funding from other sources such as council balance sheets, rates, and insurance payments). Without Crown funding many of the recovery actions that need to occur would need to be scaled back or may not be progressed, and local authorities and ratepayers would need to shoulder a heavy financial burden that could impact regional growth and investment for years to come. To date the Crown has provided significant recovery funding support, but it is clear that additional funding will be needed over the coming years to build back better, safer and smarter. The RRA will continue to identify and advocate for the funding support the region needs.
187. Budget 2023 included funding for recovery activities following the 2023 North Island Weather Events (which includes the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle). Funding announced included a package of Budget initiatives for the North Island Weather Events Response and Recovery:
- **\$941 million** in operating funding for the North Island Weather Events
 - **\$195 million** in capital funding for the North Island Weather Events
 - **\$6 billion** for funding infrastructure resilience projects with an initial focus on funding initiatives that support regions most affected by North Island Weather Events to build back better.
188. Following negotiations between central government and the region's five Council's, the Crown has also agreed to contribute up to \$556 million towards several significant recovery costs:
- **Up to \$67.5 million** towards the voluntary buyout of Category 3 residential properties (costs to be shared 50/50 between central government and councils with residential Category 3 properties)
 - **\$203.5 million** towards flood protection for the region (with \$70 million earmarked for a flood protection scheme for Wairoa)
 - **\$260 million** for specific transport infrastructure projects and programmes to fully fund the estimated cost of the Redclyffe Bridge replacement, the Puketapu, Matapiro and Aropauanui Bridge works in Hastings, Te Reinga Bridge works in Wairoa and critical roading recovery projects in Central Hawke's Bay. Further funding provisions would include culvert replacements, as well as additional support for transport resilience and repair initiatives across the region
189. A number of government agencies administer funds and appropriations that relate to recovery activities and needs that may also be applied to fund certain recovery actions. The RRA is engaged in conversations with the Central Recovery Unit and council recovery and planning managers to help coordinate and match action owners to agencies who could provide appropriate funding and or support.

Monitoring and reporting

190. Measuring recovery progress will provide a foundation for tracking and measuring the success of recovery efforts and can inform decisions about the most efficient targeting of funds and resourcing through the recovery.
191. A monitoring and reporting framework is being developed by the RRA. The monitoring and reporting framework will measure the progress and impacts of recovery initiatives and projects (as set out in the Action Plan) and detail how these actions contribute towards outcomes across the six Pou.
192. Work to be undertaken in developing the monitoring and reporting framework will include:
- Developing key performance indicators (KPIs) to measure progress of the recovery initiatives and projects in the Action Plan and to match these indicators to measures that track progress against the outcomes for each of the six Pou
 - Collating information from key sources to understand and measure outputs and outcomes relating to the priorities and actions in this Plan. There may need to be some additional survey programmes developed to provide information on some of the measures
 - Tracking how funding allocated for recovery activities from central government is invested and the outcomes achieved with this funding
 - Tracking progress across the recovery initiatives and projects in the Action Plan, and developing a process for escalating risks to progress of issues with implementation (this work will be undertaken with the PCF)
 - Issuing regular progress reports for key audiences (including responsible Ministers, central agencies, and Hawke's Bay communities).
193. While the overall performance measurement and reporting framework is still being developed, measurement of recovery progress will likely include a range of high-level progress indicators to measure how progress against recovery objectives (and in turn, outcomes) is progressing. Examples of these indicators are set out below.



Photo: Central Hawke's Bay District Council

Figure 6: Progress indicator examples

Pou	Objective(s)	Indicators
Environmental resilience	Negative impacts of the Cyclone on Te Taiao are arrested and Te Taiao is rehabilitated to a healthy and well functioning state with resilience to future climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● % waste / silt removed ● Number of assessments completed ● Number of biodiversity sites / wetlands enhanced or remediated ● Number of erosion plantings completed.
Economic growth	Ensure that the Hawke's Bay economy is supported to resume operations (where feasible), access the necessary resources to recover in the short term, attract visitors and investment and maintain employment rates to pre-cyclone levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Regional Gross Domestic Product (GDP) ● Surveys of business sector confidence ● Visitor numbers ● Employment rates ● \$ financial support provided to businesses
Whānau and community wellbeing	Ensure essential needs are met for people, whānau and communities. In the longer-term key objectives are that community aspirations for recovery are identified and supported and community connection, safety, psychosocial, health and wellbeing supports are enabled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Community wellbeing index assessment completed and repeated in 6-12 months ● Amount of navigational support in place ● Repairs to homes completed ● % / number in temporary housing
Primary sector	Ensure that the primary sector is supported to recover from the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle, with a focus on restoring profitable and sustainable land and water use that is resilient to future weather events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Number of needs assessments completed ● Number of clean-up of blocks completed ● Number of support programmes in place for rural sector ● Mauri restoration framework developed ● \$ financial support provided to sector ● Sector employment rates
Resilient infrastructure	Ensure the resilient and safe repair and rebuild of essential community infrastructure across the Hawke's Bay region so that communities are protected from increasingly severe and unpredictable weather events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Flood protection - assessment and plans completed ● Utilities restored ● Roading repairs made ● Regional critical infrastructure long-term plan is developed ● Housing infrastructure- assessment completed, % restoration access ● Three Waters - repairs completed and restoration of supply ● Waste - future landfill requirements assessed ● Key priorities for future infrastructural resilience are identified ● Amount funded to the region matches immediate recovery need
Recovery transition	Ensure that all geographic communities that continue to be isolated because of Cyclone Gabrielle or other future events are supported and reconnected and increase the capability of communities to deal with the impacts of severe and adverse climatic/weather events and other natural events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Number of geographic communities provided with resourcing for future events ● Number of geographic communities reconnected / no longer isolated

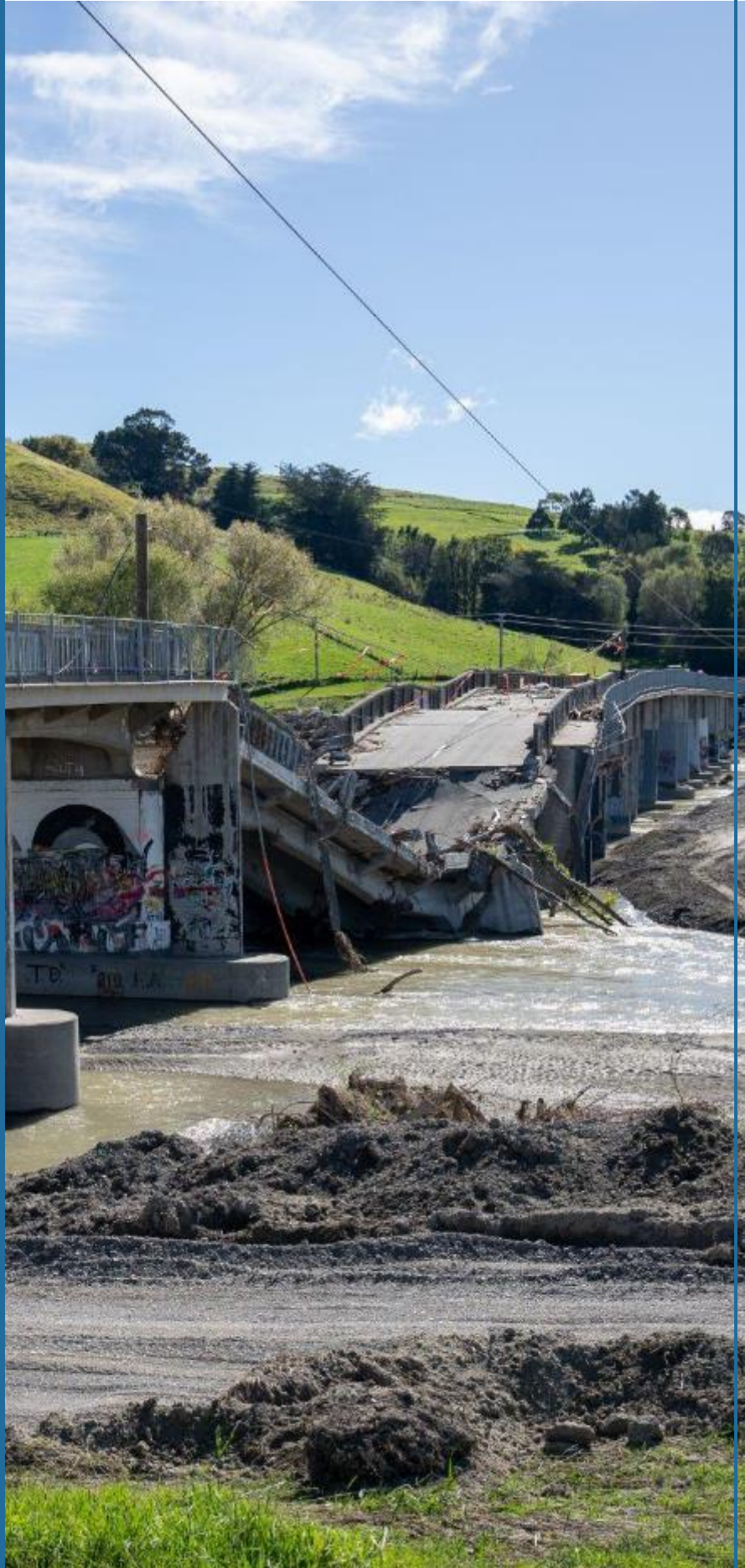
194. A quarterly progress update will be provided to the RRA Oversight Board and MGG by drawing on the indicators above until the formal monitoring and reporting framework is completed. The RRA will also provide progress updates to the Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Taskforce, Cyclone Recovery Unit, Lead Minister for Hawke's Bay Recovery, and the public (noting that the cadence and contents of these reports is to be determined).
195. The Outcomes Framework in this document will be reviewed quarterly by the Oversight Board to ensure it remains up to date, and will be updated as needed.
196. The monitoring and reporting of actions and priorities in specific Locality Plans, the Environmental Resilience Plan, and local plans will be determined by the authors and owners of those documents.

Glossary

Term	Description
Ahuriri	The Napier area
Awa	River
Hapū	A subtribe or section of a large kinship group of whānau sharing common ancestry
Heretaunga	The Hastings area
Iwi	A tribe / larger grouping across a distinct territory
Kaitiaki	Guardian or steward
Kāwanatanga	Government or the role of authority
Kaumātua	The aged, or a person of status
Kōhanga reo	Māori language preschool
Kōiwi	Bones or remains (human)
Mahinga kai	A food-gathering place or the cultivation of food
Manaakitanga	Hospitality, kindness, generosity, support - the process of showing respect, generosity and care for others
Mana	The authority, empowerment for people, land and resources
Mana Motuhake	Self determination
Mana whenua	People of the land, or authority over territory
Marae	The complex of building around the marae
Mātauranga Māori	The body of knowledge originating from Māori ancestors, including a Māori worldview and perspectives, and cultural practices
Mauri	A life force or essence
Moana	Sea
Pacific peoples	People from the islands of the South Pacific
Post Settlement Governance Entity (PSGE)	Entity established to receive and manage settlement assets on behalf of their iwi and/or hapū with a mandate to act in the best interests of their beneficiaries

Term	Description
Pou	A pillar (and one of the six recovery pillars in the Recovery Framework)
Rangatahi	Youth
Tāngata whaikaha	Disabled people (or people who are determined to do well)
Tairāwhiti	The wider Gisborne region on the east coast.
Taiwhenua	One of the local districts under Ngāti Kahungunu iwi
Tamariki	Children
Tangata whenua	Māori people from a certain location
Taonga	A treasure, culturally valued object or resource
Te Matau-a-Māui	The region of Hawke's Bay
Te Taiao	The natural world or environment
Tikanga	Māori customs and protocols
Wāhi tapu	A sacred place or site
Whānau	Family group or extended family
Whenua	Land
Whenua Māori	Māori freehold land and Māori customary land
Urupā	Burial ground

Appendices



Appendix 1: Plans considered in preparing this Regional Recovery Plan

- Hawke's Bay Regional Council Environmental Resilience Plan – Cyclone Gabrielle 2023
- Hawke's Bay Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery – Ahuriri/Napier Locality Plan 28 April 2023
- Hawke's Bay Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery – Heretaunga/Hastings Locality Plan April 2023
- Wairoa Recovery – Wairoa District Locality Plan 28.04.2023
- Tamatea – Central Hawke's Bay: Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery and Resilience Plan, first edition May 2023.
- Hawke's Bay Housing Recovery Plan May 2023
- Locality Plan for Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement Trust and Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga
- Te Taiwhenua o Tamatea submission to the Hawke's Bay Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Locality Plan
- Takiwā o Maungaharuru-Tangitū Trust Locality Plan, Hawke's Bay Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery April 2023
- Utaina 10 Year Recovery Plan – Piringa Hapū
- Building Back Better, Safer and Smarter – Whānau and Community Wellbeing (prepared by Regional Public Service Leads).
- Cyclone Impacted Communities (CIC) Group Short Term Plan (contained within the Heretaunga/Hastings Locality Plan)
- Ngāti Parau Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Locality and Resilience Plan (short term) (contained within the Heretaunga/Hastings Locality Plan)
- Mana Ahuriri Trust Recovery Planning (contained within the Ahuriri/Napier Locality Plan)
- Contribution from Pukemokimoki Marae (contained within the Ahuriri/Napier Locality Plan)
- Contribution from the Pacific Community (contained within the Ahuriri/Napier Locality Plan)
- Recommendations for Creating Climate-Resilient Communities in Hawke's Bay after Cyclone Gabrielle (joint letter from Environment Care Hawke's Bay, Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga, Te Taiwhenua o Te Whanganui Ā Orotu, Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated, and Forest and Bird).

Change to copies of plans can be found on the RRA website: <https://www.hawkesbayrecovery.nz/>

Appendix 2: Entities involved in recovery

There is a wide array of entities that have been, or are likely to be, involved in supporting the recovery of Hawke's Bay – including (but not limited to):

Regional Governance and Coordination

- Matariki Governance Group
- Hawke's Bay Regional Recovery Agency

Local Authorities and Emergency Management

- Hawke's Bay Regional Council
- Hastings District Council
- Napier City Council
- Central Hawke's Bay District Council
- Wairoa District Council
- Hawke's Bay Civil Defence Emergency Management

Iwi and Hapū Entities

- Hineuru Iwi Trust
- Mana Ahuriri Trust
- Maungaharuru-Tangitū Trust
- Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Inc
- Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Trust
- Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement Trust
- Tātau Tātau o Te Wairoa Trust
- Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga
- Te Taiwhenua o Te Whanganui Ā Orotu
- Te Taiwhenua o Tamatea
- Wairoa Taiwhenua Incorporated
- Ngāti Hinemanu, Ngāi Te Ūpokoiri me ōna Piringa Hapū Authority (the hapū authority centred at Omahu)
- Ngāti Kere Hapū Authority
- Ngāti Pārau Hapū Trust
- Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-Nui-a-Rua Settlement Trust

Central Government Agencies

- National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)
- New Zealand Police
- Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ)
- New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF)
- Te Whatu Ora / Health New Zealand - Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay
- Te Aka Whai Ora / Māori Health Authority
- Pacific Health
- National Public Health Service
- Health Hawke's Bay
- Hawke's Bay Emergency Coordination Centre
- Ministry of Transport
- Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Taskforce
- Cyclone Recovery Unit
- Ministry of Housing and Urban Development
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Social Development (Regional Public Sector Lead)
- Ministry for Primary Industries
- Te Puni Kōkiri
- Department of Conservation
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
- Ministry for the Environment
- Department of Internal Affairs
- New Zealand Electricity Authority
- GNS Science
- Heritage New Zealand
- Ministry for Culture and Heritage
- Temporary Accommodation Services
- Kāinga Ora

- National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA)
- The Institute of Environmental Science and Research (ESR)
- Environmental Protection Authority (EPA)
- WorkSafe New Zealand
- Te Waihangā – NZ Infrastructure Commission

Non-Government Organisations

- New Zealand Red Cross
- Hata Hone - St. John Ambulance
- Salvation Army
- Habitat for Humanity
- Surf Life Saving New Zealand

Infrastructure and Lifeline Providers

- Vector Limited (Electricity and Natural Gas Provider)
- Transpower (Electricity and Telecommunications)
- Unison Networks (Electricity Lines)
- Centralines Limited (Electricity Lines)
- Firstlight Network (Electricity Lines - Wairoa)
- Chorus (Telecommunications)
- Contact Energy (Electricity)
- Spark New Zealand (Telecommunications)
- One New Zealand (Telecommunications)
- Watercare Services Limited (Water Provider)
- Waka Kōtahi
- KiwiRail
- Napier Port
- Hawke's Bay Regional Airport

Hawke's Bay Business Support

- Regional Economic Development Agency
- Hawke's Bay Tourism
- Hawke's Bay Māori Tourism
- Te Matau-a-Māui Māori Business Network
- Hawke's Bay Chamber of Commerce

Primary Industry Support

- Hawke's Bay Fruit Growers
- Hawke's Bay Winegrowers
- Hawke's Bay Vegetable Growers
- New Zealand Apples and Pears
- Horticulture New Zealand
- Hawke's Bay Foresters
- Beef + Lamb New Zealand
- East Coast Rural Support Trust
- Hawke's Bay Rural Advisory Group
- Federated Farmers
- Whirinaki Resilience Group
- Awatoto Action Group

Education and Training Providers

- EIT Hawke's Bay (Eastern Institute of Technology)
- University of Waikato, Hawke's Bay Campus

Appendix 3: Damage from Cyclone Gabrielle, and highlights of recovery progress to date

Identified damage from Cyclone Gabrielle

The table below highlights major impacts and damage across the Hawke's Bay region to illustrate the significance of impacts across the region. It is not exhaustive list of all impacts and damage incurred.

Location	Summary
Hawke's Bay region ¹¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 5.6 kilometres of breaches in 248 kilometres of stop bank networks across the region, with a further 28 kilometres of the network weakened¹² • Deposition of silt across large swaths of land, with deposits up to 3 meters deep in some areas. • Blockages of culverts, drainage systems, streams, and water bodies across the region • Damage to pump stations and rainfall and river flow monitoring network • Damage to power stations, loss of power and telecommunications • Numerous slips, landslides and instances of stream and riverbank erosion • Significant silt accumulations in water bodies and along the coastline • Homes damaged and destroyed – with categorisations of 230 homes as Provisional Category 3 and 2,629 as Provisional Category 2¹³ • Large volumes of wood deposited on coastlines, riversides, bridges, and washed onto land • Large volumes of residential and commercial waste being deposited across land and taken to landfill • Close to 30 percent of the Hawke's Bay Cycle Trail network was damaged and unable to be used. • Discharge of untreated wastewater into Hawke's Bay due to damage to the Napier waste treatment plant.
Central Hawke's Bay ¹⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two schools were flooded • A total of 97 homes deemed uninhabitable • 441 homes lost power • 100+ slips across the roading network • \$100+ million damage to roads • 72 roads impacted • 69 bridges impacted • 13+ commercial buildings flooded • Mobile networks impacted • 210 people in Civil Defence Centres across the area. • Loss of crops, fencing and livestock • Two water sources affected – Waipawa and Waipukurau.
Napier ¹⁵	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 388 people displaced and sought temporary housing in CDCs, marae etc. • Napier substation inundated and loss of power to city for up to ten days • 1082 homes around the region lost power for a period – reliance on generators • Widespread failure of the telecommunications network • Awatoto wastewater treatment plant significantly damaged and resulted in discharge into Hawke's Bay • 114 yellow and 4 red placards on homes • Napier was isolated for several days, with no access to hospital or other services • Redclyffe/Waiohiki Bridge was significantly damaged • Brookfields Bridge was destroyed • SH51 Waitangi Bridge was damaged by woody debris caught up in flood waters washing towards the river mouth • Railway bridge adjacent to State Highway 51 washed away due to woody debris build up and flood waters

¹¹ Facts and figures are drawn from the Hawke's Bay Regional Council Environmental Resilience Plan Cyclone Gabrielle 2023 (unless separately cited).

¹² Hawke's Bay Regional Council. Regional Council completes rapid stopbank breach repairs on Ngaruroro and Tutaekuri rivers. Accessed at: <https://www.hbrc.govt.nz/our-council/news/article/1489/regional-council-completes-rapid-stopbank-breach-repairs-on-ngaruroro-and-tutaekuri-rivers?t=featured&s=2#:~:text=Rapid%20repairs%20of%20around%20five,months%20on%20from%20Cyclone%20Gabrielle> 8 June 2023.

¹³ Hawke's Bay Regional Council. Land categorisations provide clarity for communities across Hawke's Bay. Accessed at: <https://www.hbrc.govt.nz/home/article/1483/land-categorisations-provide-clarity-for-communities-across-hawkes-bay?t=featured&s=1> 1 June 2023.

Identified damage from Cyclone Gabrielle

The table below highlights major impacts and damage across the Hawke's Bay region to illustrate the significance of impacts across the region. It is not exhaustive list of all impacts and damage incurred.

Location	Summary
Wairoa ¹⁶	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breaches to rivers caused flooding in Waihiere and Ruataniwha and urban area of North Cylde. Flooding also occurred in Awamate, Frasertown, Whakakī, Nūhaka and Māhia; where damage to homes was more limited. Significant damage to landscape, rural properties and the primary sector, including horticulture, cropping, dairy, sheep and beef, and forestry. Water damage, erosion and silt deposition damaged fences, access tracks, water infrastructure, destroyed crops (particularly maize and squash) and sileage/hay loss and caused damage to ancillary farm buildings and dairy sheds. Housing – residential 2 red, 19 Y1 and 118 Y2, exacerbating existing issues with housing quality and provision Closure of the Glengarry Lifecare rest home and dementia care facility Closure of Nūhaka School, Waihiere Kōhanga, and Ngā Tamariki o Ngā Hau e Whā Kindergarten The Glenbrook bridge (at Waikare) on State Highway 2 was significantly damaged restricting access from Putorino to Hawke's Bay. The Te Puna Bridge and Te Reinga bridge also sustained significant damage. At the peak of the event there was up to 30 roads closed.
Hastings ¹⁷	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe impacts to the marae settlements and communities of Tangoio Marae, Petāne Marae, Waiohiki Marae, Moteo Marae, Omahu Marae, and Waipatu Marae (while many suffered flooding, many of these marae also provided vital community response and support). 4000 hectares of productive soil was impacted * Approximately 3.5 million cubic meters of silt deposited * Over 1400 whānau were displaced from homes at peak impact * 730 yellow stickered homes, and 103 red stickered out of 933 building inspections * Approximately 47 percent of the 8,400 hectares of planted apples in Hawke's Bay were damaged * 40 of 200 Hawke's Bay wine producers were impacted * 28,500 tonnes of household waste, 138,000 tonnes of rural waste, and 25,000 tonnes of demolition waste* 16 bridges were destroyed, and 28 were significantly damaged * Approximately \$800m to repair damaged local transport infrastructure*

* As at 1 April 2023

¹⁴ Facts and figures are from the Central Hawke's Bay Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery and Resilience Plan. Page 8.

¹⁵ Facts and figures are drawn from the Ahuriri/Napier Locality Plan. Hawke's Bay Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Ahuriri/Napier Locality Plan 28 April 2023. Pages 14 to 17.

¹⁶ Facts and figures are drawn from the Wairoa District Locality Plan. Wairoa District Locality Plan 28.04.2023. Pages 7 to 13.

¹⁷ Facts and figures drawn from the Heretaunga / Hastings Locality Plan. Hawke's Bay Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Heretaunga Locality Plan. Pages 20 to 24.

Recovery achievements to date

Progress across the region

Recovery activities are progressing across the region. Initial recovery funding is flowing into the region, clean ups are being advanced, and early repairs to critical infrastructure is progressing. Highlights of significant recovery milestones include (these are not exhaustive):

- Determining land use categorisations to affected landowners and undertaking community engagement¹⁸
- Completing negotiations with central Government on the funding amounts for FOSAL property buyouts, flood protection, and other regional transport projects. Government has confirmed funding of \$534.2 million.
- Issuing \$3 million in funding to approximately 4,086 successful applicants from the regional Disaster Relief Fund¹⁹
- Receiving \$62.6 million of funding from government to support recovery of sediment and debris²⁰
- Shifting around 850,000 cubic meters of silt, 140,000 tonnes of woody debris, 60,000 cubic meters of waste debris since February (as at 30 September 2023)²¹
- Progressing rapid repairs to stop bank breaches on the Tukituki and Waipawa rivers²²
- Opening of the Makaretu River bridge (Central Hawke's Bay)²³
- Completing repairs to over 250 roading faults (Central Hawke's Bay)²⁴
- Reopening State Highway 2 between Napier and Wairoa to traffic on Sunday 14 May – a major milestone in reconnecting Wairoa with the wider region (Wairoa)²⁵
- Opening of Moeangi and Mangatutu Bailey bridges (21 June) restoring vital transport links for rural communities of Pūtōrino and Waihau (Hastings)²⁶
- Temporary Waiohiki (Redclyffe) bridge reopened²⁷
- Reconnecting State Highway 5 from Napier to Taupō.
- In Central Hawke's Bay, work continues across the roading network as part of initial funding provided by Waka Kotahi. This initial funded work includes immediate permanent and temporary repairs to make sites safe and passable, drainage and culvert work as well as planning and design work.

¹⁸ Land Categorisation Hawke's Bay. Accessed at: <https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/land-categorisation-hb>

¹⁹ Hawke's Bay Regional Council. Disaster Relief Fund pay-outs reach \$3 million across our region. Accessed at: <https://www.hbrc.govt.nz/home/article/1492/disaster-relief-fund-pay-outs-reach-3-million-across-our-region-?t=featured&s=1>

²⁰ Hawke's Bay Regional Council. Applications open for silt and debris removal. Accessed at: <https://www.hbrc.govt.nz/home/article/1486/applications-open-for-silt-and-debris-removal-?t=featured&s=1#:~:text=Central%20Government%20has%20provided%20%2470,from%20commercial%20properties%20in%20Tair%C4%81whiti>

²¹ New Zealand Herald. Hawke's Bay Silt Recovery taskforce 'making headway', 350,000m3 of silt shifted. Accessed at: <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/hawkes-bay-silt-recovery-taskforce-making-headway-350000m3-of-silt-shifted/LKLWY336TVFQ7NBAWIGTAT5ZJU/>

²² New Zealand Herald. Central Hawke's Bay river stopbank repairs progressing. Accessed at: <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/central-hawkes-bay-river-stopbank-repairs-progressing/4S3G3Y3LSFAL3OEMU27R6AKXAA/>

²³ Central Hawke's Bay District Council. Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Update 9 June 2023. Accessed at: [https://mailchi.mp/8ac507efb617/cyclone-gabrielle-recovery-update?e=\[UNIQID\]](https://mailchi.mp/8ac507efb617/cyclone-gabrielle-recovery-update?e=[UNIQID])

²⁴ Central Hawke's Bay District Council. Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Update 31 May 2023. Accessed at: [https://mailchi.mp/f7c5616b6467/cyclone-gabrielle-recovery-update-17070787?e=\[UNIQID\]](https://mailchi.mp/f7c5616b6467/cyclone-gabrielle-recovery-update-17070787?e=[UNIQID])

²⁵ Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency. SH2 Wairoa to Napier opening next Sunday 14 May. Accessed at: <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/media-releases/sh2-wairoa-to-napier-opening-next-sunday-14-may/>

²⁶ Hastings District Council. Cyclone Gabrielle Updates as at 21 June 2023. Accessed at: <https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/cyclone-gabrielle/>

²⁷ Hastings District Council. Cyclone Gabrielle Updates as at 5 August 2023. Accessed at: <https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/cyclone-gabrielle/>

Progress by the Regional Recovery Agency

Since being stood up as an interim agency in mid-March 2023, the RRA has focused on establishment and commencing work on early recovery planning and coordination. The RRA has:

- Established its interim operating model, initial team, and Oversight Board
- Planned the RRA's recovery planning and coordination approaches to align and deliver successful recovery activities across the region
- Appointed a Chief Executive and engaged initial staff to get recovery activities underway
- Worked with councils to coordinate preliminary assessments on Future of Severely Affected Locations (FOSAL) to begin providing certainty on land use for affected homeowners across the region
- Coordinated the preparation of Locality Plans (first iteration) and local plans by councils, mana whenua and other partners
- Developed and drafted the first iteration of Regional Recovery Plan (this document)
- Coordinated work to develop an initial view of required funding for recovery
- Worked with government to coordinate negotiation of funding amounts for FOSAL property buy-outs, flood protection and regional transport projects
- Commenced engagement with the Cyclone Recovery Unit and central government agencies about available forms of support for recovery activities.



Photo: Hastings District Council

Appendix 4: Summary of legislative and regulatory enablers

The following regulatory tools and legislation will be, or is, influencing recovery efforts:

- **The Severe Weather Emergency Recovery Legislation Act 2023:** This Act enables the modification of existing laws to support ongoing recovery efforts in communities affected by recent severe weather events. This will be accomplished through the implementation of secondary legislation known as an Orders in Council.
- **Civil Defence and Emergency Management Act 2002:** This act provides a legal framework for emergency management in New Zealand. It establishes the roles and responsibilities of civil defence and emergency management agencies, enabling effective coordination, response, and recovery during emergencies, including severe cyclones.
- **Building Act 2004:** The Building Act sets out regulations for the construction, alteration, and maintenance of buildings in New Zealand. Repairs and construction of buildings needs to be undertaken in line with the Building Act 2004 and its regulations.
- **Resource Management Act 1991:** This Act governs the sustainable management of natural and physical resources in New Zealand. During the recovery from a severe cyclone, it may be invoked to expedite resource consents and land-use decisions for activities such as debris removal, infrastructure repairs, and restoration efforts.
- **Health and Safety at Work Act 2015:** This act promotes the health, safety, and welfare of workers in New Zealand. It is relevant during cyclone recovery to ensure the protection and well-being of emergency responders, volunteers, and affected individuals involved in the recovery efforts.
- **Telecommunications Act 2001:** The Telecommunications Act regulates telecommunications services and infrastructure in New Zealand.
- **Local Government Act 2002:** The Local Government Act defines the powers and responsibilities of local government authorities in New Zealand. It enables local authorities to coordinate response efforts, facilitate infrastructure repairs, and provide essential services to affected communities.
- **Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996:** This act regulates the import, use, and handling of hazardous substances and new organisms in New Zealand. It is pertinent during cyclone recovery to address any environmental hazards, facilitate environmental clean-up, and ensure the safe disposal of hazardous substances.
- **Land Transport Management Act 2003:** Guides the repair and restoration of roads, bridges, and transportation infrastructure, facilitating the smooth flow of goods, services, and emergency response.
- In the future, the **Climate Adaptation Bill**, planned to be introduced to Parliament this year, will lay the foundations for a system for managed retreat and the future of severely affected locations.

Appendix 5: Regional Recovery Agency Oversight Board

The Regional Recovery Agency Oversight Board consists of:

- Blair O’Keeffe - Independent Chair
- Billy Brough
- Caren Rangi
- John Loughlin
- Renata Hakiwai
- Tania Eden
- Wendie Harvey

Biographies of all Oversight Board members are available at: <https://www.hawkesbayrecovery.nz/board-bios/>



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