

HAVELOCK NORTH WATER CONTAMINATION COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSISTANCE FUND FACT SHEET

BACKGROUND

The Community Health Assistance Fund has been established by Hawke's Bay Regional Council and Hastings District Council to provide financial assistance for people with a long-term illness caused by symptoms consistent with campylobacter through the Havelock North gastro outbreak in 2016.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

- Applications to the fund can be made between Friday 11 August and Friday 22 September 2017.
- Long-term illness means a recognised medical condition that has lasted at least six months. It must be linked to symptoms linked to campylobacter through the Havelock North water contamination between 5 August and 6 September 2016.
- Applicants complete an application form available from:
 - www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/community-health-assistance;
 - Hastings District Council reception;
 - any of the Hastings District Libraries; or
 - from your medical practice.
- Applications must be accompanied by a completed GP referral form. You will need to visit your doctor to complete this.
- Applications must be accompanied by proof of costs incurred that relate to the long-term illness (e.g. receipts, bank statements etc.).

Once an application is received it will be assessed by an independent medical professional. If it meets the medical criteria, the application will be referred to a panel for consideration.

- All applicants will be notified of the outcome.
- Qualifying applicants will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement as a condition of acceptance of the grant.

PRIVACY INFORMATION

We acknowledge that this process is intensely personal for applicants and that you will have concerns about your private information.

- Only your GP, the independent medical assessor (also a doctor) and the assessment panel will have access to your medical records.
- Only a qualified independent medical professional will be making a decision about whether an applicant meets the medical criteria.
- All information relating to an application will be stored securely and disposed of after 10 years as required under the Public Records Act (2005) and the Health (Retention of Health Information) Regulations (1996).
- The Community Health Assistance team will check your application and the accompanying GP Referral form to ensure all relevant documents have been provided. These staff are acutely aware of the sensitivity of this information and are bound by Hastings District Council's Code of Conduct, including its confidentiality clauses.
- When collecting, using and storing information the Assessor, Community Health Assistance Panel and Hastings District Council will at all times comply with the Privacy Act (1993) and the Health Information Privacy Code (1994).