

# CYCLONE GABRIELLE UPDATES

21.07.2023

## Message from the Mayor

It continues to be an incredibly difficult time for our people whose lives and livelihoods have been dramatically affected following Cyclone Gabrielle.

We want to be able to provide our communities with more certainty and we are working with regional council and Government to move the process forward as quickly as possible.

We are committed to ensuring the best outcome possible for our communities, and the safety of those within those communities.

I was pleased to hear the Government's announcement this week that it will provide an interim payment to support homeowners displaced by Cyclone Gabrielle when their insurance payments for temporary accommodation run out.

I understand the financial and emotional pressure our impacted communities have been under as they wait for clarity on the future of their properties.

This will hopefully provide some relief in the interim.

Our council also confirmed that for people with dwellings and land affected by this disaster their rates would be remitted for up to two years, and we are continuing to roll out the one-off support payments of \$2,000 through the Hastings Mayoral Relief Fund to owners of red and yellow stickered properties.

It was amazing to see the Rapid Relief Team and others in action at the Farmers Community Connect event at Tōmoana Showgrounds today, giving away almost 100kms of fencing to our farmers in need. Many thanks to all.



Kia Kaha  
Sandra Hazlehurst



## Land categorisation drop-in session schedule

These are a place where affected property owners can visit anytime within the hours stated below and speak to a Hastings District Council Community Connector. Though we cannot offer any further information at these sessions than we have already provided via email letters and community meetings, you can ask any questions you have and/or provide feedback on the current provisional category of your property. Our connectors will do their best to locate information for you, or put you in touch with the appropriate organisation.

DATE	LOCATION	TIME
Thursday 20 July	HDC Customer Services	9am-5pm
Friday 21 July	HDC Customer Services	9am-5pm
Tuesday 1 August	HDC Customer Services	9am-5pm
Wednesday 2 August	HDC Customer Services	9am-5pm
Thursday 3 August	HDC Customer Services	9am-5pm
Friday 4 August	HDC Customer Services	9am-5pm

A reminder: you can also always call us on (06) 871 5000, and/or submit your feedback online here: <https://hbrc.mysocialpinpoint.com/hawkesbay-recovery-and-resilience>

## North Island Weather Events – Temporary Accommodation Assistance (NIWE TAA)

Government has announced it will be providing an interim payment to displaced homeowners affected by the recent North Island extreme weather event to support them when their insurance payments for temporary accommodation run out.



The interim payment, available from 4 September 2023, will be made weekly and directly to homeowners. It will be set at 100 percent of the region's average rent.

Displaced homeowners eligible for the interim payment can receive a lump-sum payment covering them from as early as 1 June 2023, (with the start date dependent on the ceasing of insurance cover), to ensure there is not a gap in support during this difficult time.

The Ministry of Social Development (MSD) can be contacted from 21 August to book an appointment: **0800 559 009**. Monday to Friday 7am-6pm and Saturday 8am-1pm.

Payments are not taxable and will not affect Working for Families and most other social assistance entitlements.

To read the full media release and Q&As visit: <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/government-provides-support-and-certainty-displaced-homeowners>

## Council adopts revised rates remission policy for cyclone-affected properties

Yesterday (20 July) Hastings District Council formally adopted a revised rates remission policy to allow Council, at its discretion, to provide rates remission to assist ratepayers of properties where the land or primary dwellings/buildings have been detrimentally affected by natural disaster. This also includes those properties where the damage is to land and/or crops that do not have dwellings or buildings stickered.

For red-stickered properties the remission would automatically be applied to each rates instalment for a period of two years, or earlier if the primary dwellings/buildings were deemed by Council to be able to become useable/habitable.

For yellow-stickered properties, people would need to apply, and Council would have the ability to apply the remission for two years or less depending on whether circumstances changed.

People could also apply for remissions for a period of up to two years for severely eroded or impacted properties, including those with crop or pasture damage, where the land had become unusable or uneconomic. Further information required to support the application would include photos of damage and expectations of how long the land is likely to be unusable.

If properties that had previously received a rates remission were sold within the two years the remission would cease, and properties would be monitored and remissions would stop if people could move back into them, or resume earning income from them.

**Application forms will be available online from Wednesday 26 July.**

## Payments for stickered properties continue

Hastings District Council is continuing to roll out the one-off support payments of \$2000 through the Hastings Mayoral Relief Fund to owners of red and yellow stickered homes.



Note, these payments are based on the property ID data held by Hastings District Council, with the one-off \$2000 payments made to a single bank account for each property as a whole. Payments are made per property, not per building or per owner on that property.

If Council holds your bank account details your payment will be processed as soon as possible and an application is not necessary. If Council does not hold your bank account details (or you are unsure if it does) you will need to fill in this simple form: <https://hdc.smartygrants.com.au/StickeredProperty>

Note: If you are applying on behalf of multiple owners, please ensure you have completed the Bank Account Approval – Trusts and Multiple Owners form: [www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/assets/Document-Library/Cyclone-Gabrielle-Resources/Cyclone-Grant-Payment-Bank-](http://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/assets/Document-Library/Cyclone-Gabrielle-Resources/Cyclone-Grant-Payment-Bank-)

[Account-Approval-Trusts-and-Multiple-Owners.pdf](#). This should be uploaded with proof of your bank account.

We understand this process adds additional work for you and may take time, but we need to ensure we have paid the correct bank account.

If you have questions about this process, please contact our Customer Services team either by email: [customerservice@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:customerservice@hdc.govt.nz) or phone: (06) 871 5000.

## Silt

The Sediment and Debris Recovery Fund remains open for commercial entities (including growers and farmers) to recover some of the costs of cleaning up sediment and debris on their land. Applicants must meet the eligibility criteria. Applications close Monday 31 July.



To date the fund has given out – or is in the process of giving out – \$5,962,121.19 to 73 commercial entities.

To help explain the grant and co-funding parts of the fund, visit: [www.hbrc.info/silt](http://www.hbrc.info/silt)

### KEY STATS

Up to 13 July 2023

**487 jobs**

RECEIVED  
> 8 JOB INCREASE

**APPROXIMATELY  
495,000m<sup>3</sup>**

OF SILT COLLECTED  
ABOUT 25,000m<sup>3</sup> BEING  
COLLECTED THIS WEEK

ESTIMATE CLOSE TO  
**3,500 truck  
movements**  
THIS WEEK

To find out more about handling silt, silt sampling results, and how to request a silt collection, visit the Hawke's Bay Regional Council website: [www.hbrc.govt.nz/our-council/cyclone-gabrielle-response/dealing-with-waste/](http://www.hbrc.govt.nz/our-council/cyclone-gabrielle-response/dealing-with-waste/)

## Rainwater tank collection

If you have a rainwater tank that was damaged in the cyclone, the Silt Recovery Taskforce can collect it for free.

Contact **0800 108 838** or email [waste@hbrc.govt.nz](mailto:waste@hbrc.govt.nz) by 31 July to request collection.

When making contact, please let the team know where the rainwater tank is, how many there are, what size they are, and how accessible they are.

## Hastings roads and bridges update

For the most up-to-date information on road closures and the repair status of Hastings District bridges visit: [www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/services/roads-and-streets/road-works](http://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/services/roads-and-streets/road-works)

### Permanent bridge rebuilds

We are currently planning the construction of the following bridges to replace those lost during Cyclone Gabrielle:

- Puketapu
- Matapiro
- Brookfields
- Dartmoor
- Mangatutu low level crossing
- Rissington
- Waiohiki /Redclyffe
- Moeangiangi
- Ellis Wallace
- Whanawhana



To help inform the bridge designs and community engagement process, we invite you to complete a short 3-5 minute survey at the following link: <https://feedback.askyourteam.com/nye2Y7T>

The survey's demographic data is collected only for the purpose of grouping similar participants together.

## One Good Kiwi app dedicated to Hawke's Bay groups for month of September

Are you part of or do you know a group, charity or crew of volunteers who have gone over and above to assist our community during or since Cyclone Gabrielle?

One New Zealand's One Good Kiwi app is dedicated to groups from Hawke's Bay for the month of September.

Hawke's Bay Rugby Union is looking for nominations for groups of local heroes who will be shortlisted on the One Good Kiwi App, where \$100,000 will be distributed across 10 selected nominees during September.

Anyone can nominate so if you would like your group to be considered or want to recognize the efforts of others send a short video (30 seconds max) via the link below, explaining what they have done and why they should be one of the nominees to feature on One Good Kiwi during September.

Nominations close Wednesday 26 July. For more information, visit: <https://www.sporty.co.nz/magpies/one-good-kiwi-nomination>

## Magpies tickets for persons affected by Cyclone Gabrielle

Hawke's Bay Rugby with support from match day sponsor One NZ have banded together to open the gates to the Magpies v Bay of Plenty 'Battle of the Bays' game at 4:35pm on the Saturday 9 September - FREE OF

CHARGE. This is a little way for the HBRU to support the people of Hawke's Bay who have been through a lot this year, with the hope to put on a memorable event for all attendees.

The first selection of tickets is offered to people from all around Hawke's Bay who have been significantly impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle through the code below.

Hawke's Bay Rugby will also be announcing over the coming weeks entertainers who will perform live pre-game and the event will include lots of giveaways, competitions, activities, and engagement to help entertain what is expected to be a capacity crowd.

### How to secure your tickets

- Head to the HBRU ticketing platform <https://hbmagpies.flicker.co.nz/> where all home games will be displayed. Click 'Event Information' next to the Magpies v Bay of Plenty game which will then ask for an Access Code to unlock tickets. All tickets will be provided FREE OF CHARGE.
- Enter the code HDC and then you can select your seats.
- You can redeem up to 10 tickets. Come with neighbours, family, friends etc. but please don't distribute the code so that impacted communities can secure tickets before the event is opened up to general public.
- Please only access tickets if you intend on definitely coming, there is a stadium capacity and it would be a shame to have empty seats because of no shows.
- This code will be active until Friday 18th August, after this date access will be provided to general public.
- You will be able to redeem tickets in the Graeme Lowe and Centennial stands. Families are encouraged to select the Centennial stand as this is our family stand and all kids located here will receive 'Splash Planet Take a Kid to Footy' goodie bags.

## Where you can seek help

- Log into [www.wellbeingsupport.health.nz](http://www.wellbeingsupport.health.nz) to find a service close to you or you can call or text Need to Talk 1737 any time to talk with a trained counsellor.
- At most general practices you can phone and book in to see a Health Improvement Practitioner (HIP), a registered mental health professional who provides advice and support promoting self-management, and connects people to other services they may need. Every day, HIPs have appointments that are not pre-booked so you can phone a general practice where you are enrolled and book in on that day.
- **The Depression Helpline** – Call **0800 111 757** or text **4202** to talk to a trained counsellor about how you are feeling or to ask any questions.
- **Youthline** – Call **0800 376 633**, text **234**, email [talk@youthline.co.nz](mailto:talk@youthline.co.nz), or go to [youthline.co.nz](http://youthline.co.nz) for an online chat.
- **The Lowdown** – Text **5626** for support to help young people recognise and understand depression or anxiety.
- **Healthline** – Call **0800 611 116** for health advice and information.
- **Alcohol Drug Helpline** – Call **0800 787 797** to speak with a trained counsellor.
- Tips and support, go to [allsorts.org.nz](http://allsorts.org.nz).

## Free wellbeing apps

- You can download the Groov and Headstrong wellbeing apps free for android and Apple phones. Just go to Google Play or the Apple app store.