

# CYCLONE GABRIELLE UPDATES

28.07.2023

HERETAUNGA  
HASTINGS DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Message from the Mayor

For those displaced from their homes and communities, we are deeply aware this has been five months of waiting – waiting for clarity, certainty, and the chance to move on. Throughout this time, our region's councils have been working to achieve the best deal we can for the people of Hawke's Bay, recognising the financial and emotional cost of the cyclone.

While the overall package for the region is hoped to cover the range of issues affecting each council, the priority will be addressing provisional Category 3 areas, flood protection and urgent roading and bridge repairs.

While we have a number of critical and urgent issues to

address from Cyclone Gabrielle, ensuring short-term and long-term rates affordability for our communities is essential. As a region, we need the financial and resourcing support of the Government – we cannot fund our recovery alone.

As of this week, the Government's timetable targets decisions on this matter to be reached by the end of July, with final discussions currently taking place.



As we have from the beginning, the impact of the cyclone on our community remains front and centre of our focus.

Kia Kaha

Sandra Hazlehurst

## Land categorisation duty connectors

Affected property owners can discuss their situations face-to-face with an on-duty community connector at the Hastings District Council customer service centre in Lyndon Rd, Tuesdays to Fridays, 9am to 5pm. You can ask any questions, provide feedback on the current provisional category of your property, and/or provide information on your experiences during the cyclone. While connectors will not have all the answers to your questions, they will locate information if it is available, or put you in touch with the appropriate organisation.

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>

## Revised rates remission applications now available for cyclone-affected properties

A rate remission policy has been adopted to allow Council, at its discretion, to provide rates remission to ratepayers whose land or primary dwellings/buildings have been detrimentally affected by a natural disaster which makes dwellings/buildings uninhabitable, or affects the use and income derived, of the land, and directly affects their ability to pay rates.

To qualify for this rates relief, the property either must have been officially yellow stickered by Council or the land severely damaged or eroded, including those with crop or pasture damage, and the land has become unusable or uneconomic.

In the wake of Cyclone Gabrielle, properties that have been deemed uninhabitable (red stickered) are being granted an automatic rates remission, so an application isn't required.

For a remission to be granted on yellow stickered properties, the yellow sticker must be on the main dwelling/building on the property (i.e., primary residence). This requires an application.

If the main dwelling/building is useable (white/no sticker) but a yellow sticker has been applied to another building(s) on the property (i.e., workshop, storage unit, sleepout, cabin etc.), rates will not be remitted however rates can be postponed for a period, determined between Council and the applicant (but no later than 30 June 2025).

Once the remission has been approved, you do not need to reapply.

**For land that has been damaged, applications need to include the following information:**

- Is the damage to just land, just crops, or land and crops?
- The portion of land on the property damaged and unusable i.e., whole or part – if only part of the property, please provide an approximate % of the total property size affected.
- Economic impact details (financial impact).
- Expectations of how long land is likely to be unusable.
- Photos of damage.



To complete an application form online or download a pdf copy, visit: <https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/cyclone-gabrielle/rates-relief>

## 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-Account-Approval-Trusts-and-Multiple-Owners.pdf](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.

## Sediment and Debris Recovery Fund applications close Monday 31 July

Applications for the Sediment and Debris Recovery Fund close this Monday 31 July. The fund is for commercial entities (including growers and farmers) to recover some of the costs of cleaning up sediment and debris on their land. To help explain the grant and co-funding parts of the fund, visit: [hbrc.info/silt](http://hbrc.info/silt).

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/).

## Free Rainwater tank collection requests close Monday 31 July

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.

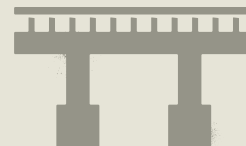
When making contact, please let the team know where the rainwater tank is, how many there are, what size they are, and how accessible they are.

## 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 permanent bridges to replace those lost during Cyclone Gabrielle (noting that many have temporary structures in place):



- 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 four-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.



## Magpies tickets for those 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.flickit.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 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 18 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.

