

Cyclone Gabrielle updates

Message from the Mayor

There have been mixed feelings since late last week as the owners of properties and land impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle received their provisional land category information. For some, this provided certainty to move on with repairs while for others, it means a much longer journey before they can make decisions on their future.

We know this remains an anxious and challenging time for those who have been impacted and are wanting to get on with their lives. There is still some way to go for owners of Category 2 and 3 properties, and from mid-June we will be working closely with these residents to ensure they have input into the final categorisation decisions.

There is also work to be done with central government in terms of negotiating how the costs of any voluntary buyouts for owners of Category 3 properties will be shared between Council and Government. We are facing enormous bills for the district to recover and we are keenly aware much of this cost will be borne by our ratepayers now and for many years to come. We are advocating for a fair payout for category 3 residents, but without adding significant further burden on our ratepayers.

We remain committed to working with the Government, but we need to try and get what's best for our ratepayers, both now and those who will still be paying for this in the future.

The announcement of the provisional categories will bring new challenges and concerns for many and it remains important for people to look after themselves and others in the community.

For people who are struggling, please do reach out and make contact with the appropriate agency as listed at the end of this newsletter, or refer the information to people who may be in need of extra support.

You can read the Government announcement on the provisional land categorisations here <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/govt-support-councils-buyout-and-better-protection-cyclone-and-flood-affected-properties>



Kia Kaha
Sandra Hazlehurst

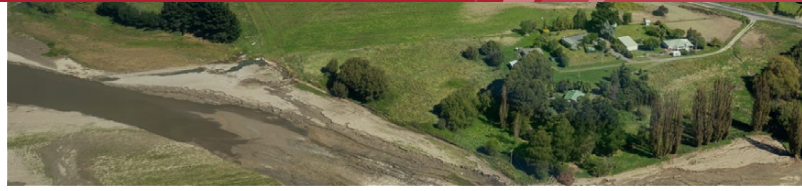
LAND CATEGORISATION ANNOUNCEMENT

Last week the owners of more than 1400 properties across Heretaunga-Hastings were emailed their provisional land risk categorisation.

Our team worked with Napier City, Wairoa District, Central Hawke's Bay District and Hawke's Bay Regional Council's to prepare a webpage with available information and provisional maps.

The webpage is being updated as more information becomes available. View it here: www.landcategoryhb.co.nz

Information has been mailed to the postal addresses of properties we were unable to get email addresses for. If you were expecting an email but haven't received one please contact 0800 117 672.



COMMUNITY CONSULTATION FOR LAND CATEGORISATION

From mid-June we'll start the next stage of the process which will involve engagement with affected communities. If you are in a Category 2 or Category 3 area, we'll be in touch again by Friday 9 June with more details.

LAND CATEGORIES AND INSURANCE

Following the announcement of Cyclone Gabrielle land categories in Hawke's Bay, the New Zealand Insurance Council has published an outline of what that may mean for insurance claims. It notes that the information is general and outcomes will differ between insurance companies and depend on the particulars of a policy. You can see the information here: www.icnz.org.nz/industry/disaster-recovery/

SILT

Applications open today (Tuesday 6 June) at 6pm for commercial entities across all sectors to access \$62.6 million of Government funding to recover some of the costs of cleaning up sediment and debris on their land as a result of Cyclone Gabrielle.

Applications can be made through the Regional Council <https://www.hbrc.govt.nz/our-council/cyclone-gabrielle-response/dealing-with-waste/> and close on Friday 30 June. Applicants must meet the eligibility criteria.

KEY STATS

Up to 2 June 2023

426 jobs
RECEIVED

APPROXIMATELY
320,000m³
OF SILT COLLECTED
ABOUT 43,000m³ BEING
COLLECTED PER WEEK

AROUND
1,100 truck
movements
PER DAY THIS WEEK

ROADS & BRIDGES

What's new since our last update?

There have been delays to some upcoming bridge openings. These are due to unexpected challenges with the approaches to bailey bridges, as well as needing to do some additional work to support the structures against any future flooding. We appreciate everyone's patience as teams work to get things right.

The bridges impacted:

- **Mangatutu bailey bridge** – new proposed opening date: Tuesday 13 June.
- **Moeangiangi bailey bridge** – new proposed opening date: Sunday 11 June.
- **Ellis Wallace bailey bridge** – new proposed opening date: Sunday 19 June.

For the most up-to-date information on road closures and the repair status of Hastings' District bridges visit: <https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/services/roads-and-streets/road-works/>



FEES WAIVER FOR RE-BUILDING AND REPAIRING STICKERED (PLACARDED) PROPERTIES

Residents with properties in Category 1 areas have been told they can now move on with their recovery. To support the next steps Council is waiving the following fees in most cyclone-related repair/re-build situations:

- building consent processing fees (time, associated admin costs)
- applications for building consent exemptions
- applications for certificates of acceptance
- building inspections
- resource consent processing fees.

The waiver applies to those with red and yellow stickered (placarded) properties who meet the criteria and are located in Category 1 areas.

To confirm that your building consent fees will be waived, please email buildingrecovery@hdc.govt.nz

To check if you need a resource consent or confirm that your resource consent fees will be waived, please email plannerduty@hdc.govt.nz

COUNCIL OFFICIALS – BE AWARE

We've had reports of people pretending to be Council staff visiting flood-damaged communities to conduct moisture checks. We do have staff doing these tests but encourage residents to be careful about who you let into your property/house. Council inspection staff will visit in a Hastings District Council-branded vehicle, be in a high vis vest, and be able to present identification if asked. If you have any concerns for your safety please contact the Police.

FLOOD-DAMAGED DISPOSAL GUIDE

Our waste minimisation team has created a flood-damaged disposal guide for residential/lifestyle properties and small businesses looking to get rid of specific items as they clean up. The guide provides safe disposal options for things like paint, concrete, timber and chemicals. View it here: www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/flooddisposalguide

CYCLONE RECOVERY UNIT UPDATES

The Cyclone Recovery Unit works alongside the Cyclone Recovery Taskforce and other Government agencies to support the worst affected regions to recover from the impacts of the North Island floods and Cyclone Gabrielle. This group produces regular updates with detailed information from places like the Ministry for Primary Industries, MBIE and Waka Kotahi. You can find their most recent update here: <https://www.civildefence.govt.nz/resources/news-and-events/news-and-events/weekly-update-from-the-cyclone-recovery-unit-29-may-2023/>



EVENT - FINDING CALM THROUGH CHAOS:

Wednesday 28 June, Hastings

The Hawke's Bay Life Education Trust is bringing together a group of education and trauma experts to discuss the impact the cyclone has had on children in the region. Get more information and tickets for the Wednesday 28 June event online here: <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2023/finding-calm-through-chaos/hastings>

Upcoming workshops

The Mental Health Education & Resource Centre (MHERC) has three workshops happening over the coming weeks.

- Understanding and Managing Change.
- Impacts of Trauma on Sleep and Life.
- Recognising and Responding to Psychological Distress in the Community.

For more information and to register click here: <https://mherc.arlo.co/w/>

LIFE EDUCATION Learning with Harold
Taiti Hawke's Bay Arts & Events Centre
Funds raised will support Hawke's Bay Life Education Trust

FINDING CALM THROUGH CHAOS

Join a panel of education experts for an evening to unpack trauma and gain insight on what might be going on for tamariki in the Hawke's Bay region at the moment.



Kathryn Berkett
Engage Training



Jase Williams
Whatumanawa



Judy Hunter
Kōhuri Education Co.

WHERE YOU CAN SEEK HELP

- Log into 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, or go to 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.

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.