

# Cyclone Gabrielle updates

## Message from the Mayor

Our roading and water teams have been kept busy over the past week with more heavy rain hitting the region.

We know this kind of weather can make people feel anxious and encourage you to check the [www.hbemergency.govt.nz](http://www.hbemergency.govt.nz) and [www.hastingsdc.govt.nz](http://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz) websites and Facebook pages for updates and information should there be further weather warnings over coming days and weeks.

We're now into our third week of engagement with residents to gather feedback and provide information on the future of areas significantly affected by Cyclone Gabrielle. With more than 20 highly impacted communities in Hastings alone it is taking time to get around every area, but we plan to have all initial meetings completed by the end of July.

Otherwise do take the opportunity to visit our drop-in centres where representatives from Hastings district and Hawke's Bay regional councils, insurance companies, our connectors and more are on-site and ready to assist.

Our rural communities have shown enormous resilience throughout this event, and to assist with their ongoing recovery and future decision-making we have produced a one-stop booklet with helpful information and contacts for anything from financial support to dealing with waste and animal welfare.

If there is anyone you know in the community who may be needing extra support or is in a vulnerable position, please do not hesitate to call **0800 117 672** so we can reach out and refer them to the right services for support.

Negotiations have begun with the Government regarding the Cyclone Gabrielle recovery package. We are very aware this is a key part of the process for our community those affected to move forward.



Kia Kaha  
Sandra Hazlehurst  
Mayor of Hastings

## PUBLIC CONSULTATION REMAINS OPEN ON PROPOSED RATES REMISSION POLICY

Hastings District Council is proposing to introduce a specific rates remission policy to assist ratepayers whose land or primary dwellings/buildings have been detrimentally affected by natural disaster.

This more specific policy would provide clarity to affected ratepayers on what financial assistance with rates is available and give Council the ability to expand the scope of remissions to include properties where the damage impacted land and/or crops but which did not have dwellings or buildings stickered.

This proposal along with the 'Remission of Rates – Dwellings and Land Affected by Natural Disaster' policy can be read at: [www.myvoicemychoice.co.nz](http://www.myvoicemychoice.co.nz), or you can call Council on **(06) 871 5000** to be sent the information.

Submissions on the proposal can be lodged up until 5pm 4 July 2023 either electronically via [www.myvoicemychoice.co.nz](http://www.myvoicemychoice.co.nz), or in writing to: Attention: Richard Elgie, Finance Operations Manager, Hastings District Council, Private Bag 9002, Hastings 4156, or by email to [richarde@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:richarde@hdc.govt.nz).

## UPCOMING LAND CATEGORISATION ENGAGEMENT MEETINGS

Please see below the list of confirmed land categorisation engagement meetings. Details of further meetings will be advised as soon as possible. A schedule of drop-in centres, where you can meet connectors, discuss your situation, and find out more information, is also detailed below.

### Category 2A Meetings

- **Puketapu:** Wednesday July 5 from 5.30pm until 7.00pm at the Puketapu School Hall, 708 Puketapu Road.

*Category 2A meetings have already taken place in Eskdale/Esk Valley and Pakowhai.*

### Category 2C Meetings

- **Havelock North:** Tuesday July 4 from 5.30pm until 7.00pm at Havelock North Primary School, 9 Campbell Street.
- **Waiohiki:** Thursday July 6 from 5.30pm until 7.00pm (venue TBC).

### Drop-in Centres (operating weekly)

- **Pakowhai Hall:** Wednesdays, 3.30pm to 7pm
- **Hastings Library:** Thursdays, 11am to 7pm
- **Taradale Library:** Saturdays, 10am to 4pm

## PAYMENTS FOR STICKERED PROPERTIES

Last month Hastings District Council announced it would be making one-off support payments of \$2,000 through the Hastings Mayoral Relief Fund to owners of red and yellow stickered properties.



If Council holds your back 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/Bank-Account-Approval](http://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/Bank-Account-Approval). 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**.



## RURAL COMMUNITIES INFORMATION PACK

A range of industry bodies and government agencies have put out information to guide and support our rural communities as they plan their longer-term recovery. To help make this accessible, we have pulled together a lot of this content into a single information pack which includes the contact details you may need to do that, whether you are a farmer or a grower, on a large-scale property or a small block, or anything in between - this resource has been developed with you in mind.

To download and view the Rural Communities Information Pack, visit: <https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/Rural-Info-Pack>

## SILT

The closing date to apply for funding from the Sediment and Debris Recovery Fund for Commercial Entities has been extended to 31 July. This fund is 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.

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

## WAKA KOTAHI UPDATE

People should continue to keep an eye on the Waka Kotahi Journey Planner website for the latest information on road conditions, as short-notice closures remain a possibility while the wet weather continues - <https://www.journeys.nzta.govt.nz/highway-conditions/>

## CYCLONE RECOVERY UNIT UPDATES

The Cyclone Recovery Unit works alongside the Government's 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 organisations including the Ministry for Primary Industries, MBIE and Waka Kotahi. You can find the most recent update here: <https://www.civildefence.govt.nz/resources/news-and-events/news-and-events/>

KEY STATS \*Down due to wet weather

Up to 23 June 2023

**459 jobs**  
RECEIVED

APPROXIMATELY  
**390,000m<sup>3</sup>**  
OF SILT COLLECTED  
ABOUT 10,000m<sup>3</sup> BEING  
COLLECTED THIS WEEK\*

AROUND  
**1,200 truck**  
**movements**  
THIS WEEK\*

Due to last week's wet weather some of the collection stats were down on previous weeks.

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/).

## HASTINGS ROADS AND BRIDGES UPDATE

While some of the temporary accessways established following Cyclone Gabrielle suffered damage during the recent wet weather (including at Omapere Road, Matapiro Road, and Kahika Road) reinstatement and repairs of these sites have commenced.

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).

## Future of permanent bridges

While there are many factors that will affect the permanent bridges and designs moving forward, a key piece of information that will help guide the modelling and design of the new bridges is around hydraulic flows and debris build-up around the bridge sites.

To this end, we would welcome any information and supporting evidence from the community that might show what may have caused the failure of the different bridges during Cyclone Gabrielle. Any other concerns or future information would also be greatly appreciated. To provide this feedback (including any supporting photographic or video evidence), please visit: <https://napier.wufoo.com/forms/hdc-bridge-feedback-form/>

## 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.