

Cyclone Land Categorisation

Kia ora koutou,

Thank you to those who were able to make the Havelock North 2c meeting on Wednesday 13 December.

We've prepared a summary of the meeting content and feedback we heard from the community to ensure those who could not make it have access to the information.

At the meeting, Hastings District Council and Hawke's Bay Regional Council presented the finalised Tonkin + Taylor report on the Mangarau Stream which recommends options for flood mitigation. Hastings District Council also gave an update on the progress of the Havelock North Streams Management Strategy.

Flood mitigation options report

Hawke's Bay Regional Council commissioned Tonkin and Taylor (T+T) to deliver the Mangarau Stream report recommending flood mitigation options for the areas around the Mangarau Stream as part of the 2c land categorisation work.

The aim of the options is to provide flood protection to a 1:100 year or 1% AEP flood protection level of service, so 2c category properties can be recategorised to 1 by Hawke's Bay Regional Council, and the stream is better able to cope with future severe weather events to at least a 1 in 100-year event.

Some of the report's key recommendations are:

- stream widening
- improved maintenance and upgrading structures (e.g weirs, and or crossings)
- bank stabilisation and retaining walls to remedy bank failures
- review of dam operation as part of wider strategy, including improved monitoring and alarming
- localised flood walls or stop banks, if needed

While the upgrades do not need to be in place before HBRC will consider lifting the 2c categorisation, a plan is required to be in place. The plan needs to ensure the works can be constructed, are funded, can be consented, and any required property rights are in place.

[You can read the full report here.](#)

Strategy development

Hastings District Council is preparing a Havelock North stream catchment management plan covering all five dams and streams.

The strategy will be informed by technical investigations, design and engineering. Council has contracted Beca to manage the wider work programme, lead out the 2c upgrades and deliver the strategy.

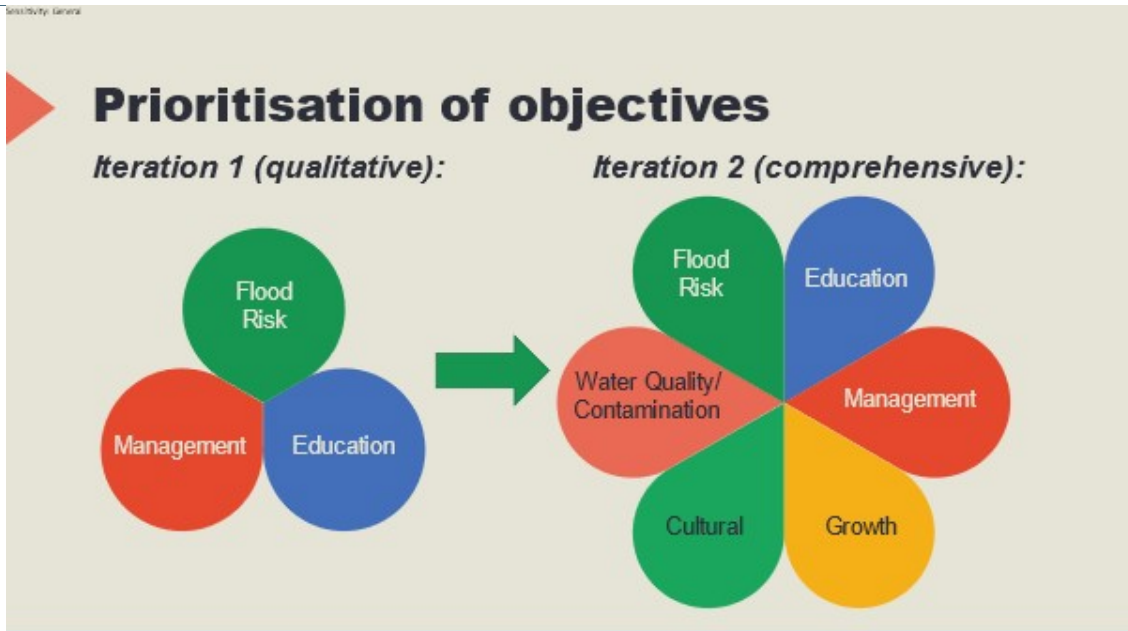
It will be developed over the next two years. The initial part of the strategy – focusing on flooding issues in the short term - will be brought to the community in the first quarter of 2024 for feedback. The second iteration of the strategy will focus on long term objectives and targets for the next 10 years.

The strategy will look at setting the direction for the future management of the streams including improved maintenance (including access to enable maintenance work to be carried out), bank stabilisation, dam safety improvements, landowner/Council understanding of responsibilities.

The strategy will set context, objectives and prioritisation, measures of success and implementation plans.



The strategy is proposed to be delivered in stages – the initial stage will address current flood risk, management/maintenance, and landowner/community education. Future stages will broaden the focus to introduce growth, cultural, and water quality as objectives. These are not fixed, and amendments and additions to objectives may be made in collaboration with community.



Feedback from the community

There were a range of comments and questions from the community at the meeting. They focused on:

- Timeframes

Below is the timeline for the 2024 workplan. The aim for development of projects, the preliminary design, and detailed project delivery plans (cost, benefit, risks, etc.) is over the next six months. The aim for detailed design, cost estimates, resource consent and procurement is over the next 12 to 18 months.

- Funding

Hawke's Bay Regional Council is under contract with Central Government for \$10 million of co-funding towards projects related to the Mangarau flooding, with Government providing \$7.5 million and the Regional Council providing \$2.5 million. The funding is dependant on providing a business case to Government with a sound, consentable and deliverable plan. This funding will be passed on from Hawke's Bay Regional Council to Hastings District Council.

- Land access

The recommendations in the report are reliant on increased access to the stream by Hastings District Council. This means there will need to be conversations had with landowners on arrangements, such as easements, for Council to access the stream for construction and maintenance. These conversations have begun and will continue in the new year with individual landowners.

- Maintenance

An improved maintenance plan is part of the strategy. In the meantime we ask residents to please to report any maintenance issues or faults, by calling Council on 06 871 5000 or using the Hastings District Council [Fix-It form](#) and a maintenance officer will attend.

- Recategorisation

For 2C properties to be recategorised as 1, Hawke's Bay Regional Council needs to know that there are sound concepts with consenting pathways, a legal interest in favour of Hastings District Council in the relevant land, and funding.

- Communication

We are sending a monthly newsletter to provide regular updates to you. We will arrange community meetings as they are needed, for instance for feedback on the Emergency Action Plans, rather than setting up regular meetings.

The [website](#) will be kept up to date for your information, with information posted on the Hastings District Council Facebook page as appropriate.

Next steps and timeline

Hastings District Council will now prepare work plans based on the key recommendations from T+T report to unlock allocated Crown Funding to deliver the required upgrades.

While the 2c recommendations form an urgent and important piece of work, HDC will also be progressing the development of a Havelock North Streams Management Strategy, which will be with the community in early 2024 for feedback.

The wider streams strategy will look at setting the direction for the future management of all of the dams and streams.

2023

- 14 February: Cyclone Gabrielle Event
- February/ March/ April: immediate clean up
- 27 April: Havelock North – Mangarau Stream Community Meeting #1 Held
- 14 June: Havelock North – Mangarau Stream Community Meeting #2 Held
- 27 June: HBRC engaged T+T to deliver the flood mitigations review and report
- Mid July: HDC/HBRC briefing of small stakeholder group on progress with Mangarau Stream
- 31 July 2023: Cyclone Gabrielle Flood Flow Calculations for the Havelock North Flood Detention Dams report completed
- 14 August: T+T and HDC project lead – met with small stakeholder group to discuss process for 2c flood mitigations review and gather feedback
- late August/early September: T+T/HBRC commissioned survey of Mangarau Stream section
- 27 September 2023: Intermediate Safety Report Completed
- 11 October: Draft T+T 2c report delivered to HDC by HBRC
- 27 October: HDC reviewed T+T draft 2c report and provided comments back to T+T and HBRC
- 14 November: HDC approved developing Havelock North Streams Management Strategy
- 21 November: HDC/HBRC briefing of small stakeholder group on progress with 2c report and Havelock North Management Strategy
- 5 December: T+T 2c Final Report delivered to HDC/ HBRC
- 6-13 December: One-to-One Landowner Meetings held with Project Lead
- 13 December: Council met with 2C residents to present T+T report

2024

- January: Tendering of dedicated maintenance contractor role for Havelock North dams and streams
- April: Draft Emergency Action Plan (EAP) shared with community for feedback
- April: Commencement of new dedicated maintenance contractor
- June: Indicative timeframe to complete requirements to downgrade from Category 2c to Category 1
- June: Draft Havelock North Streams Management Strategy will be shared with community for feedback

- September/October: Commencement of 2c required upgrades

Furthermore, 2024 will see the project plan and design for implementing the 2c report recommendations to be ready for construction in late 2024, early 2025 to coincide with drier weather.

If you have a question or need to arrange a meeting with a project team member – please phone 06 871 5000 and ask to have Darren de Clerk (Havelock North dams and streams project lead) call you.

Background

Cyclone Gabrielle resulted in over 280mm of rainfall falling in the Mangarau dam catchment, greater than a 1 in 250-year event, streams overtopped, homes flooded, erosion and scouring resulted in banks failing, while retaining walls and other structures were also damaged.

For information on how the dams performed during the cyclone and in previous rain events, technical information and reports, and answers to FAQs, head to Hastings District Council's [Havelock North streams web page](#).

Despite the level of rainfall, a post-cyclone report on the dams' performance found they worked as designed. None of the dams reached full capacity, however, the Mangarau dam did release water via its spillway.

Cyclone Gabrielle highlighted the need for a coordinated strategy, plan, and work programme for the five Havelock North streams and dams to improve maintenance and to consider increasing the level of flood protection (level of service).

Currently 38 properties are categorised as 2c in Havelock North bordering the Mangarau Stream. 2c land categorisation is defined as *Community level interventions are effective in managing future severe weather risk event*, with the following example given "Local government repairs and enhances flood protection schemes to adequately manage the risk of future flooding events in the face of climate change effects." Hawke's Bay Regional Council is the organisation charged with categorising and recategorizing of affected properties.

Ngā mihi and meri kirihimete,

The Havelock North dams and streams project team
Hastings District Council

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