

Hawke's Bay Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery

# Heretaunga Locality Plan

April 2023 | Version 1.01

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# He Mihi Maioha

Titiro ake au ki te kāhu e hāro ana, e tui, tui, tui, tui. E tuia te rangi e tū nei, e tuia te papa e takoto nei. E tuia ngā herenga tangata o Heretaunga, ka rongo te pō, ka rongo te ao. E tuia tātau ko ngā muka tangata o rātau mā i ekengia Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa, ā, i takea anōtia i Hawaiki nui, Hawaiki roa, Hawaiki pāmaomao. Te hono i wairua ki te whai ao ki te ao māram. Tihei Mauriora!

Kai ngā mana, kai ngā reo, kai ngā pari kārangaranga tō tēnā hapū o te rohe whānui o Te Matau-a-Māui, ki ngā hau e whā kua puhia nei ki tēnei o ngā mahere ā-rohe, anei ngā kupu whakamihi ki a tātau katoa.

Tēnā rā tātau katoa e whakamana nei i tō tātau nei mahere ā-rohe o Heretaunga i raro i te āhua o ngā whiu o te wā me tēnei huripari nunui, arā ko Gabrielle.

Kai ngā marae, kai ngā hapū kārangaranga, nō mātau te hōnore ki te tukua ngā mihi maioha ki tēnā, ki tēnā o koutou, otirā, ki a tātau katoa. I te wehi i te ao me ōna āhuatanga, i whai hua tātau i ō tātau hononga, tētahi ki tētahi, i roto i ngā whānau me te kāenga, ā, mā tērā tātau e whai take kia kotahi anō te anga whakamua.

He ao kōmiromiro tō tātau ao. Mēnā ka mau tātau ki ngā rangi kua taha ake, ka kore tātau e kite i ngā hua kai mua i te aroaro. Ka kaha tātau i te kotahitanga. Mā te kotahitanga te pae tawhiti e whakawhānui. Mā tātau katoa te ara whakamua e para hai iwi kotahi. He hapori e mahi tahi ana, e whakaaro tahi ana, e whai take tahi ana.

Hei whakamutunga mihi mā mātau, e tika ana kia mihi ake ki ō tātau whenua taurikura i waihotia e ngā mātau tipuna; arā, ko Heretaunga ara-rau, Heretaunga haukū-nui, Heretaunga hāro o te kāhu, Heretaunga ringa-hora, Heretaunga raorao-haumako, Heretaunga takoto noa!

Kia ora māi rā tātau katoa!

*My attention is drawn to the kāhu soaring and uniting us as one. May it weave above and enmesh below, joining the threads of humanity across Hawke's Bay. May there be peace in death, peace by day in our lives. Joined by the cords of humankind, originating from the great, far and remote homeland. Uniting with the spirits there, emerging into the light, the world of consciousness. May the living spirit be within us all!*

*To the important voices and people, our esteemed hapū and communities across Hawke's Bay, and to those of you from across the country brought together by this locality plan, greetings and salutations to us all.*

*Greetings to everyone at this time as we acknowledge and champion the Heretaunga locality plan that has been borne out of the devastation left by Cyclone Gabrielle.*

*To our marae and the people of the district, it is with honour and privilege that these acknowledgements are made to you, to all of us. The times have in their most devastating form rekindled a fellowship of family and community that provides us the incentive and purpose to move collectively forward as one*

*Change is the universal law of life. Those who dwell only in the past or present are sure to miss the future. Collectively we are strong. Collectively our vision horizon expands. Collectively we are the great architects of our own destiny, a destiny we will imagine together, as one people, a community with clarity of purpose and vision.*

*In closing, it is fitting that we acknowledge our beautiful lands passed down from those who have gone before us; Heretaunga of its myriad pathways, Heretaunga and its life-giving dew, Heretaunga whose beauty is especially seen from the soaring hawk, Heretaunga of hospitality abound, Heretaunga and its fertile landscapes, and Heretaunga lying before us in all its beauty! Greetings to one and all!*

#### Important Disclaimer

*The information provided by the Hastings District Council (Council) (including, without limitation, all figures, estimates, programmes, initiatives and plans) has been compiled or obtained in a short timeframe, without the usual standard of care / audit that would ordinarily be expected. The Council makes no representations as to the accuracy of the information provided and notes that it is provided on an interim basis only, and subject to change or update at any time. The Council reserves its ability to update the information at any time.*

*A number of assumptions have been made as part of compiling or obtaining this information, including, without limitation, that current recommendations are being made on current state awareness, rather than trying to anticipate future decisions, outcomes or initiatives; that council, mana whenua and partners will be able to obtain sufficient resourcing for delivery of any initiatives/programmes and that; programmes and works will evolve and change as part of any further scoping, consultation or similar exercise. Significant consultation with mana whenua is underway but is not completely reflected in the figures presented in this report.*

*The information provided is based on provisional estimates and historical costings and has not (in the time available) taken into account any necessary or expected community consultation, or any increased costs experienced by Council today (including, without limitation, as a result of inflation or supply issues). The information is subject to change as initiatives become better scoped and defined, and/or community consultation occurs.*

*All information in relation to infrastructure cost and design is based on estimates to reflect restoration of infrastructure to pre-Cyclone Gabrielle levels, and does not reflect material betterment, increased levels of service, or increased resilience which may be developed through further scoping and design works. It also is based on assumption that all other infrastructure, such as flood protection, is restored to pre-cyclone levels of service and is not changed significantly.*

# Section 1: Introduction

## Purpose

The Heretaunga Locality Plan outlines how our district will recover from the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle. It captures the immediate priorities and actions we will undertake to enable communities to stand strong again and lay the framework for Heretaunga to build back better and more resilient.

The Plan seeks to capture all agencies with a part to play in helping the recovery of our communities. This includes mana whenua, councils, government agencies and community organisations. The common thread uniting these agencies is a desire and a responsibility to serve the people of Heretaunga. It is with the community at heart that this plan has been developed.

Our Locality Plan has been developed with haste to ensure that Heretaunga's immediate needs can be incorporated into Government decision making. It covers off the urgent things that we know we need to do and is backed by objectives that address the fundamentals for our people. The Heretaunga Locality Plan will be an iterative document that will evolve over time.

## Scope

This first edition of the Heretaunga Locality Plan is intended to look to short term, immediate needs for recovery. It is a rapid assessment of the work that needs to be done to re-establish a level of functioning to the Hastings district, support communities and whānau impacted by the event and establish the resourcing that will be needed over the next six months to plan for the medium to long term recovery work.

At a regional level, a recovery governance structure has been established through the Regional Recovery Authority. Our plan aligns itself with this and is structured along the six Pou that have been developed and agreed with mana whenua partners. The six Pou represent the breadth of work needed in recovery and will act as a central focus of our recovery efforts. The work required to recover from Cyclone Gabrielle is significant and the six Pou offer a way to coordinate with other recovery players to develop aligned work programmes.

Recovery is an iterative process and so the Locality Plan will need to be updated regularly to enable short, medium and long-term recovery objectives to be identified and planned for. Subsequent editions of this plan will be co-authored with our mana whenua partners and our impacted communities can expect to be involved in

the conversations about the future of their areas during this time. The next Plan will bring forth a more fully developed vision for recovery and will develop the coordinated programme of work to ensure an enduring recovery in a more resilient Heretaunga.

Our initial recovery focus has been and still is, supporting communities to stand strong once again. In the long term, we are committed to supporting our communities to build back better and more resilient.

Heretaunga’s recovery activities will be centred on the following six Pou:

Pou	Key tasks
<b>Recovery Transition</b>	Continued supply of basics to isolated communities, maintenance of support in the community, decommissioning of response resources, reescalation planning
<b>Community and Whānau Wellbeing</b>	Connectedness, welfare, marae, housing demand, cultural impacts, accommodation, safety & wellbeing, health
<b>Resilient Infrastructure</b>	Flood protection, lifeline utilities, water services, transport, housing supply, emergency resilience
<b>Primary Sector</b>	Land use recovery, horticulture, agriculture, viticulture, forestry
<b>Economic Growth</b>	Individuals, businesses, sectors, future industry development, tourism, workforce resilience
<b>Environmental Resilience</b>	Resource management & land use, indigenous ecosystems & biodiversity, climate change, waste, water security

## The role of mana whenua in the Heretaunga Locality Plan

There is an increasing awareness amongst local hapū and Māori entities of the opportunities and processes for their involvement and practical expressions of kaitiakitanga (stewardship), rangatiratanga (right to exercise authority) and or mana motuhake (self-determination). Through the various hapū of the region, they hold mana whenua (or customary authority) over their ancestral lands, and the natural and physical environment. This customary authority emanates through whakapapa (genealogy) and is exercised as kaitiakitanga. Kaitiakitanga in Ngāti Kahungunu terms requires the responsibility accorded by divine delegation to protect the mauri or physical life force of everything in the natural and physical environment. Hastings District Council and mana whenua groups from across the district these last few weeks to hear their concerns, endorse and support their respective aspirations, and to lead a partnership approach to co-construct a Heretaunga Locality Plan. Some hapū, marae and/or entities have been very active in this space due to the level of Cyclone Gabrielle’s impact; others have not needed to be involved so much but have been happy to support the partnership approach to recovery.

For the purposes of the Locality Plan, a zone-based approach will be taken to planning, these being northern, central and southern zones of Heretaunga. This is to enable recovery to be locally led. The zones are as follows:

**Southern Zone - [Hastings and west to Kāweka Ranges, east to the coast, and south to Pukehou]**

- Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga
- Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement Trust
- Ngāti Hinemanu, Ngāi Te Ūpokoiri me ōna Piringa Hapū Authority - NB: the hapū authority centred at Ōmāhu

**Central Zone – [Napier west to Puketitiri, south to Awatoto, and slightly north towards Pētane Domain]**

- Te Taiwhenua o Te Whanganui-a-Orotū
- Mana Ahuriri Trust
- Ngāti Pārau Hapū Authority - NB: the hapū authority centred at Waiohiki

**Northern Zone – [North of Napier airport up SH5 and SH2 to the Hastings District boundary]**

- Hineuru Iwi Trust
- Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Trust
- Maungaharuru-Tangitū Trust



## How this document has been prepared

The Heretaunga Locality Plan has been developed at pace working closely with mana whenua partners and key government and community agencies working in Heretaunga. Mana whenua and Hastings District Council have set the direction for the plan through a series of hui, while Pou leaders have worked closely with key agencies to develop the priorities for each Pou. Together, we have set our initial recovery direction.

Individual agencies, including several mana whenua entities, have already developed their own plans for local recovery. While we have sought to bring forward some of the key themes from these plans, we have also appended them in entirety where possible. The narrative in these plans provide valuable context and it is felt that this information was best presented as is, to let local voices be heard in the recovery planning.

It is important to acknowledge that the voice of the community is not well represented in this document. Communities in Hastings have been heavily impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle and some are still actively responding to the consequences of the event. With the short timeframe to produce this document it was felt that the added pressure of community engagement was too much. Where we have heard the communities voice, we have tried to incorporate it into the planning so far. The second edition of the Heretaunga Locality Plan, due in September, will be focussed on ensuring the voice of the community is at the heart of the document. A plan for meaningful community engagement is currently being developed to support this.

## Implementing and Monitoring the Locality Plan

Overall responsibility for monitoring the plan sits with Hastings District Council and mana whenua, as the co-leads on the plan. It is expected that each agency will take responsibility for the implementation of activities they lead or contribute to. It is expected that progress will be reported to Locality Plan leads on a regular basis.

Reflecting the iterative process of recovery, we will continuously review how we implement this plan. We will also look to confirm the governance structure which reflects the diverse communities of interests and range of agencies involved.

## Section 2: Profile of the locality

Heretaunga is a ~5,500km<sup>2</sup> area, made up of three main urban areas – Havelock North, Hastings and Flaxmere – and a myriad of smaller rural and beachside areas. The main urban areas are surrounded by the Heretaunga Plains, renowned for being highly productive and fertile. Towards the west, the Kaweka Ranges stand above the district, and to the east is Te Mata Peak and the district’s beaches, including the iconic Cape Kidnappers.

### Mana whenua

The heart of the main iwi (tribe) of Hawke’s Bay, Ngāti Kahungunu, is situated in Heretaunga or Hastings, and Ngāti Kahungunu are tangata whenua (local people particular to a region). Through its myriad of hapū (sub-tribes) and marae, local cultural identity and cultural narratives are reflected through whakapapa (genealogy), waiata (songs), karakia (incantations), pūrākau (stories) and tāhuhu kōrero (history), which simultaneously reflects both the distinction and the parallels of hapū. For instance, the local pepeha (proverb) *Heretaunga ara-rau, Heretaunga haukū-nui, Heretaunga ringa-hora, Heretaunga hāro-o-te-kāhu, Heretaunga raorao-haumako, Heretaunga takoto noa* captures the splendour of the wider Heretaunga district and its Arcadian pathways, life-giving dews, hospitable people, its beauty, fertile landscapes, and its prosperity.

This locality plan acknowledges tangata whenua across Ngāti Kahungunu and Hawke’s Bay that given the geographical, cultural and post-Treaty settlement landscape, includes multiple groups including but not solely limited to:

- Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated
- Six Taiwhenua:
  - Te Wairoa
  - Te Whanganui-a-Orotū
  - Heretaunga
  - Tamatea
  - Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua
  - Wairarapa
- Eight Tiriti o Waitangi Post-Settlement Governance Entities:
  - Tātau o Te Wairoa
  - Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Trust
  - Maungaharuru-Tangitū Trust
  - Hineuru Iwi Trust
  - Mana Ahuriri Trust
  - Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement Trust
  - Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-Nui-a-Rua Settlement Trust
- 86 + marae
- 100 + hapū

Ko Kahungunu te tipuna, ko Ngāti Kahungunu te iwi, ko Takitimu te waka. *Kahungunu is the eponymous ancestor, Ngāti Kahungunu the tribe, Takitimu the sacred canoe.*

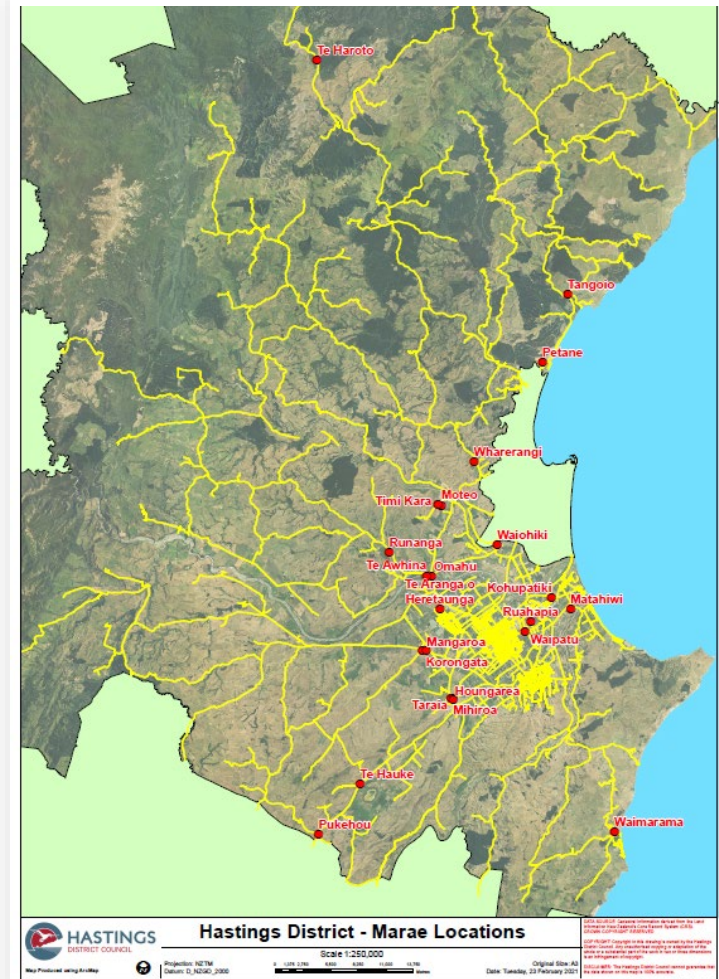
Heretaunga overlaps Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated, Te Taiwhenua o Te Whanganui-a-Orotū and Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga and this same district includes the boundaries of five Treaty of Waitangi Post-Settlement Governance Entities:

- Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Trust, at our northern boundary;
- Ngāti Hineuru Iwi Trust, at our north western boundary;
- Maungaharuru-Tangitū Trust, to the immediate north of Napier;
- Mana Ahuriri Trust, across Napier city and inland west; and,
- Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement Trust, at our south eastern/western boundary.

Within this expansive landscape, there are 25 marae and their respective hapū and communities that reside in the Hastings District, and these include: Tangoio, Te Hāroto, Pētane, Waiohiki, Wharerangi, Mōteo, Timi Kara, Kohupātiki, Ōmāhu, Te Āwhina, Rūnanga, Matahiwi, Ruahāpia, Waipatu, Korongatā, Mangaroa, Haungarea, Mihiroa, Taraia, Kahurānaki, Pukehou, Waimārama, Te Aranga, Waitangi, and Hine-te-Moa.

Historically there are and have been many hapū in the Ngāti Kahungunu region, but over the years there has been a consolidation of hapū alongside the creation of entities representing them. Across the last decade, the Government have negotiated Tiriti o Waitangi settlements with a number of hapū/iwi resulting in post-settlement entities being formed to hold and manage such groups' respective Tiriti o Waitangi settlement assets on behalf of hapū and to be representative bodies for the hapū of the various Marae.

Figure 1: Marae locations in the Hastings District



## Geography and People of Heretaunga

The Hastings District surrounds the entirety of nearby Napier City's border, with each locality's main centres being just 18km from each other. Given the close proximity, there is substantial movement between the two centres with many residents from Heretaunga travelling to Napier for work – or vice versa, Napier residents travelling into Hastings for work.

The community of Hastings was estimated to be 90,600 in 2022, and while there is limited data available on the district's transgender and non-binary community, the latest census results (2018) show that there was 40,029 males and 41,511 females. 62.3% of the population are between the ages of 15 and 64, 20.4% under 14 and 17.4% over 65.

The 2018 census indicated 17.4% of people in the district were born overseas and that 18% speak more than one language. The ethnic groups of the community in 2018 were 72% European, 27% Māori, 8% Pacifica and 6% Asian. Excluding English, the top five languages spoken by the Hastings community are Māori, Samoan, French, German and Hindi. In line with national figures, 0.5% of the Hastings population use New Zealand sign language.

Just over half the households in the Hastings District own or partly own their home, and household income averaged \$120,647/annum in 2022. 65.2% of the Heretaunga population are in full or part-time employment, with 73.8% of this group relying on either a private or company vehicle as their main means of travel to and from work.

## Employment in Heretaunga

While Heretaunga's unemployment rate sits below the national rate at 2.9%, the NEET rate (not employed, or engaged in education or training) for 15–24-year-old rangatahi, is 1% higher than the national rate at 12.7%.

Prior to the cyclone, the Hawke's Bay had over 3,300 Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) workers in the region, predominantly supporting the Hastings District's agriculture and horticulture industries during the busy harvest season. Those 3,300+ RSE workers, are a portion of the 19,000 RSE placements for 2022/23 in New Zealand and primarily come from one of nine eligible Pacific countries.

## Heretaunga Businesses and Production

Heretaunga is known to be a successful food and beverage producer, with a thriving primary sector, a rising arts industry, a booming manufacturing centre, and an ever-growing technology hub. Productivity growth for Hastings in 2022 sat at 3.7%, well above the national growth of 2.3%.

In 2022, the number of businesses in the district hit 10,779 – a 5% increase from the year prior and 0.2% higher than national business growth. With 48,730 jobs filled in Heretaunga, the top five industries for employment are Hospitals, Apple & Pear Growing, Other Agriculture and Fishing Support, Fruit & Vegetable Processing, and Cafés & Restaurants.

Beyond the district's successful businesses and products, Heretaunga is an attractive destination for both local and international visitors. From the natural beauty of the east coast beaches and walking trails, to the adventurous mountain biking tracks and prominent cellar doors and eateries, the district has a thriving tourism sector, which amassed a tourism spend of \$241m in 2022.

## Key Infrastructure

With two large rivers, the Ngaruroro and the Tūtaekurī, situated roughly halfway between Hastings and Napier, the resilience of the district's lifelines are critical to ensuring movement between the main centres can continue. These lifelines are also key to enabling Hastings-based agencies to serve the Heretaunga communities north of Napier. Cyclone Gabrielle and the consequential flooding destroyed two of the seven main bridges used to cross the Ngaruroro and Tūtaekurī rivers, between the two centres.

## Section 3: Event impacts

Recovery efforts to Cyclone Gabrielle began on 14 February at the very beginning of our collective response to the Cyclone. All response actions through Civil Defence Emergency Management and the community have been about supporting our people to recover from the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle.

In the beginning, the focus was on immediate actions to prevent loss of life and limit damage to property. We then moved to restoring access and essential services and providing emergency welfare support to those who had been displaced, for some communities these actions are still occurring. As immediate welfare needs were met, we entered a national transition period formally marking an end to the emergency declaration and the beginning of formal recovery efforts.

The recovery from Cyclone Gabrielle will take many years and will require ongoing support from external agencies working in Heretaunga. The below information names many of the primary impacts that have been identified so far, however it is important to note that recovery from a disaster such as this is an evolving process. Many impacts, particularly in the environment, economic and wellbeing Pou have not yet been identified, and many more will arise from how the recovery is managed going forward. This makes it essential that impacts continue to be identified, and recovery actions are monitored for their efficacy.

Consequently, the following marae settlements and communities were severely impacted:

### Tangoio marae

The hapū of Tangoio are Marangatūhetaua (also known as Ngāti Tū), Ngāti Whakaari, Ngāi Taura, Ngāti Kurumōkihi, Ngāi Te Ruruku ki Tangoio and Ngāi Tahu. The hapū are represented by the Maungaharuru-Tangitū Trust as well as being part of Te Taiwhenua o Te Whanganui-a-Orotū. Their takiwā (traditional area) is located in northern Te Matau-a-Māui (Hawke's Bay) and encompasses Keteketerau (the former outlet of Te Whanganui-ā-Orotū) in the south, to the Waitaha River in the north and from the Maungaharuru Range in the west to the coast and beyond to Tangitū (the sea) in the east. Tangoio marae sits in close proximity to the Te Ngarue awa (river). Tangoio marae was completely devastated by Cyclone Gabrielle.

### Pētane marae

The principal hapū of Pētane marae are Ngāti Matepū, Ngāi Te Ruruku and Ngāti Whakaari. Pētane marae is situated near the Te Waiohinga awa along Taits Road in Whirinaki/Bayview, Napier, and are represented by Mana Ahuriri Trust and Te Taiwhenua o Te Whanganui-a-Orotū. Pētane marae was completely flooded and severely impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle.

## Waiohiki marae

This marae is located at Waiohiki alongside the Tūtaekurī awa, immediately south of Taradale with its principal hapū being Ngāti Pārau and Ngai Tahuahi. These hapū are represented by Mana Ahuriri Trust and Te Taiwhenua o Te Whanganui-a-Orotū. The whole Waiohiki community was flooded with significant devastation and damage to all homes in the community left in the pathway of Cyclone Gabrielle. Waiohiki marae was eventually able to stand up (without services – electricity, water) as a response and recovery centre for the Waiohiki community clean up.

## Mōteo marae/Timi Kara marae

The main hapū of Mōteo and Timi Kara marae(s) situated out at Puketapu are Ngāti Hinepare, Ngāti Māhu and Ngāi Tāwhao. Mōteo and Timi Kara are part of and represented by Mana Ahuriri Trust and Te Taiwhenua o Te Whanganui-a-Orotū. While further up river (Tūtaekurī) like Waiohiki, much of its surrounding community and papakāinga were severely flooded by Cyclone Gabrielle. Both of these two marae also stood up as response centres immediately post Cyclone Gabrielle.

## Ōmāhu marae/Te Āwhina marae

Ngāti Hinemanu, Ngāti Mahuika, Ngāi Te Ūpokoiri and Ngāti Honomōkai are the principle hapū of these two marae and the Ōmāhu community, which was severely flooded when the Ngaruroro awa breached its stop banks during the heart of Cyclone Gabrielle. The marae are part of the Ngāti Hinemanu, Ngāi Te Ūpokoiri me ōna Piringa Hapū Authority as well as Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga, and Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement Trust. Like Timi Kara and Mōteo, Ōmāhu marae once cleaned of debris and flooding aftermath (silt) was stood up as a response and then recovery centre for the wider Ōmāhu and Fernhill community.

## Waipatu marae

Waipatu marae was not directly impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle other than losing electricity and telecommunications but because of its proximity and its capacity at the time, became a refuge and hub for up to 100 evacuees from the Waiohiki community; where some quarter of that number are still residing at the marae today. Ngāti Hāwea, Ngāti Horī and Ngāti Hinemoa are the principal hapū of Waipatu marae, which also resides in the boundaries of Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga and Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement Trust.

## Eskdale & Whirinaki

Eskdale is situated north of Hastings and Napier, slightly inland from the coastal communities of Whirinaki and Bay View, with the critical route of State Highway 5 (Napier-Taupo Road) going through the Esk Valley. The Esk River, which flows through the valley and along the start of SH 5, rose at an extraordinary pace during the cyclone with the volume of water causing the river to breach its banks – at its peak, enough rain fell in the Esk Valley to fill 72 Olympic swimming pool every minute for six hours. Many Eskdale residents evacuated from their homes during the night as the floodwaters rose, and the area was one of the hardest hit in the Hawke’s Bay region. The community suffered two deaths of their own, and many have either completely lost or endured significant damage to their homes and livelihoods – including orchards, vineyards, wineries, the local campground, luxury accommodation and wedding venues, and the historic church. In the wake of the event, the community stood up their own community hub for residents to connect with one another, access supplies and wellbeing support.

Nearby Whirinaki, sits north of the Esk river mouth and close to the Whirinaki power station and PanPac site. With the Esk river overtopping and floodwaters to the north cutting off the road in Tangoio, some homes were flooded with more than 1.2m of water, and the Whirinaki community were completely isolated for days in the aftermath of the cyclone.

## Pakowhai

The settlement of Pakowhai is located on the plains between the Ngaruroro and Tūtaekurī rivers and is close to the rivers’ confluence, it is a popular area for orchardists and growers to occupy for their produce. Flooding of the rivers following the cyclone which burst stop banks throughout the region, caused a torrent of water to be unleashed into Pakowhai on the morning of 14 February. In some areas, the volume of water that flowed through was higher than the houses, there were instances of neighbours rescuing others as the water rose and many residents were rescued from the roof of their home. The community of Pakowhai have suffered the loss of homes, livestock and pets, businesses, and crops to Cyclone Gabrielle.

## Puketapu

Puketapu is one of Hastings’ smaller rural communities, which is 15 minutes from Napier, 25 minutes from Hastings and is home to a combination of farms, orchards, lifestyle blocks, and vineyards. The Tūtaekurī river runs through the middle of the village, and on the night of the cyclone, the swollen river washed the bridge away, splitting the community into a ‘North Puketapu’ and ‘South Puketapu’. One local from the community lost their life in the cyclone and homes were destroyed by floodwaters. Community hubs were stood up on either side of the fractured bridge to support locals and the local pub, currently closed due to damage, continues to provide meals to the community and volunteers on a regular basis, at no charge.



## Twyford

Another of the smaller communities impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle is Twyford, which sits within the Heretaunga plains and alongside the Ngaruroro river. Being situated on fertile land, the area is known for its orchards, vineyards and cropping. The community of Twyford was inundated by floodwaters when the Ngaruroro overtopped its banks during the cyclone.

## Isolated rural communities

A significant number of Hastings' rural communities were isolated due to Cyclone Gabrielle, both through physical access and communication channels. While damage to people's homes in most of these areas was not as widespread as those nearer the Heretaunga plains, the roading network in these areas has been decimated by the event and some pockets remain isolated or limited to 4WD routes only. There has been significant damage to and loss of farmland and livestock for the rural population. Rural communities demonstrated an inherent nature of preparedness and resourcefulness through the event; however, the duration of isolation highlighted the need for bulk fuel supplies to continue to operate vital farm machinery, vehicles and generators. While bearable in the short-term, the extended duration of limited or no access for farmers to move stock has caused immense stress and financial hardship within the farming community.

## RSE community

As a result of the cyclone, up to 800 RSE workers were displaced from their accommodation, particularly through the Pakowhai and Puketapu areas. An existing housing shortage, coupled with the loss of flood-damaged and destroyed homes from the supply, will prove a challenge for supporting RSE workers to settle into the district in the years to come. The flow on impacts of this issue will be a lack of labour to support our region's primary sector to recover and rebuild.

In addition to those listed above, there are impacts from Cyclone Gabrielle which traverse all these communities. Including homes being issued with red or yellow placards, the loss of businesses and livelihoods, isolation in the community, and an increasing feeling of vulnerability and safety concerns.

Throughout the event and its aftermath, a strong sense of community spirit, a willingness to help others and the initiative to stand up community-level support has been observed within all of these communities. An example of this community spirit is the Pacific community who supported the stand up of eight Civil Defence emergency centres for the displaced RSE workers – seven of these centres were self-funded by the Pacific community.

Communities rallied around each other and in partnership with local groups, were able to provide critical welfare support and access to emergency accommodation. A wide variety of groups were involved in the response, all focused on supporting our communities. Some of the major response activities included the establishment and operation of Civil Defence Centres, distribution of emergency food supplies, search and rescue efforts and rapid building assessments.

While the effort and focus of the response and recovery so far have been focussed on those who have been physically affected by the Cyclone, the reality of disaster recovery is that the impacts are felt by the whole community. Many of the developing impacts have their evolution in the way the recovery is managed and the proactivity of agencies in identifying and mitigating these issues. Some potential issues to be managed in Heretaunga include:

- The pressures that incoming rebuild workforce and displaced residents will have on accessing safe, affordable housing for people already in the rental market.
- The ability of the tourism sector to attract visitors to Hawkes Bay and therefore keep businesses open.
- The timing of government decision making and announcements, the impact that has on personal and business decision making regarding their future in the Hawkes Bay
- The diaspora of affected people as they build new lives away from Hawkes Bay and ensuring that they have the same access to support services offered to residents still living in the Hawkes Bay.

# Cyclone Gabrielle Statistics

As of 1st April 2023

## DEATHS & INJURIES

8

Deaths in Hawke's Bay.

300+

Cyclone-related ACC claims.

## EVACUATIONS & DISPLACED PEOPLE

300+

Rescues by emergency services.

30

Communities and pockets cut-off across District.

1,900+

People in evacuation centres (at peak).

1,400+

Whānau displaced from their homes.

## WELFARE & SUPPORT SERVICES

20,000+

Civil Defence (Emergency) Payments.

1,000s

Of food parcels delivered to rural & isolated communities.

## SILT

4,000ha

Of productive soils impacted.

3.5 MILLION m<sup>3</sup> OF SILT

To be cleaned-up. Expected to take many months.

7m<sup>2</sup> PER LOAD APPROX.

500 APPROX. TRUCK MOVEMENTS PER DAY OF SILT ON AV.

(And expected to double)

## DAMAGE TO BUILDINGS

730

Yellow stickered (placards) – access to part(s) of the building only/short term entry only.

103

Red stickered (placards) – no access.

933

Total building inspections completed.

## ECONOMIC IMPACTS



47% OF THE 8,400ha

Planted in apples in the Hawke's Bay has been damaged.

40 OF THE 200 Hawke's Bay wine businesses have been affected.

80% OF THE 150 EST. Pipfruit growers have been affected.

MORE THAN 13,000

Provisional general insurance claims, worth over

\$481 MILLION

For the Hawke's Bay region, related to Cyclone Gabrielle.

Hawke's Bay Mayoral Relief Fund has received

3,938

APPLICATIONS

And has distributed over

\$1.7 MILLION

To 2,910 of the applicants (30 March).

\$10-20 BILLION

Projected impact to national economy.

MBIE'S BUSINESS SUPPORT RELIEF PACKAGE RECEIVED 1,738 Applications worth

\$42 MILLION

## ROADS & BRIDGES

BRIDGES & RIVER CROSSINGS

16 Destroyed beyond repair

28 Significantly damaged.

100km+ Roads to be rebuilt.

600+ Culverts needing replacement.

1,000+ Slips need remediation.

3 WATERS



3 of the 8 small water supplies were damaged.

(TE POHUE, WHIRINAKI, AND ESKDALE).

## WASTE RECOVERY (EST. QUANTITIES) EXCLUDING SILT

28,500 Tonnes household waste.

138,000 Tonnes rural waste.

5 x 20ft

20 to 50 Thousand vehicles and machinery.

25,000 Tonnes demolition waste.

Shipping containers of discarded clothing.

400 tonnes /day

Of flood damaged waste being received at Ōmarunui Landfill (at peak).

## Section 4: Roles and responsibilities

### Roles and responsibilities of agencies involved in recovery

In recovery, collaborative planning and coordinated implementation of work programmes is essential. Mana whenua and Hastings District Council co-lead the development of the Locality Plan for Heretaunga. Hastings District Council will act as the coordination point for recovery management, working closely with partner agencies at the local level, and in doing so will:

- Liaise closely with the Regional Recovery Authority to ensure that Heretaunga priorities are heard at the regional and national levels
- Plan and coordinate recovery actions with the appropriate agencies
- Implement appropriate reporting and tracking of recovery actions, and the overall progress of the recovery effort in Heretaunga
- Work to ensure that the community are informed about the progress of the recovery and ensure that people have the information they need to make decisions about their personal situations.
- Ensure the regional objectives for recovery are realised in the implementation of Heretaunga Locality Plan.
- Provide opportunities for affected communities to have input into recovery activities

Government departments participate in recovery through the pou and the delivery of recovery services to affected communities. Integrated planning to address the recovery activities should be undertaken by participating agencies.

Pou	Participating Agencies
<b>Recovery Transition</b>	Hastings District Council, Hawkes Bay CDEM Group
<b>Community and Whānau Wellbeing</b>	Hastings District Council, Ministry for Social Development (MSD), Te Whatu Ora, Te Puni Kōkiri (TPK), Red Cross,  Housing: Temporary Accommodation Service (TAS), Ministry for Housing & Urban Development (MHUD), Kāinga Ora (KO), Hastings District Council.
<b>Resilient Infrastructure</b>	Hastings District Council, Waka Kotahi, Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC)
<b>Primary Sector</b>	Hastings District Council, Rural Advisory Group (RAG), Hastings District Rural Community Board, Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI)
<b>Economic Growth</b>	Hastings District Council, Hawke's Bay Chamber of Commerce, Hawke's Bay Regional Economic Development Agency (REDA), Ministry of Business Innovation & Employment (MBIE)
<b>Environmental Resilience</b>	Hastings District Council, Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC)

## Leadership of this Locality Plan

Hastings District Council and mana whenua partners have agreed that the leadership for the development of the Locality Plan for Heretaunga is a joint undertaking and will co-author the document and co-govern the implementation of the work programme.

Recovery can only be achieved through many parties working together to achieve a common goal. To facilitate this a leader has been identified for each Pou involved in the Heretaunga Locality Plan. This person will coordinate with the appropriate agencies and organisations (mana whenua, government, NGO, business or otherwise) to align the programme of work for each Pou. They will also bring the Heretaunga perspective to regional level coordination with the Regional Recovery Agency, and represent Heretaunga at the national level, if required.

It is envisaged that each Pou lead will work closely with mana whenua in Heretaunga to ensure that mātauranga Māori and kaupapa Māori aspirations, contexts and realities are upheld, supported and strengthened where direct Māori community/organisational engagement occurs. This will not only ensure community safety and wellbeing but Council-led Pou wellbeing and safety too. If the Pou leader(s) are not familiar with and or confident to ensure that kaupapa Māori and mātauranga Māori aspirations are met, then they will engage with the council Pou Ahurea Team who will advise and or lead accordingly. It is imperative that kaupapa Māori and mātauranga Māori are respected and embedded across all recovery practice.

## **Section 5: The Six Pou Impacts, Objectives, Priorities and Actions**

FIRE EXIT

OOOH! THERE'S  
SO MANY SAVINGS  
IN HERE!

PUKETITIRI  
PAK N SAVE

Recovery Transition



## Recovery Transition

Transitioning to Recovery is about how our communities' progress from temporary response-based support to more lasting solutions. This journey will take varying lengths of time for different communities in Heretaunga given the range of impacts and experiences following Cyclone Gabrielle.

Our collective response efforts supported thousands across Heretaunga during a challenging time. At the peak of the event, the Hastings District was almost completely without power and cell phone service. Napier and Hastings were totally cut off from each other by road. Damage to critical infrastructure meant that a coordinated response was difficult to achieve in the early days.

After 30 days under a State of National Emergency, a Period of National Transition was declared on 14 March for a period of 90 days. This formally signalled a move away from emergency support to longer term recovery. However, this did not mean that all response efforts stopped.

A priority during the period of transition has been maintaining continuity in response efforts where these are still required. Some of our rural communities remained isolated when we moved to the Transition Period. For them, the response was far from over and as a collective, we are committed to support them for as long as needed. As time moves on, it is expected that support will be provided by agencies whose usual function it is to do so, as opposed to through temporary response arrangements.



## Priorities

### Isolated communities resupply

Supply to isolated communities has been a continuing focus from response through to transition. This has been a significant undertaking involving Defence Force assets and a significant logistics operation based at the Tōmoana Showgrounds. Thousands of food parcels have been delivered since this operation was activated. As access is restored across the district, the number of people supported through this programme has progressively declined. Some communities still remain isolated however such as Mangatutu. It is anticipated that a limited number of households will continue to be supported through this programme for the next 1-2 months.

### Supply management

A significant amount of food, clothing and bedding was donated following the Cyclone. While a lot of this has been distributed, some of it is unable to be used and will need to be reallocated. A programme of work is underway in conjunction with community partners to ensure these goods are utilised to the best possible extent.

### Operational decommissioning

A significant amount of assets were deployed into the field during the response. From portaloos to fuel tanks, services were put in place to ensure our communities had what they needed. Now that these are no longer required, a programme of work is underway to ensure that everything is returned and made safe. Some assets will remain in place in order to increase resilience to future events. For example, some of the fuel tanks acquired will remain in place so that they can be easily reactivated should an area ever become isolated again.

### Community hubs

Community hubs were established during the early response to the Cyclone. They initially served as somewhere residents could shelter during the day and access food and other essential supplies. As time went on the focus of these hubs has shifted to providing information and support to residents seeking assistance. A wide range of agencies have been involved in the operation of these hubs and many have been strongly driven by local residents.

## Readiness & Re-escalation Planning

It is important that we are prepared for future events, particularly while we are recovering from Cyclone Gabrielle. Work is underway to ensure we support rural communities with winter preparedness. We are also working on plans to ensure the impact of any future weather events which might cause communities to become cut off again are minimised

### Actions

The following initial actions are proposed to progress our recovery:

Initiative Name	Cost	Lead Agency	Timeframe for implementation	How this initiative will help achieve the objective(s) and priorities
<b>Isolated community resupply</b>	\$150,000	HDC & HBCDEM	3 months	This service will ensure the continuing welfare needs of isolated communities are met.
<b>Supply management</b>	\$50,000	HDC	6 months	This will ensure that all supplies received are managed appropriately and utilised effectively.
<b>Operational decommissioning</b>	\$300,000	HDC & HBCDEM	3 months	Program will ensure that all deployed assets are made safe and opportunities to increase resilience to future events are realised.
<b>Community hubs</b>	\$150,000	HDC	3 months	Community hubs ensure residents have access to timely support and that their views are appropriately captured and used to inform recovery planning.
<b>Readiness &amp; Re-escalation planning</b>	\$560,000	HDC	12 months	Appropriate and early planning will ensure our communities are well equipped to respond to events which compound the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle.

# Environmental Resilience



## Environmental Resilience

### Impacts

The Hawke's Bay Regional Recovery Framework acknowledges and provides for the Hawke's Bay Regional Council to co-develop and co-author with iwi, hapū and Community, a Resilience Plan and environmental strategy for Te Matau-a-Māui Hawkes Bay. This will cover many of the elements of the Environmental Resilience Pou for the Heretaunga locality. We recognise these discussions are ongoing and will not attempt to pre-empt this important work here.

Notwithstanding this, there will be longer term land use and resource management implications to be addressed. This will include avoiding, mitigating or remedying the effects of future natural events and improving climate resilience. This involves conversations that we will need to have over the coming months. However, some of this work needs to occur now to lay the foundations for community engagement and investment decision making.

Cyclone Gabrielle significantly impacted our natural environment. These impacts can be summarised under the following headings:

#### Land use

- Widespread landslips and slumping in the hill country, caused a massive amount of silt to be deposited in the main river valleys and large parts of the Heretaunga Plains. This blanketed otherwise highly productive land causing damage to properties and crops.
- This raises important questions around future land use planning. The future productive capacity of soils may have been compromised by excessive silt deposits, and some areas may no longer be viable for residential settlement. Considerations around the extent to which resource management and land use controls are necessary in answering these questions as are conversations with our communities. People's risk appetites may have changed, and our understanding of hazardous areas will likely improve as a result of this event.

### Indigenous ecosystems, biodiversity, and conservation

- Our natural areas including native forests, riparian margins and aquatic ecosystems all suffered significant damage. These all affect indigenous biodiversity. By their nature, the damage to natural ecosystems may take some months if not years to be fully understood. Hawke's Bay Regional Council is proposing a significant body of research on the biophysical, biodiversity and ecosystem impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle across the region, including the area covered by this plan.
- Related to this is the damage to riparian planting caused by the Cyclone. This has a negative effect on water quality as well as biodiversity. In the rural areas, riparian planting will require a significant effort over a long period of time. This is necessary to both restore pre-cyclone environmental levels and increase resilience to future events.
- We recognise the need to consider native afforestation and increase native plantings. Incentivising native planting to improve biodiversity and land stabilisation is something we wish to consider as a part of our medium to long term recovery.

### Climate change

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges facing our people. Over time, events like Cyclone Gabrielle may increase in their frequency and severity. Climate change scenarios will need to be remodelled to ensure our communities are appropriately placed to adapt.

It is important that recovery actions developed across this plan take into account climate mitigation and adaptation. This may require changes to the way that we use some areas of land as well as more innovative and novel flood protections schemes.

### Waste

Waste from Cyclone Gabrielle is a significant and immediate issue. Silt and woody debris combined with extensive damage to buildings and their contents produced large amounts of organic and inorganic waste.

While no formal or informal landfills were known to be uncovered by the Cyclone, there is the potential for increased farm waste burial and burning of waste over the short term.

## Water security

Water security and quality is of vital importance to the wellbeing of our land and people. Hawke's Bay Regional Council has primary responsibility for managing water security under the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FWM) and as an infrastructure provider.

Adverse events like Cyclone Gabrielle can affect the health of our water. While these impacts are still being assessed, there is the potential to make the way we use water more efficient and sustainable, and to do so in a way which recognises Te Mana o te Wai.

## Objectives

We recognise the need to embed the principles from the Regional Recovery Framework into our environmental recovery. These include a desire to promote greater climate resilience and acknowledging the need to work with Te Taiao. With respect to these principles and addressing the environmental impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle, our key objectives are:

- To promote sustainable use of organic waste streams
- To develop robust plans for climate change mitigation and adaptation
- To support increased community resilience to future weather events and climate related challenges
- To develop a holistic approach to rural land and resource use which puts environmental sustainability and community resilience at heart.
- To ensure rural resettlement and urban growth is equitable and appropriately considers natural hazards and environmental values
- To increase resilience to future events through measures which support native afforestation and riparian planting.

## Priorities

This initial Locality Plan is focussed on what we need to do in the immediate term to help our communities stand strong again. The longer-term environmental recovery actions will be developed in subsequent plans and through involving our communities.

Silt and waste management is an urgent priority where considerable effort is already being diverted. The scale of operations in place is discussed in further detail in the Resilient Infrastructure section of this plan.

Many dependencies exist in determining the scale of our environmental recovery. Key decisions which are necessary to determine the type of resilience interventions (e.g., flood protection) we will pursue are yet to be made.

Despite this, the following are considered priorities to progress the longer term thinking required. These support possible adaptation measures for our communities and allow Heretaunga to build back better. We are committed to removing uncertainty and providing stability to communities wherever possible. In light of this, our priorities are as follows:

- Investigate alternative rural settlement options
- Commission a Waste to Energy Feasibility Study
- Develop a Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience Strategy.

## Actions

The following initial actions are proposed to progress our environmental recovery:

Initiative Name	Cost	Lead Agency	Timeframe for implementation	How this initiative will help achieve the objective(s) and priorities
<b>Waste to Energy Feasibility Study</b>	\$500,000	Hawke's Bay Regional Economic Development Agency	12 Months	This project would determine feasible options for organic waste materials (e.g., woody biomass and organic feedstock) with a view to creating a pathway for sustainable local energy generation.

<b>Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Strategy</b>	\$750,000	HDC & HBRC	18 Months	A comprehensive place-based climate change adaptation and resilience strategy to support communities in preparing for a changing climate and placing them in a better position to respond to future events.
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# Community & Whānau Wellbeing

## Community & Whānau Wellbeing

Cyclone Gabrielle has been described as New Zealand’s biggest weather-related disaster this century. The impact on community and whānau wellbeing has been immense and will be ongoing for years to come.

In order for our community and whānau to recover there must be the right support available at the right time. Social recovery following a disaster should support communities and co-ordinate efforts to influence the short, medium and long-term holistic regeneration of the community.

Heretaunga is a diverse community and different cultural groups were heavily affected by Cyclone Gabrielle. Many different communities have contributed to the development of this plan including mana whenua and the Pacific Community. The submissions provided have been appended in their entirety in this document.

### Impacts

#### Welfare

Cyclone Gabrielle caused considerable demand for community and government welfare support. A multi-agency approach was deployed to attempt to understand and meet the welfare needs of local communities. In the short term, there was considerable demand for food and essential supplies which required a regional and local distribution centre to be established. Thousands of food parcels were delivered to rural and isolated communities and some deliveries are still ongoing. In addition, over 20,000 emergency Civil Defence Payments were made, and peri-urban and rural community hubs were established with some still bring in operation.

In the medium to long term, demand on government and community organisations for support is likely to remain higher than normal as economic, health and cultural impacts are worked through by communities.

### Community connectedness

During the immediate aftermath of Cyclone Gabrielle, communities came together to support each other. Some communities set up hubs providing support, resource and information to each other. It appeared that communities which were more 'connected' both through formal and informal networks were in a much better position to provide this support than those that were not well connected prior to the event.

It should also be noted that where communities have been displaced, even though they may have been well connected prior to the event, it will be challenging to keep those connections as people move away, either temporarily or permanently.

### Accommodation and Housing Demand

It is estimated that in excess of 1400 whānau were displaced from their homes following Cyclone Gabrielle. This displacement comes on top of existing housing shortages across Hawke's Bay and places additional pressure on an already tight local accommodation market.

Over 800 homes in the Hastings District have received either a red or yellow placard by Hastings District Council building inspectors. For some of these property owners, the clean-up and rebuild of their homes will take a significant period of time.

Others may choose to move elsewhere, and some areas may no longer be considered suitable for residential accommodation. We recognise the need to support our communities through this process and are investigating ways to make accessing services simple and efficient.

Emergency accommodation was provided in the days following the event through Civil Defence and Community Led Centres. Displaced whānau have subsequently moved into accommodation provided through the Temporary Accommodation Service (run by the Ministry of Business Innovation & Employment (MBIE)) with over 100 households already placed through this service. We recognise the need to create additional capacity at pace to enable the more temporary accommodation to be brought online. Partners under the Hastings Place-based Housing Plan are working together to bring additional sections online and expedite building solutions in conjunction with MBIE.

## Health, Safety & Wellbeing

The health, safety and wellbeing of the community will play a huge part in its recovery. Many communities are feeling vulnerable and have concerns about their own and the security of their property especially if they are not residing there. This only compounds the psychosocial needs of the community after an event of this magnitude.

Council's role in nurturing connections will be very important for both the immediate and ongoing health, safety and wellbeing of the community.

## Objectives

The recovery processes should attempt, where possible, to increase social capital, stimulate livelihoods and economies, rebuild resilient infrastructure, strengthen institutions, and invest in the health and wellbeing of communities.

## Priorities

- Communities are empowered and supported to develop their own Community Recovery Plans. (Communities in this context are not limited to geographic communities, they may be communities of interest, cultural communities etc).
- Communities are able to implement their Community Recovery Plans using the resources and supports in place.
- Individuals are supported to identify their needs and meet them.
- Rangatahi specifically are supported and feel heard as they navigate their own way through the impacts that Cyclone Gabrielle has had on them.
- Social cohesion is enhanced, the sense of isolation is reduced, and the sense of wellbeing is improved through the arts, culture, recreational and learning opportunities for all age groups, with emphasis on whānau.
- Whānau feel safe and secure as they rebuild their communities and start to recover from the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle.

## Actions

The following initial actions are proposed to progress our recovery:

Initiative Name (# on community and whānau HDC recovery bid)	Cost	Lead Agency	Timeframe for implementation	How this initiative will help achieve the objective(s) and priorities
<b>Community Recovery Plans (31)</b>	\$1,140,000	HDC	May – Aug 2024	The resource required to enable community-led community recovery plan development. This resource will support communities to take the lead for their own recovery and resilience and will be specific to their needs. This information gained from these will guide the next iteration of the locality plan. This resource will be needed for a number of years to support community to implement their plans. P1
<b>Community Navigators (32)</b>	\$1,020,000	HDC	May ongoing	The resource required to assist with individual needs when guiding through recovery. This resource may look after the many 'issues' left over from the response. e.g., work with individuals whose land has been used for access, as well as those navigating through multiple agencies for support. P3
<b>Community Grants (8)</b>	\$1,000,000	HDC/NGOs	Annually	Provides a larger contestable amount of funding available for smaller local community organisations to continue working with our communities that are in the more affected areas. P2
<b>Rangatahi focussed recovery (9, 19)</b>	\$1,168,000	HDC and partners	Next 12 months	Five different initiatives to support rangatahi wellbeing and resilience through jobs, arts and culture, connectedness and other opportunities that meet the needs of rangatahi as identified by them, as they work their way through the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle. P 2 & 4
<b>Connectedness through sport</b>	\$575,000	Sport HB	Annually	This resource will provide support programmes to reduce barriers, increase access, and support participation in sport

<b>(17)</b>				and physical activity. In doing so this will provide improved community wellbeing focusing on health outcomes and connectedness targeting some of the most affected areas following the cyclone. P 2 & 5
<b>Connectedness through arts and events (18, 23,24,25,26)</b>	\$932,700	HDC with partners	Annually	Various events focussed targeting all aspects of the community, many out in the affected communities specifically including in schools. P 2 & 5
<b>Resilience through schools (6,7)</b>	\$1,472,000	MoE	Next 12 months	Two initiatives to improve rural resilience centred around schools and also to assist with psychological support for tamariki affected by the cyclone. P 2 & 5
<b>Regional initiatives (1-5b)</b>	\$62,760,000	MSD	Next 12-18months	The Regional Public Sector partnership's initial view of resource required for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to build Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke's Bay back better, safer and smarter. Ob 1-6
<b>Mana whenua Engagement</b>	\$500,000	HDC	Next 12 months	This programme supports additional resource to empower mana whenua to meaningfully engage in recovery planning. It provides additional FTE resource to support each of the zones in their planning.
<b>Communications &amp; Engagement</b>	\$945,000	HDC	Next 12 months	A package of work to support community involvement and input into subsequent recovery planning exercises. This also supports the additional communications work that will be required through recovery.
<b>Rural Community Hubs</b>	\$4,000,000	Hastings District Council	2023-2026	A financial assistance package that supports the upgrading of 20 identified existing community halls. The package includes the provision of site upgrades, onsite Epro Civil Defence Containers, Water Supplies, Hall Catering, Toilet and

				Shower upgrades. The expansion of these facilities will greatly increase resilience to future events.
<b>Housing &amp; Building Recovery Initiatives (33-42)</b>	\$9,800,000	HDC & Partners	12-18 months	A package of initiatives that support the provision of quality accommodation to our residents. A range of housing projects are contemplated in conjunction with partners under the Hastings Place-based Housing Plan. More detail on these projects can be found in the Regional Housing Recovery Plan. Also included is ongoing support for building inspections and placard management.

# Resilient Infrastructure





## Resilient Infrastructure

### Scope

Resilient core infrastructure is important for keeping our communities connected and supporting them to live fulfilling lives. Discussions in this plan primarily relate to infrastructure managed by Hastings District Council. While infrastructure managed by others is relevant, it is not directly considered through this plan. It is also acknowledged that key infrastructure providers (e.g., Waka Kotahi and Unison) will be submitting their own recovery plans to Government in due course.

### Waste

#### Impacts

Cyclone Gabrielle has created significant waste stream issues in the waste management environment, over and above what Heretaunga would normally deal with. The estimated waste quantities from the event are thought to be as follows:

- Silt – 3.5 million m<sup>3</sup>
- Household waste – 28,500 tonnes
- Rural waste – 138,000 tonnes
- Demolition waste – 25,000 tonnes
- Vehicles & Machinery – 20-50,000 units
- Greenwaste – Unknown

The Hastings District Council and Hawke’s Bay Regional Council are collaborating on the removal of silt across the district. Several sites have been identified and quickly bought online to collect and store silt and flood damaged waste. Contractors have been clearing silt and flood damaged waste since the beginning of the event with over 800 truck movements being recorded each week.

Following the Cyclone, the Landfill and Transfer Stations were closed for several days. This caused significant pressure on these sites when they opened. The increased waste following the event is necessitating the bringing forward of commissioning a new valley at the Ōmarunui Landfill.

## Objectives

Our objectives with regard to waste are as follows:

- Investigate and provide options on facilities, services and potential end uses for waste
- Support the continued removal of waste from affected areas
- Minimise the quantity of waste going to landfill
- Minimise the effects of silt and flood damaged waste to the environment by ensuring it is stored and disposed of safely.

## Priorities

Our immediate priority is to help affected communities quickly dispose of waste and resume as close to normal life as possible, while also reducing the negative environmental impact i.e., Enabling waste stream reuse, repurposing and recycling where possible.

## Actions

Silt collection and disposal

- The Joint Silt Taskforce between Hastings District Council & Hawke's Bay Regional Council are working to remove and store the silt that was deposited following the event.
- Sites for storage are continuing to be identified as are potential end uses for the silt.
- This work is estimated to take three years at a projected cost of \$266m

Continued disposal of flood-damaged household waste

- We recognise that the waste streams created by the Cyclone will be immense for households and businesses. Hastings District Council has been collecting flood damaged household goods to assist residents in their clean-up effort. All eligible communities have had their initial collections completed.
- Hastings District Council has disposed of 8,500 tonnes of flood damaged household waste. It is estimated that a further 20,000 tonnes are yet to be disposed of.
- Flood damaged waste disposal is estimated to cost a total of \$11m

Rebuild of the Ōmarunui Landfill weighbridge and kiosk

- Both of these were damaged during the event. While temporary fixes have been implemented, further investment is required to ensure a more resilient model

#### Minimising waste to landfill

- By reviewing and correctly managing waste streams through detailed communication with positive community engagement to insurers and contractors alike, applying levels of support where applicable.

#### Fast-tracking establishment of the next valley at Ōmarunui Landfill.

- This project commenced before the Cyclone but now needs to be sped up as a priority in order to enable waste from the Cyclone to be accommodated.

## Parks and Reserves

### Impacts

The wind and rain that accompanied Cyclone Gabrielle caused damage to several of our parks and reserves. Fallen trees were a common sight following the event and a significant amount of debris needed clearing.

Several rural river esplanade reserves were affected as were the following parks and reserves include:

- Eskdale Park
- Havelock Hills Reserves (Tainui, Tauroa, Hikanui, Kingsgate, Palmbrook),
- Maraetotara Falls
- Puketapu
- Pakowhai Country Park
- Windsor Park
- Evers-Swindell Reserve

We recognise that some of the long term solutions in some communities will depend on land-use decisions and aligning community expectations. It may take some time before enduring solutions can be implemented which may look different to pre-cyclone facilities.

### Objectives

- Support community wellbeing by restoring a basic level of amenity for local residents
- Enable communities to thrive through by providing quality parks and reserves.
- Increase resilience of parks and reserves to future weather events

## Priorities

- Removal of debris and ensuring the safety of any trees or structures which may have been damaged
- Repairing basic facilities where necessary
- Commencing planning with the community for permanent solutions to affected parks and reserves

## Actions

- Planning the recovery (scoping & consultation about levels of amenity, prioritising, programming all the reinstatement projects)
- Undertaking reinstatement projects including remediation and renewal of trees, stump removals and ground reinstatement, landscaping and fencing, replacement of park furniture, and restoration of toilets and building facilities.

## Transport

### Impacts

- 16 bridges destroyed
- 28 bridges significantly damaged
- 13,000 culverts require either unblocking, repairing, replacing, or upgrading
- 100km+ roads to be rebuilt
- 1000+ slips need remediation

Cyclone Gabrielle significantly affected our local transport network. As a result of slips of bridges being destroyed, many rural communities became isolated for an extended period of time. This created challenges for these communities in meeting their basic welfare needs and resulted in a multi-agency resupply effort into these communities.

Over 100 contractors have been working on roading and access restoration since the event. At its peak, an estimated \$600k per day were being spent on emergency roading works by Hastings District Council. A complete rebuild/repair of local roads will take an extended period of time to implement. Parts of the district remain inaccessible, and road and bridge assessments are still being carried out where possible.

Our transport recovery will create funding challenges for the Hastings District Council. While much of the estimated \$800m cost will be able to be met by Government and insurance, the local share will still be significant. Hastings District Council is working with insurers and Government partners to fully understand how our Transport recovery will be met.

We acknowledge that our partners Waka Kotahi and Kiwirail also suffered damage to their assets in the region. We are committed to working alongside our regional and national partners to deliver the best solutions for our communities.

## Objectives

We want a transport network that provides connectivity for our communities, is fit for purpose and is resilient to environmental challenges. Our objectives for transport recovery are as follows:

- Restore access to communities as quickly as possible
- Reduce the number and duration of unplanned road closures
- Increase community readiness for loss of connectivity
- Reduce the cost of repetitive road repairs
- Increase the resilience of key transport corridors (e.g., SH2, SH5)
- Involve the community in our long-term transportation recovery planning

## Priorities

### Short-term

The short-term priorities for infrastructure are to reinstate amenity and services to communities, to a basic level of functionality, so that communities can operate and exist as close to normal as possible.

This includes:

- **Access for isolated communities** – Most isolated communities have been reconnected through the response work, however, there are still pockets of communities that are not connected. While establishing this initial access is nearly complete, finishing the final temporary connections will still take some months.
- **Improved resilience for rural communities** – Many of the connections established are temporary in nature and are providing a lower level of service than before the Cyclone. These are not as resilient to rising river levels or flooding as a more permanent solution. Our priorities have already been shifting from establishing initial access towards increasing the resilience of the short-term solutions.
- **Planning the recovery** – To design and construct the permanent solutions, the process of community consultation, optioneering and design must all be prioritised.

## Long-term

The long-term priority for infrastructure is to establish amenity and services for communities, that are fit-for-purpose and more resilient to a changing environment. Specifically:

- **Rebuild** the rural road network to a level of service that provides:
  - Rural communities with safe and reliable permanent access.
  - Resilience to changing climate conditions, including adopting options identified under the Hastings Transport Resilience Program Business Case prior to the cyclone.

## Actions

- Program of scoping, design and delivery of rural road rebuild including all the initiatives outlined in the table to rebuild or repair the bridges, culverts, road surface and landslip impacts. This is estimated to cost approximately \$200m per annum for 4-5 years.
- There may be additional works from the Hastings Transport Resilience Program Business Case, which could be incorporated into the recovery efficiently that are not already covered by the work in the rebuild.
- Advocate for improved resilience of State Highway Links through Waka Kotahi including the following:
  - SH2 north realignment (Waikare to Eskdale)
  - SH2 Heretaunga Plains update (four lane expressway/bridges)
  - SH5 realignment and reinstatement (Taupo Road)



Project description	Timeframe	Immediate focus
<p><b>Bridges</b></p> <p>16 bridges destroyed</p> <p>28 major damage</p> <p>50 minor damage</p> <p>Reinstatement of bridges and level of service is determined by land use decisions, flood protection measures and community resilience planning</p>	Medium – long timeframe	<p>Focus for next 6 months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintaining access for livestock movement and welfare supplies</li> <li>▪ Prioritisation of bridge work</li> <li>▪ Scoping for each bridge rebuild project</li> <li>▪ Identification of resources needed</li> </ul>
<p><b>Culverts</b></p> <p>5 culverts needing replacement with bridges</p> <p>20 large culverts needing replacement</p> <p>600 other culverts needing replacement</p>	Medium – long timeframe	<p>Focus for next 6 months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clearing and repairing culverts to allow for access to isolated areas</li> <li>▪ Prioritisation of culvert work</li> <li>▪ Scoping</li> <li>▪ Identification of resources needed</li> </ul>
<p><b>Slips</b></p> <p>150 large slips</p> <p>1000 small-medium slips</p>	Medium – long timeframe	<p>Focus for next 6 months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prioritisation</li> <li>▪ Scoping</li> <li>▪ Resource identification</li> </ul>
<p><b>Roads and Footpaths</b></p> <p>Estimated a total of 100km of road rebuilding will be required</p> <p>Reinstatement of roads and levels of service will be determined by land use decisions and flood protection measures</p>	Medium – long timeframe	<p>Focus for next 6 months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintaining access for livestock movement and wellbeing supplies</li> <li>▪ Prioritisation of roading work</li> <li>▪ Scoping for each roading rebuild project</li> <li>▪ Identification of resources needed</li> </ul>

## Dependencies and Constraints

- The scale and scope of the bridge rebuilds depends entirely on the decisions made about flood protection measures. If the flood protection regime changes either the height of the stop banks or the width of the zone, the size and cost implications for the bridges are significant. Also, if the stop banks are raised, some of the existing bridges that do not require rebuilds, will have to be augmented or rebuilt. Any review of these levels of service will significantly delay the development and construction of some long term roading and bridge solutions.
- Land use decisions will also affect the level of service provided in some areas which will affect decisions on reinstatement of roads and bridges.
- The scale of the work required is such that how quickly it can be delivered is likely to be constrained by availability of engineering and construction resources.
- Materials availability - Before the cyclone, there has been stress on supply chains for some time. Availability of materials will influence the solutions adopted and therefore the cost and timing of installation may be affected.
- Funding constraints – The magnitude of the program of works required is significantly larger than what would normally be contemplated in the region. Significant external funding and resource is required to deliver this work in a timely way.

## 3 Waters

### Impacts

#### Drinking Water

Some of the district's small drinking water supplies were significantly impacted by the Cyclone. Te Pohue, Whirinaki and Esk were all either off line or under a boil water notice for an extended period of time in particular. All three are now back online but will require additional work to be returned to a pre-cyclone operational state. An unknown number of private water supplies have also been affected. These remaining issues are likely to take some time to resolve.

#### Wastewater

Power to the Wastewater Treatment Plant was out for several days. HDC was able to maintain levels of service through back-up diesel generators. There were some minor wastewater overflows across the network due to floodwaters entering the system. Septic tanks were also affected. HDC continue to work with contractors to assist affected properties.

#### Stormwater

Power was lost to many stormwater pumpstations during the event. Streams in the Havelock North area were affected by fallen trees and slips. In the short term this meant significant work was required to clear debris from drains and streams. Most pumpstations are back online but debris clearance remains an ongoing operation.

Damage to the channel of the Maraetotara River at Te Awanga was also cause by floodwaters from the Cyclone. This damage is leaving some properties at risk from water intrusion from high seas.

### Objectives

The objective for the three waters programme is to provide safe drinking water and resilient wastewater services while ensuring that property and life is protected from the impacts of stormwater.

### Priorities

The priorities for the Three Waters will be:

- To establish long term solutions for some of the impacted small drinking water supplies.
- Resilience planning for the Wastewater Treatment Plant at East Clive.
- Investigating the stormwater system performance, including the five major streams, in the Havelock North area and considering appropriate solutions.

## Actions

- Identify the most effective solution for the long-term water supply at Whirinaki and Esk.
- Work with relevant communities on private drinking water supplies to determine whether connecting to a municipal supply is now appropriate.
- Resilience planning for the Wastewater Treatment Plant including bunding some of the site and installing pumps to clear the water.
- Resilience capacity building through installing permanent generators at critical wastewater and drinking water sites.
- Investigate the future appropriateness of the Havelock North Dams.
- Construct a revetment to repair damage to the Maraetotara River channel to increase the area’s resilience to future weather events and protect homes in Wellwood Terrace and Kuku Street.

Initiative Name	Cost	Timeframe for implementation	How this initiative will help achieve the objective(s) and priorities
<b>Landfill Acceleration (Construction of new valley)</b>	\$15,000,000	2023-2025	Construction of a new landfill ensures waste from the Cyclone can be processed quickly and stored safely.
<b>Havelock North Stream Improvements</b>	\$20,000,000	2024-2026	A project to provide increased levels of service for stormwater in the Havelock North Area. This will increase resilience to future heavy rain events.
<b>Maraetotara Revetment</b>	\$500,000	2023-2024	A project to provide additional resilience to Te Awanga following damage from Cyclone Gabrielle. A rock revetment will be built to address damage to the Maraetotara River channel and protect homes from water intrusion from high seas. This project will take approximately 6-9 months and will be subject to a potential resource consenting process.
<b>WWTP Flood Mitigation</b>	\$3,000,000	2025-2027	This project will deliver bunding of the East Clive Wastewater Treatment Plant making the site more resilient in future events.

<b>Regional Resource Recovery Centre</b>	\$25,400,000	2023-2026	Business casing and delivery of a regional resource recovery centre. This project supports a shift to more sustainable modes of industry and better uses of waste following Cyclone Gabrielle.
<b>Landfill repairs</b>	\$1,300,000	2023-2024	Installation of a new weighbridge and kiosk at the Ōmarunui Landfill. This provides improved resilience for our community.
<b>Household waste</b>	\$11,000,000	2023-2024	Ongoing collection and disposal of flood damaged waste. This enables communities to clean up their properties and begin the process of rebuilding
<b>Silt collection</b>	\$266,000,000	2023-2025	A joint program with HBRC, this enables the collection and safe disposal of silt. Silt removal supports our communities rebuilding efforts.
<b>Open Space and Parks restoration - urban</b>	\$3,600,000	2023-late 2024	This project seeks to restore amenity to pre-cyclone levels for urban parks and increase resilience to future events.
<b>Open Space and Parks restoration - rural</b>	\$3,440,000	2023-late 2024	This project seeks to restore amenity to pre-cyclone levels for rural reserves and increase resilience to future events.
<b>Local Roothing</b>	\$800,000,000	2023-2027	A package of scoping, design and delivery of bridges, culverts, and roads. This supports our transportation recovery and restores connectivity to communities. The total cost is highly dependent on the restoration of the flood protection scheme.
<b>Three Waters Recovery</b>	\$5,000,000	2023-2025	Restore Whirinaki water supply, stormwater infrastructure repair and tree clearance in Havelock North streams, groyne repair to protect outfall, and make all systems more resilient with measures such as generators and investigating potential new sites.  Restoration of safe drinking water, reliable wastewater services and protection of property and life through effective stormwater services.

# Primary Sector



## Primary Sector

### Impacts

Cyclone Gabrielle caused significant on-farm property damage and loss of income to parts of the Hastings District including Rissington, Upper Dartmoor, Pātoka, Puketitiri, Eskdale, Te Haroto, Te Pōhue, Tūtira, Pūtōrino and Kahurānaki. It is estimated that 400 farms over 50 hectares have been impacted. Lifestyle blocks have also been impacted but accurate numbers have not been quantified.

### Horticulture

Cyclone Gabrielle also caused catastrophic damage to the horticulture sector on the flood plains of the Ngaruroro, Tūtaekurī and Esk Rivers. This resulted in the destruction of orchards including trees, houses and infrastructure, the complete loss of field crops and long-term production damage from millions of tonnes of deposited silt. This damage poses a significant risk to business survival and employment in the region.

### Farming

On-farm damage includes loss of stock, fencing, roading, culverts and bridges, riparian plantings, erosion plantings, forestry, sheep and cattle yards, water supplies (including dams) and pasture from widespread slipping.

Much of this loss is uninsurable, with farm insurances covering residential and building damage but limiting the per event per farm cover to \$25k for fencing, \$20k for drains and culverts with livestock losses only being covered for 'exposure' from weather events post shearing. Forestry cover typically relates to a fire risk and the cost of fire suppression. Loss of income or business interruption insurance is hard to access.

Additionally, the Cyclone damage to the North Islands largest wool scourer, Woolworks at Awatoto and the simultaneous breakdown of a large wool dumping site has led to a North Island wool price collapse and a large supply chain disruption. This disruption is expected to last 6-12 months and may result further cash flow stress to farmers.

## Lifelines

Many areas suffered the loss of access, electricity supply and large-scale roading infrastructure damage. The electricity supply has been restored to most areas.

While the Hastings District Council and Waka Kotahi have largely restored access across the district, some of this access remains vulnerable to other weather events and a wet winter. Animal movements are particularly vulnerable in Tūtira and Pūtōrino because of reliance on the Devil's Elbow section of State Highway 2.

The Rural Recovery Pou assistance package seeks to assist farmers and small block holders to return production to pre-Cyclone levels where possible by helping with uninsurable losses. This is further assisted with psychosocial support, knowledge transfer and the enhancement of community hubs to provide resilience for future events.

The recovery package has been developed after consultation with affected growers, farmers, the Rural Advisory Group, and Hastings District Rural Community Board and best reflects the recovery needs and businesses, communities, and rural families post-Cyclone Gabrielle. The total requested is \$808 million.

## Objectives

Recovery in the Primary Sector Pou intends to return farmers, small block holders and growers to their production levels pre-Cyclone, and to provide resilience for future events. The key objectives to enable this include:

- Financial help with uninsurable losses for farmers and growers
- Psychosocial support and knowledge transfer
- Enhancement of community hubs in the rural communities
- Scaling up of erosion planting
- Reconsideration of land use practices



## Priorities

### Horticultural Recovery Package

\$700 million package to support the recovery of the horticulture sector to restore the economic strength of this sector to Hawke's Bay economy. This package is to cover large uninsurable losses, restoration of the productive capacity and financial support to minimize business failure and job losses.

### Farm Needs Assessment

\$2 million to support individual farm needs assessment (non-horticultural) confirming damage, uninsurable losses, options for restoration, erosion control plantings and land-use changes including retirement. This assessment will be completed by farm owners in collaboration with an independent verification in a similar fashion to a loss adjustment. This assessment will be used as the basis for applying to the Rural Recovery Fund. \$5k per property will be allocated to complete the assessment.

### Recovery Fund

- \$100 million needs-assessed fund available to fund uninsurable losses identified from the Rural Recovery Farm Needs Assessment. This fund is in addition to the \$10k per property initial response funding and will consider recovery claims for money already spent. It will support an estimated 400 properties including lifestyle blocks by exemption (for serious financial hardship).
- The scale of the damage is still being assessed and the quantum has been assessed by the Rural Advisory Group using Beef+LambNZ assessment tools and data provided by an online survey completed by 400 respondents. This number is likely to require further refinement.  
The fund will cover loss of stock, fencing, roading, culverts and bridges, riparian plantings, erosion plantings, forestry, sheep and cattle yards, water supplies (including dams) and loss of income caused by pasture loss from slipping.

### Psychosocial Support and Community Days

\$250,000 to provide further long-term well-being assistance to affected families (including children) through support programmes and one on one assistance. This support will be coordinated by the Rural Support Trust.

\$200,000 to support two community days over the next 12 months across 20 communities. These days are very popular and support community resilience and knowledge sharing by including Local Government and Central Government Agencies and NGOs.

### Taskforce Green

- \$500,000 to increase the availability of Taskforce Green workers to support the on-farm clean-up of horticultural blocks, lifestyle blocks and farms. While much of the clean-up can be assisted by machinery there remains a need for labour to complete non-machinery tasks. This could support cyclone-displaced employees including RSE workers.

### Erosion Planting Support

\$1 million annually to support the planting of erosion pole plantings as identified in the Recovery Needs Assessment. While the Hawke's Bay Regional Council has requested \$3.5 million to expand pole production, incentivisation of planting is also required. An erosion planting employment support package will remove a barrier to farm planting that currently exists due to time and labour constraints at planting time. This programme should run for an initial 5 years.

## Actions

The following actions have been identified to support recovery:

Initiative Name	Cost	Lead Agency	Timeframe for implementation	How this initiative will help achieve the objective(s) and priorities
<b>Horticultural Recovery Package</b>	\$700,000,000	Hawke's Bay Regional Recovery Agency	2023-2026	A financial assistance package that supports the different and unique needs of recovery for each business based on the impact from the flooding.
<b>Farm Needs Assessment</b>	\$2,000,000	Ministry for Primary Industries	2023-2024	To prepare recovery plans and applications on up to 400 Farms for needs-based Recovery Fund 3.
<b>Recovery Fund</b>	\$100,000,000	Ministry for Primary Industries	2023-2025	A needs-based funding package to support reinstatement of on farm uninsurable losses in the Hastings District. This includes fencing, water supplies, bridges, culverts, riparian plantings, erosion plantings and permanent retirement of highly erodible land.
<b>Psychosocial Support and Community Days</b>	\$450,000	Ministry for Primary Industries / Rural Support Trust	2023-2024	Providing further long-term wellbeing assistance to affected families (including children) through support programmes and one on one advice and assistance.
<b>Taskforce Green</b>	\$500,000	Ministry of Social Development	2023-2024	500k to upscale the Task Force Green Assistance throughout Hawke's Bay for 2023/24 to support on land related clean-up and repair.
<b>Erosion Planting Support</b>	\$8,500,000.	Hawkes Bay Regional Council	2023-2025	8.5M to dramatically scale up erosion pole planting in Hawkes Bay. This is a support bid to the HBRC Bid.

# Economic Growth



## Economic Growth

Cyclone Gabrielle has caused significant disruption to the Hastings economy, which will require substantial dedicated support in both the short and long term. Although several economic indicators highlight the resilience of the local economy, for example spending activity is bouncing back, the full economic impact of Cyclone Gabrielle for the region is yet to be understood. Hawkes Bay will need to support to face the longer-term economic challenges in an economy that is already facing a downturn and ongoing monitoring will be needed to ensure timely intervention and support is implemented.

Transport and logistics, the primary sector, and tourism have been severely affected. Horticultural outputs have been heavily damaged, with crops and assets destroyed.

Tourism activity has been disrupted, with travellers displaying some aversion to Hawke's Bay given the damage experienced to the region.

Infrastructure damage is limiting connectivity for some communities and businesses. In the short-term job activity looks set to be more limited across Hawke's Bay as uncertainty sets in, with job listings in Hawke's Bay falling heavily over the last ten weeks. Hastings, and the wider region, have strong economic foundations. But the area needs additional energy to let these roots take hold and re-energise the economy local economy after a substantial setback.

## Impacts

### Small business

Small businesses suffered cash flow challenges following the event due to loss of trading and supply chain issues. For some, this meant deferring GST and tax obligations in order to continue paying staff. The Business Support Relief Package from MBIE received 1,738 applications to 3 April 2023 with applications for \$42m from a fund of \$18m. Business sectors that were impacted and have applied were Logging Truck logistics, Construction, Fishing, Nurseries and Apiaries with 34% of applicants from Hastings District.

During the application process the Hawke's Bay Chamber of Commerce team have identified a need for further professional development of business owner/operators and this could be delivered with additional Regional Business Partners (RBP) programme funding which was exhausted in January 2023. There is concern that capital re-investment decisions could be delayed until government provides assurances as to security of this investment.

### Business insurance

Insurance is likely to be a significant issue for businesses following the event. The damaged caused will result in an unprecedented number of claims and there will be a range of items and costs that are unable to be covered.

Larger businesses typically have insurance covering, building, chattels, and business continuity (loss of profits). Self-insurance, where the risk is carried by the entity due to the size of premiums is prevalent among the businesses in Hastings District.

In addition, most primary producers do not have insurance for the trees, crops, or growing infrastructure so reestablishment of the sector has a high capital cost. This is likely to create financial stress for those looking to rebuild their operations.

### Food Processing

Processing industries are now manufacturing using imported ingredients to replace the crops lost in Cyclone Gabrielle. Cyclone Gabrielle caused a loss of processing for 7 to 8 days and the cost of replacement ingredients sourced from international suppliers will be in the tens of millions of dollars. Processing of fruit and vegetables from Hastings District remains a key driver of overhead recovery and profitability for the regions vertically integrated processing industries.

### Reduction in available cropping land

The regions food processors are concerned that the current available cropping land in Hastings District will transition from low risk-low reward cropping land to high risk-high reward kiwifruit and viticulture, reducing the hectares available for cropping and processing. There may also be impacts from ageing farmers retiring early after three difficult years on the available

cropping areas and a lack of assurance to secure re-investment. The harvest across the region is nearing completion and the banking sector has been supporting client businesses through this time.

#### Employment in Heretaunga

Heretaunga as an economy has always had a strong primary sector. In 2022, approximately 3,500 jobs were filled in horticulture and fruit growing business and a further 1,500 in fruit and vegetable processing jobs.

The vertically integrated pip fruit industry has focussed on retaining staff during the time of impacted harvest and a decrease in fruit available for packing and distribution. Smaller to medium enterprises have also focussed on retaining employees and have had to find funding from reserves for this. Food processors are still experiencing staff shortages from pre-cyclone and were impacted by total crop loss in some varieties.

There is the potential for contractors coming from outside the region to work may displace the local businesses which will impact on employees in the future, however, local businesses of scale are reportedly supporting local suppliers and contractors. Attracting people into the region to work will continue to be a challenge and remains constrained by a tight housing market.

#### Logistics

The cyclone impacts on the transport system highlighted the lack of options and resilience across the road and rail network. The processing sector could not access imported ingredients or deliver export goods to Napier Port along with flood-impacted warehouse and distribution centres, these issues have directly affected the recovery of business overheads.

#### Tourism

Hawke's Bay Tourism and hospitality businesses have been impacted with reduced international and domestic visitor spend and are looking for assurance that visitors will return. Hawke's Bay Tourism indicates that 85% of their members are fully operational, however there have been many cancellations and road access has been challenging for visitors.

Hawke's Bay Tourism are proposing a marketing package totalling \$2.25m from March 2023 to 2026 focussing on consumer marketing and sectors such as Māori tourism and Hawke's Bay Trails.

## Objectives

Our objectives for Heretaunga's economic recovery focus on building resilience and capacity within our local economy. Our objectives are as follows:

- Local businesses are reassured that their investments will be protected through improved flood resilience measures
- Hawke's Bay is as an attractive destination to invest or visit
- The Heretaunga economy understands future risks and opportunities and is well positioned to take advantage of shifts in industry.



## Priorities

We acknowledge that our economic recovery will take many years following Cyclone Gabrielle. Some of the longer term recovery actions require conversations with community over the coming months. In light of this, our immediate priorities are:

- Advocate to Government for an increased RSE allocation
- Advocate to Government and Hawke's Bay Regional Council for improved flood protection and resilience measures
- Bolster the level of support provided through the Regional Business Partners Programme
- Advocate for improved transport connectivity and lifeline infrastructure resilience
- Work with Government and partner agencies on measures to support small business cashflow.

## Actions

1. Secure additional funding for the Regional Business Partners Programme (RBP) to support impacted operators and spread support across the community.
2. Work with trading banks and MBIE to develop a working capital programme that will provide a fund to guarantee working capital requirements of small business.
3. Develop the business case to secure a mandate for the Regional Resource Recovery Centre from stakeholders, including Councils and Government agencies.
4. Explore a new cycleway that links Wairoa to Napier via Tūtira, Patoka, Rissington and Dartmoor. This project is in its formative stage and once completed will provide new tourism and economic opportunities for several communities that have been badly impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle.
5. Support events recovery in Heretaunga through the provision of a Major Events fund and Kaupapa Māori fund
6. Support tourism recovery through a concentrated marketing programme.

Initiative Name	Cost	Lead Agency	Timeframe for implementation	How this initiative will help achieve the objective(s) and priorities
<b>Project Fortify Whirinaki Resilience</b>	\$675,000	Pan Pac Forest Products Ltd	Late 2023	The Fortify-Whirinaki Resilience project will deliver project management, authorisation, conceptual design by the end of 2023. This will create the business case for increased flood protection infrastructure for the area which is a significant source of local employment.
<b>Cycleway Feasibility Study</b>	\$100,000	HDC	2023-2024	Feasibility study on a major new rural cycleway between Wairoa, Tūtira, Puketitiri, Patoka, Dartmoor and further south.
<b>Māori Culture Tourism Product Development</b>	\$325,000	HDC & Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated	2023-2025	A program that works with local iwi to develop a cultural tourism offering to support local economic recovery.
<b>Events Recovery</b>	\$1,000,000 p.a	HDC	2023-2025	A package of funding and event delivery to help bring major events back to Heretaunga following Cyclone Gabrielle. This package provides a Major Events Fund, Kaupapa Māori Fund and support for the District Events Programme.

## Section 6: Support

The follow is a list of enablers to Cyclone recovery. The details have not been identified here, however the agencies involved in the Heretaunga Locality Plan development would be very keen to discuss these further in developing and implementation:

### Infrastructure alliance

A transport-focused alliance that is not just delivery-focused. The interim alliance with Waka Kotahi and Kiwirail is all about construction/delivery, but the critical component at the moment is the planning and populating of the work program for the next decade, that will **then** lead to construction delivery. Such an alliance needs to have all the Councils as well as WK and KR, and ideally engineering consultancies, etc.

### Environmental enablers

Changes to the Carbon Credit system to incentivise native forest planting rather than faster growing exotics and production forestry or would be helpful where land retirement is needed.

## Section 7: Communicating the plan and next steps

The development of the first iteration Locality Plan for Heretaunga has been a rapid assessment of the issues, needs and work needed in the short-term recovery. The lens we have used for this report is looking at what do we know now, what we need to do now, and what we need to do in the next six months to a year. In writing this plan it has become evident that there are areas where the scope and scale of this event, and therefore the mahi needed to recover from the event, is simply not known.

Iteration two of the Locality Plan is due in September. This gives us time to delve into the detail of recovery and for mana whenua and Hastings District Council, alongside our partner agencies and the community, to develop a joint understanding of the issues and to work together to develop solutions.

Between now, late April 2023, and September 2023 when iteration two of the Locality Plan is due, the focus will be on the community, and engaging extensively with them to ensure their views are front and centre in informing the recovery work programme.

In the meantime, this plan acts as a 'known current state' record of where the recovery is at. It will be shared with mana whenua, agencies working in the recovery, including the Regional Recovery Agency, central and local government, and the community. We expect and welcome feedback and hope that it will be used to move the recovery forward for Heretaunga.



Hawke's Bay Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery  
**Heretaunga Locality Plan**