



5 October 2023



Ref: OIA-2023/24-0149

Dear

**Official Information Act request relating to correspondence regarding the Gisborne District Council's cyclone recovery plan**

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 8 August 2023. You requested:

*Under the term of the Official Information Act and Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act please for the time period March 1, 2023, to August 1, 2023, provide all correspondence (including text and app messages) between both the Cyclone Recovery Minister (including department staff and associate ministers) and the Cyclone Recovery Unit, with Gisborne District Council and or Trust Tairāwhiti in regards to the council's cyclone Recovery plan entitled Our Road to Recovery - Tairāwhiti.*

On 5 September 2023 we contacted you to advise that the time frame for responding to your request was extended under section 15A of the Act by 23 working days because consultations were required before a decision could be made on your request. Following this extension, I am now in a position to respond. Thank you for your patience while we processed your request.

**Information being released**

I have decided to release the documents listed below in full, together with their associated emails. Some information within the emails has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of individuals.

Table of Documents:

Item	Date	Document Description	Decision
1	Not dated	Tairāwhiti recovery Planning	Released in full.
2	Not dated	Our road to recovery – Tairāwhiti	Released in full.
3	10 July 2023	Briefing to Minister: Tairāwhiti Partnership	Released in full.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Act. No public interest has been identified that would be sufficient to override the reasons for withholding that information.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

This response will be published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Yours sincerely



Katrina Casey  
**Chief Executive, Cyclone Recovery**

9(2)(a)

**From:** 9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 19 July 2023 3:27 pm  
**To:** 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** FW: Recovery Bids/Plans  
**Attachments:** Tairawhiti recovery planning - overview of consolidated docs.pptx

FYI

---

**From:** 9(2)(a)  
**Date:** Tuesday, 18 July 2023 at 11:34 AM  
**To:** 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** Re: Recovery Bids/Plans

Kia ora korua,

Bringing costs together with some semblance of accuracy is proving to be a bit time consuming so just sending you this doc now so you can get a sense of how it might come out. It has the activity tables for transport infrastructure so you can see how the more detailed breakdowns might look, but it might take me at least the rest of today to wrangle the full set.

You'll see the structure is along the lines of:

- some up front context
- a description of the various docs we're collating
- an attempt at articulating common priorities (from an analysis of the docs)
- high-level overview of total requests
- break down by domain – including all high-level priorities identified across all docs and all specific programmes, initiatives and activities

Given that everyone has used a different format and different costing methods (e.g., a lot of the iwi costings are totals without yearly breakdowns) we'll probably need some strongish caveats around the numbers + a bit of a promise for someone to do some extra work or a request that Treasury or whoever does that extra cost interrogation work.

Have used a ppt format for ease but could convert to another format if needed. The general doc will also need some better formatting at some point.

Also, what we have here is basically taking everything at face value without too much in the way of analysis or advice (ie, about the merits of certain initiatives compared to others, timing etc) – this is probably our safest approach until you can have that discussion with all the parties 9(2)(a). There don't appear to be any obviously conflicting priorities which is helpful but the total scale and scope of initiatives proposed is pretty enormous so there will no doubt be some competition for resources between priorities.

Anyway let me know if you think the approach in the doc is way off track – otherwise I'll just keep chipping away at it

Nga mihi  
9(2)(a)

---

**From:** 9(2)(a)  
**Date:** Monday, 17 July 2023 at 5:31 PM  
**To:** 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** RE: Recovery Bids/Plans

Ka pai 9(2)(a)

Legend!!

---

**From:** 9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Monday, 17 July 2023 5:24 PM  
**To:** 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** Re: Recovery Bids/Plans

Thanks 9(2)(a) – I'll aim to send through a first cut of an overview for you both to look at tomorrow morning, I'll text when I send it.

Nga mihi  
9(2)(a)

---

**From:** 9(2)(a)  
**Date:** Monday, 17 July 2023 at 5:21 PM  
**To:** 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** RE: Recovery Bids/Plans

My apologies 9(2)(a)

I was in a hui all day. This is the most recent bid prior to turning it in to a pdf. Please text me if you need me to look at something 9(2)(a)

9(2)(a) am in town today. Are we still on for a hui Wednesday at 12 with 9(2)(a)?

---

**From:** 9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Monday, 17 July 2023 12:39 PM  
**To:** 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** Re: Recovery Bids/Plans

Kia ora 9(2)(a)

I have this (attached) ppt version – but it may not be the most recent version. However, hope this helps.

9(2)(a)

---

**From:** 9(2)(a)  
**Date:** Monday, 17 July 2023 at 11:37 AM  
**To:** 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** Re: Recovery Bids/Plans

Kia ora ano korua,

Is there an editable version of the GDC activity tables that I could have access to? - so we can add the iwi requests and have one set of consolidated tables that cover everything requested or costed across all plans without wasting too much time on copying or retyping test.

Nga mihi  
9(2)(a)

---

**From:** 9(2)(a)  
**Date:** Monday, 17 July 2023 at 7:11 AM  
**To:** 9(2)(a)  
**Cc:** 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** Re: Recovery Bids/Plans

Morena tatau,

Thanks 9(2)(a), I agree with the approach. The issue is time. I am hoping to put send a draft to the Mayor and Chairs by the end of this week; and then the consolidated bid to Ministers next week.

Let's touch base this morning. In the meantime, 9(2)(a) can you continue your work on the table, because we are going to need that anyway.

Noho ora mai,  
9(2)(a)

---

**From:** 9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 13, 2023 5:23:57 PM  
**To:** 9(2)(a)  
**Cc:** 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** FW: Recovery Bids/Plans

Tena korua 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(a) my apologies for the delay in reply.

Thank you for the work in the commissioning form 9(2)(a). I think 9(2)(a) there could be a different approach to this. It would involve you bringing CEs together to discuss and agree on their priorities within their recovery plans. Once agreed we can put that up to Government as a package in the format that the Minister requires. This will leave the mana/integrity of each of the iwi plans intact, with an overall agreed set of priorities on where the focus will be for funding therefore giving us our regional priorities.

Appreciate your thoughts on this approach and also some clarity on the timeframes that we are working to.

Both 9(2)(a) and I are in Wellington on Wednesday 9(2)(a) and we are keen to catch up for lunch. Ill book us a place if you are keen.

Nga mihi  
9(2)(a)

---

**From:** 9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Thursday, 13 July 2023 12:19 PM  
**To:** 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** Re: Recovery Bids/Plans

Kia ora korua,

Good to meet you 9(2)(a). Attached is a quick write up of what I think the commissioning is for the first step in this mahi. I'm going to just get started this afternoon but let me know if you think I'm missing anything or anything needs to be tweaked.

I'm just about to grab some lunch but will be around for the rest of the day if anyone needs to discuss anything.

Nga mihi

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

---

**From:** 9(2)(a)

**Date:** Thursday, 13 July 2023 at 10:40 AM

**To:** 9(2)(a)

**Subject:** Recovery Bids/Plans

Kia ora korua,

Just putting you two in touch.

9(2)(a) 9(2)(a) will start pulling together a table today and we can do the analysis etc early next week. But feel free to reach out to 9(2)(a) directly if you have any queries or ideas.

Have a great day both!

Noho ora mai,

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

# TAIRĀWHITI RECOVERY PLANNING

---

Consolidated planning information from iwi,  
Gisborne District Council and Trust Tairāwhiti

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

# PURPOSE AND CONTEXT

The purpose of this document is to:

- present a consolidated view of regional priorities and requests contained in the various recovery and resilience planning documents and correspondence prepared by Gisborne District Council (GDC), Trust Tairāwhiti, Toitū Tairāwhiti and individual Tairāwhiti iwi (Ngāi Tāmanuhiri, Rongowhakaata, Ngāti Porou and Te Aitanga a Māhaki)
- Support Ministers and local leaders to understand, discuss and make decisions about recovery priorities and activities for Tairāwhiti.

## High-level context

Recovery and resilience planning documents and additional correspondence have been independently developed and submitted to Ministers by GDC, Trust Tairāwhiti, Toitū Tairāwhiti and Tairāwhiti iwi (Ngāi Tāmanuhiri, Rongowhakaata, Ngāti Porou and Te Aitanga a Mahaki). These documents are in various formats, with priorities, specific requests and costings provided in various levels of detail.

Documents developed by GDC, Trust Tairāwhiti, Ngāi Tāmanuhiri, Rongowhakaata and Ngāti Porou were provided in response to a request for recovery plans / bids for government funding assistance. A March 2023 submission by Ngāi Tāmanuhiri and Te Aitanga a Māhaki to the Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Taskforce Chair, a May 2023 letter to Ministers from Toitū Tairāwhiti and accompanying documentation, a recent [undated] update from Te Aitanga a Māhaki to the Cabinet Extreme Weather Recovery Committee (EWR), and a report prepared for Toitū Tairāwhiti on extraction of extreme risk debris from the Waihora and Waingaromia rivers, have also been considered in preparing this consolidated view of regional priorities.

This document is an overview – it cannot capture the detailed information and context provided in each of the recovery planning documents and could not be considered a substitute for engaging with the individual plans.



# OVERVIEW OF RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

Documents prepared in response to request for recovery plans / bids for government funding

Gisborne District Council – phase one recovery plan	Trust Tairāwhiti - correspondence re economic recovery plan	Ngāi Tāmanuhiri – haumaruru emergency preparedness and resilience plan	Rongowhakaata – vision and sustainable localised resilience package	Ngāti Porou – recovery plan
<p>Focuses on the Council’s core business of local infrastructure and environmental management (i.e., does not necessarily include regional priorities that may be the responsibility of central government or other organisations e.g. repair of SH35)</p> <p>Provides a relatively detailed set of activity tables and costings, particularly for the built and natural environment domains.</p> <p><b>Recovery investment request: approx. \$1.2B (over 5 years)</b></p>	<p>Focuses solely on economic recovery and primarily on the provision of shorter term government funding, government support for private financing and rates relief to recover identified losses to existing industries and businesses and to allow them to continue production in the short term.</p> <p><b>Recovery investment request: \$61.5M short term direct funding + additional support for private financing and rates relief (uncosted)</b></p>	<p>Focuses primarily on emergency preparedness and resilience for the Muriwai/Tawatapu community including the protection of Ngāi Tāmanuhiri natural and cultural taonga and the resilience of regional infrastructure.</p> <p>Provides high level costing for key, Ngāi Tāmanuhiri led emergency preparedness and resilience activities.</p> <p><b>Recovery investment request: up to \$7M short term + additional future funding for infrastructure (uncosted)</b></p>	<p>Focuses on recovery in the context of a wider shift toward addressing the long term impacts of colonisation and reclaiming a Rongowhakaata approach through community and place based inquiry, and indigenous, sustainable approaches.</p> <p>The document provides high level costing for a resilience package.</p> <p><b>Recovery investment request: up to \$12M short term resilience funding</b></p>	<p>Focuses on four key domains of the natural, social, economic and built environments and provides a relatively comprehensive set of priorities and specific programmes and initiatives proposed for completion in the Ngati Porou rohe, both as part of short term recovery and longer term development and sustainability.</p> <p>Provides high level, and where possible more detailed, costings.</p> <p><b>Recovery investment request: approx. \$140.4M up front + \$355M over multiple years</b></p>

Additional relevant documents

<p>Ngāi Tāmanuhiri and Te Aitanga a Māhaki submission to Cyclone Recovery Taskforce Chair March 23</p>	<p>Seeks statutory iwi leadership of civil defence and emergency management responses and financial support for housing, managed retreat, economic and land use change initiatives</p> <p><b>Recovery investment request: approx. \$384M</b></p>
<p>Letter to Ministers from Toitū Tairāwhiti May 23</p>	<p>Seeks assistance for housing provision and community safety initiatives and recommends the time critical implementation of recommendations of <i>Outrage to Optimism: Report of the Ministerial Inquiry into Land Use In Tairāwhiti and Wairoa</i></p> <p><b>No specific cost information provided</b></p>
<p>Recent update from Te Aitanga a Māhaki</p>	<p>Focuses on clean up of woody debris and silt, wood processing options and conversion of loans to grants</p> <p><b>Recovery investment request: approx. \$40.65M</b></p>
<p>Report on extraction of extreme risk debris from the Waihora and Waingaromia rivers</p>	<p>Focuses on removal of extreme risk debris from the Waihora and Waingaromia rivers which follows on from a wider slash removal business case for Te Karaka (information from which is included in other documents in this list)</p> <p><b>Recovery investment request: \$2m</b></p>

Several costings over appear across plans and other documents, the recovery investment requests identified here do not add to the regional total

# KEY THEMES

---

- Taking a long-term view
- Remedying long-term underinvestment
- TBC – need to do a bit more analysis to complete this slide

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

# COMMON PRIORITIES ACROSS RECOVERY PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Resilient regional infrastructure	Emergency coordination and resilience	Woody debris and silt – removal and prevention	Economic recovery	Future of severely affected lands
<p>Included to a degree in all planning documents and correspondence. Key common areas of focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local roading network</li> <li>Flood protection</li> </ul> <p>Key areas of focus for specific groups or communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For iwi: more localised, “self sufficient” water, energy and communications infrastructure solutions for communities</li> </ul> <p>For Ngāti Porou and GDC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alternatives to land transport including blue highway (both) and air strip network (NP)</li> <li>For Ngati Porou:</li> <li>Resilience of SH35</li> </ul>	<p>Included to a degree in all planning documents and correspondence. Key common areas of focus include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flood monitoring</li> <li>Training and preparedness for key personnel and for communities</li> </ul> <p>Key common areas of focus for iwi:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased statutory powers for iwi during civil defence and emergency management events</li> <li>Local resilience and emergency management infrastructure, especially in rural communities</li> </ul> <p>Key areas of focus for GDC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment of emergency coordination centre</li> </ul>	<p>Included to a degree in all planning documents and correspondence. Key common areas of focus include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removal of high risk woody debris from rivers and coastal environments to protect the environment, communities and critical infrastructure</li> <li>Silt removal</li> <li>Erosion control and other land use measures to prevent the future build up of woody debris and silt</li> </ul>	<p>Included to a degree in all planning documents and correspondence. Key common areas of focus include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Immediate support for affected businesses and industries especially in the agriculture and horticulture sectors</li> <li>Investment in sustainable land use</li> <li>Investment in Māori land development</li> </ul> <p>Key common areas of focus for iwi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Localised economic development opportunities supporting the sustainability of communities</li> <li>Investments in clean energy</li> <li>Research and development</li> </ul>	<p>Included to a degree in all planning documents and correspondence. Key common areas of focus include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Managing risk for category 2 lands</li> <li>Providing just solutions for affected land owners</li> <li>Capability to deliver the FOSAL programme</li> </ul>

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

# COMMON PRIORITIES FOR IWI

Additional to common regional priorities already set out

Building long-term iwi and hapū capacity and capability to lead long-term recovery and regional transformation	Long-term economic transformation and land-use change that supports the sustainability of [rural] communities	Addressing critical housing issues
<p>Included to a degree in all iwi planning documents. Common areas of focus include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Investing in iwi and hapū capacity to deliver solutions for their own communities across all domains</li><li>• Supporting and providing for stronger iwi role in regional leadership</li></ul>	<p>Included to a degree in all iwi planning documents. Common areas of focus include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Investing in localised, community led opportunities across all domains</li><li>• Investment in sustainable development of Māori land</li><li>• Aggressive investment in alternative land use</li><li>• Implementation of the recommendations of <i>Outrage to Optimism</i></li></ul>	<p>Included to a degree in all iwi planning documents. Common areas of focus include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Accelerating the delivery of emergency housing for displaced whanau</li><li>• Accelerating the delivery of housing repairs</li><li>• Supporting just long term solutions for affected whanau and communities</li><li>• Alleviating longer term housing pressures</li></ul>

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

# OVERVIEW OF REQUESTS

\*will add in a one pager of collated requests and costs here

---

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

# BUILT ENVIRONMENT – ALL PRIORITIES

## All high-level priorities

Gisborne District Council – phase one recovery plan	Trust Tairāwhiti - correspondence re economic recovery plan	Ngāi Tāmanuhiri – haumarū emergency preparedness and resilience plan	Rongowhakaata – vision and sustainable localised resilience package	Ngāti Porou – recovery plan	Other documents and correspondence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rebuilding robust flood protection</li> <li>• Solid waste management</li> <li>• Large woody debris</li> <li>• Emergency coordination centre</li> <li>• Blue highway</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private infrastructure repair</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional infrastructure</li> <li>• Flood protection</li> <li>• Local energy (solar)</li> <li>• Woody debris removal and management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable, resilient, and culturally appropriate built environments, technology and civil design</li> <li>• Telecommunication s.e.g. digital and analogue networks</li> <li>• Renewable energy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety and resilience of SH35 and connected local roads</li> <li>• Provision for alternatives to land transport</li> <li>• Development of more localised infrastructure</li> <li>• Flood protection in NP rohe other treatment requirements</li> <li>• Infrastructure that supports aspirational economy and lifestyles</li> <li>• Woody debris removal and management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Woody debris removal and management</li> </ul>

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

# BUILT ENVIRONMENT – SPECIFIC PROGRAMMES, INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES

	Activity	Who has proposed	Total	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028
STATE HIGHWAYS	Immediate repair of key issues on SH35 prioritising Uawa to Tokomaru, Tokomaru to Ruatoria and Tikitiki to Te Araroa	Ngati Porou	Assumed NZTA/ GDC costed					
	Design and delivery of comprehensive NP engagement programme on long term resilience of SH35	Ngati Porou	150-200	150-200				
	Long term maintenance investment for SH35 and local roads	Ngati Porou	Assumed NZTA/ GDC costed					
LOCAL ROADS	Future proofing main arterial road, 5 bridges, rail and water infrastructure within the Ngāi Tāmanuhiri Rohe	Ngai Tamanuhiri	TBC	300,000	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
	Bridges: 61 Damaged or destroyed.	GDC	120,000	18,000	30,000	54,000	18,000	
	Tiniroto Road at Hangaroa Bluffs: SH2 alternative. 1.4km road undermined or gone.	GDC	30,000	4,500	7,500	13,500	4,500	
	Drop outs: 200 Drop outs across region	GDC	84,000	12,600	21,000	37,800	12,600	
	Silt removal: 650000 cubic meters from drains slips and roads.	GDC						
	Slash removal From Bridges	GDC	12,500	1,875	3,125	5,625	1,875	
	Initial Response	GDC						
	Associated works	GDC	48,625	7,294	12,156	21,881	7,294	
	Resilience Bridges	GDC	180,000	27,000	45,000	81,000	27,000	
	Resilience Flood Protection & Drainage	GDC	169,097					169,097
	Resilience Route Security	GDC	63,750					63,750
	Immediate repair of local roads within the Ngati Porou Rohe	Ngati Porou	Assume GDC has costed					
	ALT TRANSPORT	Blue Highway	GDC + Ngati Porou (subject to support)	12,240	0,240	6,000	6,000	
Development of Te Ara Tipuna		Ngati Porou	Cost included in economic section					
Te Ara Tipuna, phase one emergency track		Ngati Porou	22,000	22,000				
East Coast network of airstrips		Ngati Porou	10,000	10,000				
<b>TOTAL TRANSPORT</b>			<b>740,152</b>	<b>71,269</b>	<b>118,781</b>	<b>213,806</b>	<b>71,269</b>	<b>232,847</b>

- FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION ON COST DISTRIBUTION OF SOME OF THE SUGGESTED INITIATIVES ACROSS MULTIPLE YEARS WHETHER GDC HAS INCURRED COSTS FOR SPECIFIC LOCAL ROAD REPAIRS WITHIN Wairoa ROHE
- WHERE WE HAVE PROVIDED A TOTAL COST WITHOUT A YEARLY BREAKDOWN THE TOTAL HAS BEEN INCURRED IN 23/24 HOWEVER THIS MAY NOT BE HOW THE COSTS INTENDED TO BE SPREAD

9(2)(a)

**From:** 9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Monday, 3 July 2023 4:31 pm  
**To:** Katrina Casey [DPMC]; 9(2)(a)  
**Cc:** 9(2)(a) [DPMC]; 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** Recovery Bid for Tairawhiti  
**Attachments:** Tairawhiti Regional Recovery Bid.pdf

Tenā koutou katoa

Please find attached our Tairawhiti Regional Recovery Bid, with input from our iwi partners to come. Both this plan and Iwi plans will be brought together following the Ministers visit to region on the 11<sup>th</sup> of this month, coordinated by 9(2)(a) and myself.

Thank you for your patience.

Any questions please let me know.

I would appreciate understanding next steps.

Nga mihi.

9(2)(a)

*The content of this email is confidential and intended for the recipient specified in message only. It is strictly forbidden to share any part of this message with any third party without written consent from the sender. If you received this message by mistake please reply to inform us so we can prevent recurrence and promptly delete it.*



# our road to recovery – Tairāwhiti

Revised Phase One Recovery Plan

Released under the Official Information Act 1982



# executive summary

Cyclone Hale and Cyclone Gabrielle caused significant damage to Tairāwhiti's land, infrastructure, economy and community. Many impacts are still being felt today and the continued vulnerability of communities and infrastructure to future weather events has been evidenced by the heavy rainfall in the June 23 Event.

Tairāwhiti's long-term recovery from the cyclones of early 2023 depends on a climate resilient rebuild, which can only be realised through a substantial financial commitment from Central Government over the next four years.

While the early 2023 cyclones did unprecedented damage, they should be viewed within the context of nine severe weather events to hit the region in the last 24 months. Cyclone Gabrielle was the eighth event, the ninth took place 22-25 June 2023 during the development of this document, highlighting that we are still in a state of heightened response and long term recovery. Property and infrastructure impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle has not returned to a pre-Cyclone state and with every heavy rain event, impacts worsen, and risks increase.

This document is the Regional Recovery Offices request for financial support under section 33.6 of the Governments Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Guidelines. It demonstrates how the future safety and wellbeing of our communities, and prosperity of this region, is predicated on a substantial investment in recovery that delivers effective and long-term solutions to infrastructure challenges and risk reduction.

We make the case that resilience and affordability are part of the same discussion, a discussion that includes land use, large woody debris (LWD), water security, flood protection and the future of severely affected land. Our approach to Regional Recovery will be further informed by our community led recovery plans and our Collective Impact Approach outlined in Appendix 1 pages 27 - 29

## **Keeping our communities connected and protected – infrastructure challenges**

Due to Waka Kotahi's funding policy excluding resilience improvements from emergency funding, infrastructure damaged due to severe weather has been repaired time and time again without consideration for long term affordability and ever decreasing levels of service. This region cannot keep rebuilding sacrificial infrastructure only to see it destroyed further by the next severe weather event.

Total cost for roading repairs alone is expected to range between \$465M and \$725M, depending on the level of resilience built into the solutions. This includes repair or replacement of 61 bridges, reinstatement of Tiniroto Road, repairs to dropouts and retaining walls as well as silt and woody debris removal.

To put the expected range of recovery investment in perspective, the total budget for all proposed activities in the 2021 to 2031 Regional Land Transport Plan was \$355M (excluding Waka Kotahi budget for state highway improvements). The Local Road Maintenance component of that is \$323M, an average \$32M per year. GDC's annual revenue per year is forecast to be between \$122M to \$160M (before expenses), with total comprehensive revenue in the range of \$52M to \$86M annually.

Business as usual funding will not address the recovery of the road network let alone critical repairs and upgrades to flood protection, water security, community facilities and solid waste management.

## **Keeping our communities safe – the future of severely affected land**

In May 2023, the government announced three categories under which the future of severely affected land (FOSAL) and properties will be assessed. Since the initial event, GDC has been assessing properties against updated flood modelling and hazard assessments identifying around 1,000 properties to date that can be considered Category 2 (Cat2) and 28 properties that fall under Category 3 (Cat 3). We expect the number of Cat 3 properties to rise as further assessments are undertaken.

Both Cat 2 and Cat 3 programmes require significant investment in programme management, assessment, technical, engagement and legal resources particularly alongside the unknown costs for Cat 2C interventions and Cat 3 buyouts.

We support the intent of this programme as it will result in development of Community Adaptation Plans & Hazard Management Plans that are understood and supported by our communities. But the scale and speed of the work required means we cannot complete it within our usual work programmes (BAU).

## **Keeping our communities safe – managing large woody debris**

It is impossible to overstate the risks and challenges posed by the volumes of LWD sitting in and above Tairāwhiti's catchments. LWD blocks river channels, damages and destroys bridges, exacerbates flooding, endangers marine vessels and piles up on the region's beaches with sometimes tragic consequences (RNZ (27 January 2023) Forestry slash at beach: 'It is a terrible tragedy').

Addressing those risks poses a series of challenges beginning with changing land use on vulnerable land, changing plantation types and forestry practices that are even now producing LWD, and removing the millions of cubic meters of LWD from our catchments, waterways and beaches.

During events with significant mobilisations of LWD, multi span bridges exacerbate upstream flooding effects whilst increasing the risk of damage or critical failure. For example, the flood levels experienced upstream of Waka Kotahi's State Highway 35 Bridge over the Turanganui River were significantly higher than would be expected without the accumulation of a debris dam against the bridges reducing river flow.

## **Affordability – why funding is not available from council resources**

Other mechanisms to raise funds are constrained. Selling assets to pay for recovery impacts ongoing affordability. GDC assets generate revenue which is required to fund 'business as usual' activities, including central government compliance. Similarly, GDC's ability to borrow is constrained by our ratepayer's capacity to service repayments. Ability to pay is a significant concern for many in our community – despite an increase in household incomes, rates of deprivation remain amongst the highest in New Zealand and housing affordability (whether home ownership or renting) is decreasing.

Local authorities do not have the fiscal mechanisms available to central government to borrow in perpetuity. More debt means reduced activity at a time when central government and our community is demanding more action to manage population growth, address housing, reduce climate emissions, improve waste management and improve freshwater.

He piki tūranga, he piki kōtuku – The Future for Local Government Review Panel's final report states the current local government funding and finance system is already under pressure and is not sustainable.

We agree and ask that the government consider this when it decides on investment in our region's recovery.

# event summary

## ROADING NETWORK



3000 faults registered on local roads

More than 130 sites on state highways SH2, SH35 and SH38 needing repairs

200+ major drop outs



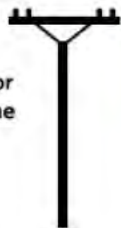
61 Bridge repairs or replacement

77 Bridges require slash removal

111 other structures damaged (retaining walls, river protection, stop banks)

## POWER

Power network severed for parts of the region



## WELFARE

24% of population required welfare support

230 households headed to friends and whānau

166 households evacuated to a Civil Defence centre

77 households required emergency accommodation

1.2k households required financial support

2.9k households required food support

588 households required medical support

## CONNECTIVITY

5 days with out communication



9 Fibre connection breaks

152 cell sites down

## WATER



9 Breaks in the pipeline to the main water supply

45 days to repair pipeline

45 days severe water restrictions for Gisborne City

45 days until industries able to use full mains water

Cyclone Gabrielle resulted in a State of National Emergency being declared on 14 February 2023. The National declaration was extended three times and then lifted for Tairāwhiti on the 14 March 2023.

The damage and impact of this event compounded the cumulative adverse impacts of Ex-Cyclone Hale (10 January 2023) and previous severe weather events since March 2022. As a result of eight previous weather events in the last 18 months Tairāwhiti has been in an on going state of recovery.

Tairāwhiti experienced substantial widespread damage to infrastructure, resulting in power, telecommunication and mobile networks being completely lost for several days. The roading network suffered extensive damage, bridges were completely swept away by floodwaters, landslides and roads collapsed, causing the district to be isolated for several days and some communities being isolated for several weeks.

Since Cyclone Gabrielle, Tairāwhiti has entered into another weather event, referred to as the "June 23 Event", declared at 4.45pm on Thursday 22 June 2023 and then lifted on 12 noon on Sunday 26 June 2023. The challenges and locations of the affected areas from the June 23 Event are not yet fully understood however once fully understood, they will be integrated into Tairāwhiti Recovery Planning.

As a result of the three events in 2023, areas across the region have the potential to escalate and/or be exacerbated by future heavy rain. The sodden nature of the ground poses an ongoing risk given the soil conditions. The land is shifting and the fragility of Tairāwhiti is heightened. The impact of mental fatigue on our communities is apparent for those who are working to fix the region, and those who have been affected.

Given the broad geographical scope and consequences of the three events on the Tairāwhiti in 2023, infrastructure, people and economy, there is an urgent need for swift recovery efforts, without exacerbating environmental degradation or compromising public health.

Ki te ora te whenua  
Ka ora te tāngata

# our phased recovery request (\$M)

BUILT ENVIRONMENT	TOTAL	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028
Local Roads	707,972	71,269	118,781	213,806	71,269	232,847
Solid Waste	3,075	2,675	0.200	0.200	-	-
Woody Debris (\$42M received)	177,445	100,945	44,000	30,000	2,500	-
Flood Protection	45,916	8,332	22,379	15,205	-	-
Stormwater	2,200	2,200	-	-	-	-
Waste Water	12,700	-	1,700	5,500	5,500	-
Water supply	133,228	-	15,750	19,158	31,320	67,000
CDEM	0.800	0.800	-	-	-	-
Blue Highway	12,240	0.240	6,000	6,000	-	-
<b>BUILT TOTAL</b>	<b>1,095,575</b>	<b>186,460</b>	<b>208,810</b>	<b>289,870</b>	<b>110,589</b>	<b>299,847</b>
NAUTRAL ENVIRONMENT	TOTAL	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028
Flood Hazard Assessments	1,225	0.825	0.250	0.150	-	-
Landslide and Sediment Assessments	0.340	0.340	-	-	-	-
Woody Debris and Silt Assesments	0.300	0.225	0.075	-	-	-
Sustainable Land Use	10,080	3,360	3,360	3,360	-	-
Flood Monitoring	1,129	0.754	0.375	-	-	-
Resilience and Adaptation	65,850	20,350	20,350	25,150	-	-
Reserves and Community Facilities	18,816	6,614	6,007	6,195	-	-
FOSAL Programme	4,830	2,610	1,160	1,060	-	-
Strategic Planning	3,250	3,250	-	-	-	-
<b>NATURAL TOTAL</b>	<b>105,820</b>	<b>38,328</b>	<b>31,577</b>	<b>35,915</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT	TOTAL	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028
Recovery Office (\$6.4M received)	7,155	2,993	3,134	1,028	-	-
Community Led Recovery Planning	0.500	0.300	0.100	0.100	-	-
Te Whatu Ora Tairāwhiti	2,255	0.629	0.813	0.813	-	-
Tairawhiti Pasefika Recovery Plan	0.400	0.400	0.400	-	-	-
<b>SOCIAL TOTAL</b>	<b>9,910</b>	<b>3,922</b>	<b>4,047</b>	<b>1,941</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,219,160</b>	<b>232,004</b>	<b>247,868</b>	<b>328,853</b>	<b>110,589</b>	<b>299,847</b>

# Recovering from Cyclone Gabrielle must be affordable for the people of Tairāwhiti.

This event has the potential to create generational inequality. Rates affordability has been a pressing concern for our community for many years. This became particularly acute in the post pandemic environment. There are multiple factors that contribute to this, including an aging population, low-income levels, high deprivation, increased costs, rising inflation, the need to renew critical infrastructure, statutory urgency to create or renew existing plans and policies, all amidst changes to the national and global economic context for our region.

Increased rates, higher borrowing or the sale of productive assets will have a long term detrimental effect on equality through lower investment in infrastructure and services which in turn is likely to place downwards pressure on the regional economy.

## Our Council and our region

The Gisborne District covers a land area of 8,265 square kilometres. This is about 5% of New Zealand's total land area. As a unitary authority we collect rates from the same ratepayers for both regional and district/city council functions.

Council has assets of \$2.8 billion. The roading network makes up over 83%, or \$1.9 billion, of our infrastructure assets. This is nearly double the amount for the average unitary council. Our challenge is to look after our assets – especially the wear and tear on our roads – and maintain levels of service to our community in an affordable way. As of March 2023, the median household income (adjusted for inflation) in Gisborne District was \$71,686. This is 24% less than the national median.

Despite household incomes increasing in Gisborne, the deprivation index has not changed. It remains at 9, which is 64% above the national median index of 5.5. Further to this, roughly two thirds (63%) of the population live in highly deprived communities (deprivation index 8-10). Only 15% live in high socio-economic performing communities (deprivation index 1-3).

Housing affordability remains a challenge and rental affordability is also decreasing – renters are now paying 36% of their income on rent. The national average is around 22%. In some areas (such as Tamarau) up to 50% of annual household income is spent on rent. Purchasing affordability is based on purchasing at a median house price with a 20% deposit over 30 years assuming a fixed interest rate of 4%. Both purchasing and rental affordability is based on annual household income.

## Financial Constraints

Rating is our largest source of income. Rates comprise about 60% of our income. This is collected from 23,600 rateable properties. A large proportion (28%) of the land area in our district is whenua Māori (228,000 hectares comprising 3,200 rating units).

The recently released Future For Local Government report, identifies the significant funding pressures that local government has been operating under for several years. We face growing community and government expectations around the impacts of growth, land use (such as forestry), and significant infrastructure failures, particularly in terms of the roading network.

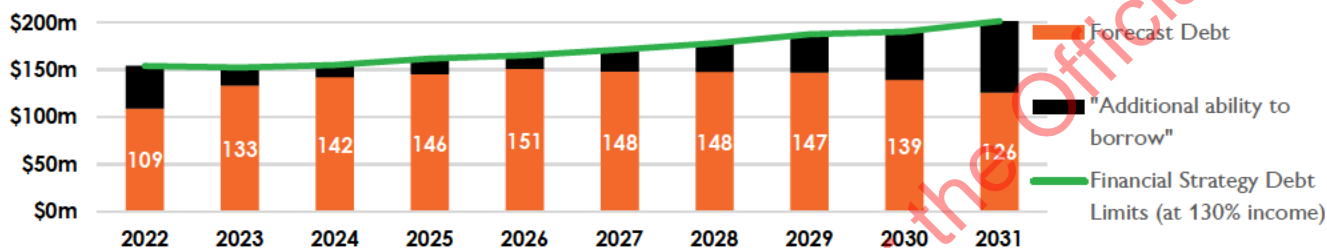
# Balancing the delivery of critical repairs against the ability of our communities (ratepayers) to pay is a constant struggle.

Affordability challenges are demonstrated by the relatively high rates debt (around \$8.7m) has not been received from ratepayers. In the past two years, Council has written off more uncollectable rates than before and has made more land non rateable. This means that rates income and the rates burden has become concentrated on fewer people and a reduced rating base. There is not a nationally agreed standard for measuring rates affordability. The Shand Enquiry (The Shand In 2007 Local Government Rates Inquiry) suggested rates are becoming unaffordable if they exceed 5% of gross household income. Analysis undertaken during development of our 2021 - 2031 Long Term Plan indicated several communities in Tairāwhiti may be facing affordability problems. Inflation and cost of doing business has also significantly increased. The costs increases anticipated in the 2021-2031 LTP are insufficient. The forecast inflation for 2022 and 2023 was 2.21% and 2.26% respectively (BERL – Local Government Cost Adjustor Forecasts 2020). However, Statistics New Zealand recently reported a 7.3% annual inflation rate, a 32-year high.

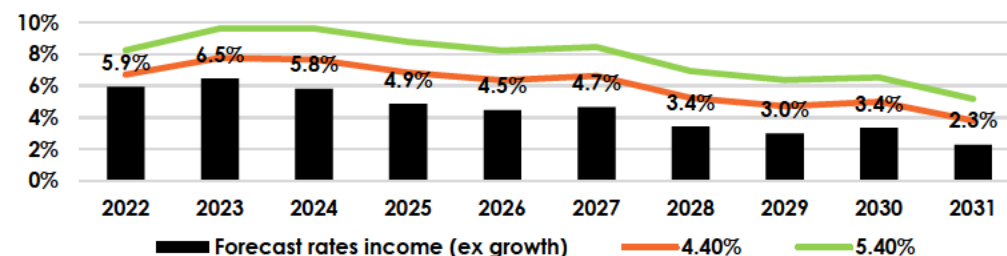
## Rising debt

The 2021-2031 LTP forecast that our debt would need to increase in order to meet our peak infrastructure investment needs in 2025 and 2026. Forecast debt in 2023 was \$133. However, due to increased costs our 2023 Annual Plan has forecast debt rising to about \$143 million (see Graph 1 below). When the 2021-2031 LTP was developed, interest rates were on average 3.4%. The LTP assumed an interest rate of 3.4% over the life of the plan. However, interest rates have risen considerably, and continues to rise. Higher interest costs have a significant impact on rates (see Graph 2 below).

Graph One - 2023 Annual Plan forecasted debt rise



Graph Two - Effect of interest change on rates increases 2021-2031



## Impact on increased roading costs on rates

The impact of Council raising rates to fund our revenue shortfall, is presented in Table 1. This takes in to account funding the local share of the roading network (even at an assisted FAR rate of 95%) and addressing the impacts of woody debris. Rates as a percentage of Household revenue, is forecast to increase significantly, from 3.9% in the coastal areas to over 8.11%; and within our city from 5.6% to over 9%. Recovering from Cyclone Gabrielle, compounded with the impact of subsequent weather events, has the potential to create generational inequality. Affordability is a long-standing challenge which cannot be ignored. Increased rates, higher borrowing or the sale of productive assets will have a long-term detrimental effect on equality and exacerbate existing inequity through lower investment in infrastructure and services which in turn is likely to place downwards pressure on the regional economy. Our communities deserve to be safe, connected, and protected without compromising their financial security.

Rateable units	Average Income	Current Rate	% of income	New Rate	Increase impact	New % of Income
<i>excluding Maori Freehold land or uncollectable rates</i>						
City	\$46,700	\$2,623	5.6%	\$4,234	61%	9.07%
Coast	\$38,000	\$1,471	3.9%	\$3,082	110%	8.11%

# built environment



There is an opportunity to forge a safer, more resilient future. The infrastructure established now will play a role in determining our safety from subsequent floods, our ability to stay connected during future events, and the preservation of our environment from floodwaters, silt, and woody debris.

Most of the investment sourced from Central Government is channeled into this environment. Building resilience into our infrastructure from the recovery stage proves significantly more cost-effective. As we navigate rebuilding infrastructure there are several key points that merit attention:

# Roads and water assets still to be fully assessed. This means there is an unknown quantum of damage, and the costs to remediate are broad estimates.

# Cost estimates carry contingencies, ranging between 50-100%, due to uncertainties, risks, and design development.

# Operational expenditure cost accompanying the rebuild has not been incorporated into the estimates. This could significantly influence the total rates burden.

# Winter conditions will invariably slow the pace of recovery. Our primary focus for the coming six months is to prioritize efforts that can weather this challenge.

A careful and forward-looking strategy is necessary to ensure our post-cyclone recovery efforts yield a robust and resilient infrastructure for the future.

## Transport

The damage to transport infrastructure led to the isolation of rural communities, further creating social and economic impacts for primary producers and the broader supply chain.

Our local roading network suffered significant damage, with over 3000 sites damaged and more than 180 roads disrupted. The plan for reconstructing our transport network has been strategically divided into four main areas of focus:

1. The repair or replacement of 61 bridges, a critical aspect of re-establishing vital connections.
2. Restoration of the Tiniroto Road at the Hangaroa Bluffs, a particularly impacted area.
3. Repair of dropouts and retaining walls, crucial for ensuring the safety and reliability of our roads.
4. The removal of silt and slash, necessary for restoring the usability of roads and reducing the damage to infrastructure from future weather events.

Each workstream is integral to the larger goal of restoring our transport network, essential for reconnecting our communities and reviving the region's socio-economic pulse.

## Safe Water Supply

The city's primary water supply system suffered substantial damages due to the cyclone.

Despite the successful repair of the pipeline in eight places, the network remains fragile, raising concerns about potential further damages during winter, particularly under severe conditions such as those experienced during the June 23 Event.

## Stormwater and Wastewater Management

While the urban stormwater and wastewater systems weathered the cyclones without significant damage, there are certain vulnerabilities and limitations. These are the ability of the system to function during a storm, swift recovery post-storm, and the increased operating costs associated with managing higher-than-normal levels of contaminated water.



# built environment



## Rebuilding Robust Flood Protection

Council is formulating plans to reconstruct and expand the flood protection system and prioritise climate resilience. Anticipated increased rainfall intensity, silt mobilization, and woody debris movement all need to be factored into the new flood modeling to create a system capable of safeguarding lives and livelihoods during subsequent events.

A \$23 million investment is required to repair the damaged stop banks and accelerate flood protection projects, thereby ensuring a resilient and fit-for-purpose flood management system.

## Solid Waste Management

The solid waste handling primarily concerns the Tokomaru Bay transfer station and the substantial amount of unsteady woody debris still in the catchments. The current strategy involves relocating the transfer station to safeguard it from flooding during weather events.

## Large Woody Debris

Cyclone Gabrielle stirred a significant amount of LWD from forestry areas into river catchments. This resulted in considerable harm to the riparian environment and our roading infrastructure, depositing vast amounts of debris on our regional beaches. The majority of this debris remains within the river catchments and poses a risk of mobilizing during each subsequent storm.

While substantial funding has been approved to tackle the challenges presented by this woody debris, our initial investigations indicate the actual costs are likely to significantly exceed the allocated funds. We're faced with a major task that requires careful planning and additional resources.

## Emergency Coordination Centre

The construction of the Tairāwhiti Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) is currently underway, with completion scheduled for the end of 2023. This facility will serve as the regional command centre for managing and recovering from disasters in Tairāwhiti and will function as the central communication hub for Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) groups outside our region and government agencies.

Strategically located near the hospital, the centre will feature a helipad, carefully situated outside of the flood and tsunami risk zones.

Given the centre's regional and national significance, coupled with the recurrent weather events impacting our area resulting in a long-term recovery ahead, it is essential that the ECC incorporates enhanced resilience in both its structure and technical equipment.

To accomplish this and finalize the construction of a robust ECC, an additional investment of approximately \$800k is required.

## Blue Highway

The coastal areas north of Gisborne are notably susceptible to severe weather events, which can limit access.

By establishing a maritime route, there can be an alternate means of transport during emergencies when traditional access routes are compromised. Moreover, the refurbishment of the wharf network presents a lasting tourism opportunity for the region.

The project comprises the repair and restoration of wharfs at Hicks Bay, Port Awanui, Tokomaru Bay, and Tolaga Bay. The overall expenditure, incorporating both capital upgrades and subsequent operational costs, is projected to be around \$12.4M (adjusted to 2023 prices).

Further information is available in the Tairāwhiti Wharves Strategic Assessment & Indicative Business Case, published in February 2019.

# built programme activity table (\$M)



Activity		Provider	Total	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028
LOCAL ROADS	Bridges: 61 Damaged or destroyed.	GDC	120,000	18,000	30,000	54,000	18,000	
	Tiniroto Road at Hangaroa Bluffs: SH2 alternative. 1.4km road undermined or gone.	GDC	30,000	4,500	7,500	13,500	4,500	
	Drop outs: 200 Drop outs across region	GDC	84,000	12,600	21,000	37,800	12,600	
	Silt removal: 650000 cubic meters from drains slips and roads.	GDC						
	Slash removal From Bridges	GDC	12,500	1,875	3,125	5,625	1,875	
	Initial Response	GDC						
	Associated works	GDC	48,625	7,294	12,156	21,881	7,294	
	Resilience Bridges	GDC	180,000	27,000	45,000	81,000	27,000	
	Resilience Flood Protection & Drainage	GDC	169,097					169,097
	Resilience Route Security	GDC	63,750					63,750
<b>TOTAL LOCAL ROADS</b>			<b>707,972</b>	<b>71,269</b>	<b>118,781</b>	<b>213,806</b>	<b>71,269</b>	<b>232,847</b>
FLOOD PROTECTION	Activity	Provider	Total	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028
	Waipaoa Stopbank upgrades both sides	GDC	12,000	1,250	5,650	3,100		
	Te Karaka flood control scheme upgrade	GDC	5,000	1,000	2,000	2,000		
	Tokomaru Township upgrades, Waiotu & Mangahauini Rivers	GDC	4,000	0.600	2,040	1,360		
	Makarika (near Ruatoria) protection for school and houses	GDC	2,000	0.300	1,020	0.680		
	Uawa, investigation., modelling and construction	GDC	8,000	1,200	4,080	2,720		
	Waipaoa Stopbank upgrades accelerated (LTP completed 2029/30)	GDC	14,544	2,182	7,417	4,945		
	Telemetry etc opex	GDC	0.572		0.172	0.400		
	Insurance/reinstated damaged sites	GDC	1,800	1,800				
	<b>TOTAL FLOOD PROTECTION</b>			<b>45,916</b>	<b>8,332</b>	<b>22,379</b>	<b>15,205</b>	<b>0</b>
WATER	Activity	Provider	Total	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028
	Storm Water	GDC	2,200	2,200				
	Waste Water	GDC	12,700		1,700	5,500	5,500	
	Water Supply	GDC	133,228		15,750	19,158	31,320	67,000
	<b>TOTAL WATER</b>			<b>148,128</b>	<b>2,200</b>	<b>17,450</b>	<b>24,658</b>	<b>36,820</b>

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

# built programme activity table (\$M)



Activity	Provider	Total	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028	
<b>SOLID WASTE</b>	Tokomaru Bay Transfer Station relocation	GDC	2,475	2,475				
	Landfill sites / contamination	GDC	0.600	0.200	0.200	0.200		
	<b>TOTAL SOLID WASTE</b>		<b>3,075</b>	<b>2,675</b>	<b>0.200</b>	<b>0.200</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>WOODY DEBRIS &amp; SILT</b>	Activity	Provider	Total	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028
	Original estimates based on upper catchment surveys	GDC	49,395	49,395				
	Upper catchment ongoing maintenance	TBC	2,500				2,500	
	Lower river corridors and beaches??		0					
	Silt removal (Wi Pere trust, around Flood protection/banks and other council infrastructure)		9,800	9,800				
	Silt and rubbish clean up		1,750	1,750				
	Reassess total catchment estimate 1.2m m3		114,000	40,000	44,000	30,000		
	<b>TOTAL WOODY DEBRIS &amp; SILT</b>		<b>177,445</b>	<b>100,945</b>	<b>44,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ECC</b>	Activity	Provider	Total	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028
	Emergency Coordination Centre - increased resilience	GDC	0.800	0.800				
	<b>TOTAL EMERGENCY COORDINATION CENTRE</b>		<b>0.800</b>	<b>0.800</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORT</b>	Activity	Provider	Total	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028
	Blue Highway	GDC	12,240	0.240	6,000	6,000		
	<b>TOTAL ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORT</b>		<b>12,240</b>	<b>0.240</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>BUILT TOTAL</b>			<b>1,095,575</b>	<b>186,460</b>	<b>208,810</b>	<b>289,870</b>	<b>110,589</b>	<b>299,847</b>

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

# natural environment



## Natural Environment Impact Assessment

The storm caused widespread severe flooding, river channel changes, landslides and landslide dams. It also caused mobilisation of both sediment and large woody debris which resulted in multiple cascading impacts. Quantifying those impacts and finding solutions to the issues that arise is a complex task that will take several years.

The early focus of the Natural Environment work stream was centred on assessing the extent of flooding and damage including working with MBIE and LINZ to obtain satellite and aerial imagery.

Further data is required to inform the next steps to ensure that robust and informed decisions are made, particularly for supporting the FOSAL work programme. This information is also key to supporting the Built, Economic and Social Environments of recovery as all functions require accurate and credible information to inform the recovery process.

### Priorities are:

#### # Hazard assessments and risk reduction including:

- current and future risks from flooding and riverbank erosion;
- impacts and risks from landslides.

#### # Silt and debris impact:

- assessing the area of forestry lost due to landslides and the cost of this to the community including future potential damage to infrastructure and the natural environment;
- establishing the volume of sediment deposited on the flood plains and the impact this will have on agriculture and horticulture as well as future flood risk;
- co-ordinating silt management and removal operations to mitigate further impacts.

## Environmental Monitoring

The environmental monitoring network provides river level and flood warning systems as well as ongoing state of the environment monitoring. The initial priorities have been to reinstate equipment and telemetry sites that were damaged during the storms and to assess the impacts to our natural environment.

Post Cyclone, the priority is to guarantee that the environmental monitoring and flood warning systems are efficient and robust, ensuring that they have suitable backups in place to handle potential future emergencies.

## Sustainable Land Use

The magnitude of the large woody debris challenge is becoming evident as the area of forestry loss is assessed. There are significant volumes of large woody debris sitting in river catchments, ready to mobilise in future weather events. The funding received to date will not be sufficient to remove and dispose of the current deposited debris, let alone any future debris.

A collaborative approach, including the transition to sustainable land use, is required across the region to improve our environment for the wellbeing of our community and whenua. We need central government support to achieve changes at pace.

There is an opportunity to use the full range of incentives and regulatory levers to support a change in land use in Tairāwhiti consistent with the direction and aspiration outlined in our spatial plan Tairāwhiti 2050. This must be locally driven and delivered and centrally supported.

Along with use of legislative instruments for plan changes, the resourcing support required from Government is estimated at \$2.5M per year over 3 years. This includes resourcing for fast-track plan changes, reviewing existing consents, increasing compliance, monitoring, enforcement and science personnel to support changes and mapping high risk areas for forestry.

# natural environment



## Resilience and Adaptation

Over the last 18 months, Tairāwhiti has been reminded of the vulnerability posed by natural hazards and how risks will increase as the climate changes. There is a programme of work underway to better understand natural hazards in the region and the risk posed to the natural, built, economic and social environments because of climate change. To fast track this programme of work there is a need to prioritise place-based adaptation planning. The FOSAL framework, developed by central government and being implemented at place, is one approach (see p. 12).

Alongside this we need to consider how built infrastructure and land development can adapt to a changing climate. This includes the incorporation of nature-based infrastructure such as dune systems and wetlands to increase resilience to a changing climate.

Another key consideration is the resilience of our freshwater supply. At critical times, the region faces an increasing challenge of not having enough freshwater supply available to meet the various demands, negatively impacting the community's well-being (economic, environmental, cultural and social).

Climate change brings with it profound impacts on land and water management, as well as community resilience and well-being. Failing to take action to secure freshwater resources and implement adaptive measures to build resilience could cost the region significantly.

## Transitioning to a Sustainable Future

One recommendation from the Ministerial Inquiry into Land Use causing woody debris was to approve a Just Transition process for Tairāwhiti. A just transition process would assist with the proposed land-use change needed in Tairāwhiti, as well as the recovery already underway. A regional coordinator for the just transition process would facilitate a collaborative process that is responsive to community and industry needs.

In 2020 following COVID-19, Jobs for Nature (J4N) provided a significant investment in employment and biodiversity outcomes across Tairāwhiti. Twenty projects were funded with a total \$65M investment over three years, providing 674 estimated FTEs, including 195 in the Raukūmara restoration project.

J4N has strengthened and enhanced organisational capability, capacity, infrastructure, and networks and following Cyclone Gabrielle there is an opportunity to build on these foundations to realise even greater value.

J4N project teams, as existing skilled units, were at the forefront of response and recovery following Cyclone Gabrielle. For example, the Te Araroa J4N team and the Whai Titirangi team were integral in assisting communities during the response period in welfare, silt clearing and community engagement.

There is a risk that the funding for the existing J4N projects will come to an end without certainty of future funding opportunities. An investment in the continuation of J4N will secure employment, retain skills within the region, contribute to the restoration of biodiversity and te taiao with a focus on climate action and response and will support the transition to more sustainable land-uses and industry.

## Reserves and Community Facilities

Many Council reserves and community facilities were impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle including the Taruheru Cemetery, Gisborne's only urban cemetery (providing more than 90% of interment requests). Funding is required for remediation activities such as removing silt from reserves, levelling sunken graves caused by high groundwater and restoring native bush areas.

In order to build resilience consideration needs to be given to providing alternative locations for some services including the purchase of new urban cemetery land. Other resilience projects for reserves include restoring riparian areas and drainage.

# FOSAL

In response to the government's programme for Future of Severely Affected Land (FOSAL) there is a need to establish a dedicated project team to facilitate the policy outcomes. The FOSAL programme presents significant short, medium and long term challenges for resourcing and funding for the outcomes required.

The FOSAL programme is not business as usual. Over 15 areas have been identified in the provisional mapping of categories. A 'business as usual' approach would involve working with one location over a period of two to three years to complete a Community Adaptation Plan.

Securing additional resources, specifically technical expertise is crucial to category assessment, hazard management planning and community / whānau engagement. It is also expected, there will also be increased demand for teams within Council including, building, resource consents and community engagement to facilitate FOSAL and recovery objectives.

Meaningful community engagement is crucial to successful outcomes and building trust and confidence in the process. The current focus is on ensuring clear public information is available to increase the understanding of the provisional categorisation process and explain the next steps to affected whānau and communities.

## Category 2 locations – managed risk

Under the policy framework, Category 2 (Cat 2) locations are those where community and/or property-level interventions are required to manage future severe weather event risk. These interventions could include the raising of nearby stop banks, improving drainage or property-level works such as raising a floor level.

For Cat 2 locations, we need to assess and characterise the flooding and landslide hazard risk posed to provisionally identified locations; agree with communities around what is an acceptable level or risk; develop a suite of community and/or property-level interventions that will be effective at managing future severe weather event risk.

To achieve this, the below activities will be completed to develop Hazard Management Plans, which will inform Business Case development (if needed) to support additional investment requests from central and local government:

- # prioritising and sequencing a work programme;
- # identifying properties at risk and assessing vulnerability;
- # collation (where necessary, update) of technical information relevant to flooding, and/or landslide for the affected locations – including climate change impacts;
- # identification of mitigation options and pathways;
- # assessment of risk acceptability.

## Category 3 locations – unacceptable risk

Government has announced that properties designated as Category 3 (Cat 3) (where future severe weather event risk cannot be sufficiently mitigated) will be offered a voluntary buyout option from Council through a co-funded model between Council and Central Government.

There is a lack of expertise and capacity to run the voluntary buyout process within Council however, it is crucial to provide certainty to property owners and retain whānau in Tairāwhiti.

Legal, financial, valuation, insurance and planning expertise will be required alongside communications, engagement, liaison and psychological support for affected whānau.

## FOSAL Resource

The FOSAL Activity Table on p.20 details the resource required to sufficiently complete the FOSAL work programme over the next three years.

# natural activity tables (\$M)



Activity	Provider	Total	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028
FOSAL PROGRAMME (CAT 1 AND 2)	Programme Manager	GDC	0.500	0.200	0.200	0.100	
	Project Manager	GDC	0.120	0.040	0.040	0.040	
	Programme administrator	GDC	0.240	0.080	0.080	0.080	
	Policy (Natural Hazards) Advisor 30hrs per week First year.	GDC	0.050	0.050	-		
	Plan Development Lead	GDC	0.375	0.125	0.125	0.125	
	Natural Hazards Advisor	GDC	0.375	0.125	0.125	0.125	
	Investment Lead	GDC	0.300	0.100	0.100	0.100	
	Risk assessment	GDC	0.030	0.030			
	Technical inputs (Contractors, Flood management, stormwater, landslide, Geotech)	GDC	0.500		0.250	0.250	
	Peer Review (external consultant)	GDC	0.020	0.020			
	Acquisition Lead	GDC	0.150	0.150			
FOSAL PROGRAMME CAT 3	Legal Advisor	GDC	0.500	0.500			
	Financial Analyst	GDC	0.080	0.080			
	Land Valuer	GDC	0.200	0.200			
	Community Liaison	GDC	0.720	0.240	0.240	0.240	
	Maori Relationships Officer	GDC	0.050	0.050			
	Urban Planner	GDC	0.120	0.120			
	Mediator	GDC	0.150	0.150			
	Risk Management Analyst	GDC	-	-			
	Relocation Liaison Officer	GDC	0.200	0.200			
	Insurance Liaison	GDC	0.150	0.150			
	<b>TOTAL FOSAL PROGRAMME</b>		<b>4,830</b>	<b>2,610</b>	<b>1,160</b>	<b>1,060</b>	<b>0</b>

Activity	Provider	Total	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028
Jobs 4 Nature continuity	DOC and/or MfE	65,000	20,000	20,000	25,000		
Regional coordinator for Just Transitions process	TBC	0.450	0.150	0.150	0.150		
Investigation into small to medium scale community water storage solutions	Tender	0.400	0.200	0.200			
<b>TOTAL RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION</b>		<b>65,850</b>	<b>20,350</b>	<b>20,350</b>	<b>25,150</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

# natural activity tables (\$M)



FLOOD HAZARD RISK	Activity	Provider		2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028	
	Identification of suitable technologies to assess water velocities in turbid water during flood events	NIWA	0.025	0.025					
	Assessment of back flooding for vulnerable communities for the Waipaoa and Uawa Catchments	NIWA	0.100	0.100					
	Modelling stormwater & wastewater infrastructure to identify critical locations for flood warning monitoring	Tender	0.150	0.150					
	Assessment of impacts of water depth and velocities on survivability of households and first responders	Tender	0.050	0.050					
	Impact of Cyclone Gabrielle on lateral migration of riverbanks	Massey	0.100	0.100					
	Options for nature-based flood plain enhancements. Preliminary modelling/design in Tokomaru catchments	Tender	0.150	0.150					
	Engage flood modelling specialist to facilitate flood modelling for at risk catchments (cf.Te Arai, Uawa)	Contract	0.450	0.150	0.150	0.150			
Development of updated flood hazard layers for TRMP, including a layer for critical overland flow paths	Tender	0.200	0.100	0.100					
<b>TOTAL FLOOD HAZARD RISK</b>			<b>1.225</b>	<b>0.825</b>	<b>0.250</b>	<b>0.150</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	

LANDSLIDE AND SEDIMENT ASSESSMENT	Activity	Provider	Total	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028	
	Tracking sediment source by landuse in affected catchments using Compound Specific Stable Isotope method	NIWA	0.090	0.090					
	Installation of landslide monitoring equipment on large active landslides that threaten infrastructure.	GNS	0.080	0.080					
	Support for MSc students undertaking geotechnical assessments for uninsured whanau	AuC	0.030	0.030					
	Assessment of soil structure loss & stability risk from desiccant spraying on newly planted permanent pine.	ESR	0.040	0.040					
	Establishment and operation of Experts Panel Mangahauini landslide dam and down stream impacts	GDC	0.100	0.100					
	<b>TOTAL LANDSLIDE AND SEDIMENT ASSESSMENT</b>			<b>0.340</b>	<b>0.340</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

WOODY DEBRIS AND SILT	Activity (assessments)	Provider	Total	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028	
	Impact and mitigation of large woody debris on infrastructure.	AuC	0.050	0.050					
	Analysis of the sources, & distribution of large wood debris in Gisborne/Tairāwhiti	Contract	0.100	0.100					
	Technical support for assessing silt management impacts	Contract	0.150	0.075	0.075				
	<b>TOTAL WOODY DEBRIS AND SILT</b>			<b>0.300</b>	<b>0.225</b>	<b>0.075</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



# natural activity tables (\$M)



STRATEGIC PLANNING	Activity	Provider		2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028	
	Water supply - review/research for alternative water supply sites, re changes in rain/catchments/ resilience study. Based on previous study - total costs amounted to \$500k.			0.650	0.650				
	Additional planning costs arising from Plan changes (not already covered within existing RMP, FWPlans budgets)			1,500	1,500				
	Community engagement, research water pathways, Ecology impact - on native fauna rivers			0.550	0.550				
	Consenting changes (regional & district			0.550	0.550				
<b>TOTAL STRATEGIC PLANNING</b>			<b>3,250</b>	<b>3,250</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	

RESERVES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES	Activity	Provider	Total	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028
	Taruheru land remediation	GDC	0.155	0.155				
	New location for urban destination playground (Botanical Garden playground)	GDC	1,885			1,885		
	Anzac park water craft hub site master plan and shared infrastructure	GDC	0.400	0.400				
	Anzac Park forest restoration	GDC	0.050	0.050				
	Grant Road reserve silt removal	GDC	0.100	0.100				
	Tīfirangi track repair and stormwater attenuation (protection of significant wahi tapu and archaeological values)	GDC	0.267	0.267				
	Tūranga Gardens landslide and stormwater remediation	GDC	0.200	0.200				
	Childers Road Reserve drainage	GDC	0.292	0.292				
	Nelson Park sports field tile drains	GDC	0.735		0.735			
	Botanical Gardens drainage	GDC	0.272	0.200	0.072			
	Whataūpoko reserve - mountain bike and walking trail drainage	GDC	0.130	0.080	0.050			
	Asset resilience & adaptation (dry vault toilets, solar and rainwater capture)	GDC	2,400	1,000	0.700	0.700		
	Mobile park infrastructure	GDC	0.250	0.250				
	Riparian reserves & setback, Dune protection, native forest restoration & planting in reserves	GDC	0.750	0.250	0.250	0.250		
Community owned Sports - Waka ama		8,400	0.840	4,200	3,360			
Cemetery - Taruheru new plot berms and new urban higher ground cemetery land purchase		2,530	2,530					
<b>TOTAL RESERVES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES</b>		<b>18,816</b>	<b>6,614</b>	<b>6,007</b>	<b>6,195</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	

# natural activity tables (\$M)



Activity	Provider		2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028
			SUSTAINABLE LAND USE				
Resource to undertake a fast track plan change to update forestry regulations	Contract	300,000	0.100	0.100	0.100		
Comprehensive review of existing resource consents (four FTEs and legal advice)	GDC	1,350	0.450	0.450	0.450		
Compliance, monitoring and enforcement resourcing for Tairāwhiti Debris taskforce (eight FTEs)	GDC	3,000	1,000	1,000	1,000		
Resource to accelerate spatial planning, engagement and procurement of research to facilitate transition to more sustainable land use (two FTEs)	GDC	0.900	0.300	0.300	0.300		
Science support for land-use decisions	GDC	1,200	0.400	0.400	0.400		
Programme support to provide transparent reporting and accountability	GDC	0.690	0.230	0.230	0.230		
Mapping for forestry extreme risk overlay	GDC	2,640	0.880	0.880	0.880		
<b>TOTAL SUSTAINABLE LAND USE</b>		<b>10,080</b>	<b>3,360</b>	<b>3,360</b>	<b>3,360</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Activity	Provider	Total	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028
FLOOD MONITORING							
Expand flood monitoring webcam network and increase reliability	GDC	0.032	0.032				
Ensure full redundancy for four critical river flood warning river sites	GDC	0.020	0.020				
Real-time monitoring of groundwater level conditions in urban areas to inform flood risk	GDC	0.015	0.015				
Microwave link to reduce dependency on internet for telemetry sites	GDC	0.035	0.035				
Peer review of the Arrows Flood model and the flood warning model & advice on migrating to a replacement	MetService	0.040	0.040				
Replacement of and training of staff into Arrows replacement	Tender	0.500	0.250	0.250			
Improved realtime weather now casting using a rapidly deployable X-Band radar for Gisborne/Tairāwhiti	Tender	0.250	0.125	0.125			
Drone-based LiDAR capacity to support landslide, riverbank lateral spread, stockbank assessment	Fernside	0.137	0.137				
Provision to support MBIE/LINZ regional LiDAR	LINZ	0.100	0.100				
<b>TOTAL FLOOD MONITORING</b>		<b>1,129</b>	<b>0.754</b>	<b>0.375</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>NATURAL TOTAL</b>		<b>105,820</b>	<b>38,328</b>	<b>31,577</b>	<b>35,915</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
----------------------	--	----------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	----------	----------

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

# social and community wellbeing



In the wake of Cyclone Gabrielle, the RCC and Recovery Lead Partners have the responsibility to ensure that communities can participate meaningfully in the recovery process. Anxiety, fear, isolation, psychological wellbeing and physical health factors all present barriers for whānau and community's ability to recover. Social and community wellbeing is intrinsically linked with all of recovery.

Community engagement will be one of the priorities to ensure the leaders in recovery work on projects driven by community voice and need.

The aim is to facilitate and coordinate projects that promote:

- # Community Connection
- # Resilience
- # Community Capacity
- # Self-determination
- # Addressing health and psychological wellbeing
- # Housing & Accommodation Support
- # Supporting people to adapt to a changing labour market.

A collaborative, building upon the CI model, will ensure the plan encompasses whānau and community voice to ensure solutions can be tailored to the communities and locally fit for purpose for Tairāwhiti based on the below social and community wellbeing principles:

Environments should be treated as intrinsically inter-related	While the Road to Recovery organises the recovery activities into four environments to align and coordinate initiatives, the activities and outcomes within these environments are intrinsically inter-related, this is important that social and community wellbeing is considered throughout recovery.
Community led recovery	Communities need to be resourced and supported with clear lines of communication to lead recovery. A policy of reciprocity will be central to maintaining positive relationships with communities.
Recovery needs to be agile & iterative	Community feedback to date has emphasised the need for solutions to immediate need. A focus should be on responding to immediate recovery needs and rapidly working to address areas of anxiety for communities. Services and initiatives need to be agile and able to respond at pace to community needs as they develop.
Build resilience into recovery	Recovery initiatives should act now to support community level resilience to future events, while resilience should be built into key projects and activities for recovery.
Consider recovery across the region & within communities	Any central planning needs to acknowledge the importance of taking a cross-regional lens to recovery. This means that any planning needs to be inclusive of and open to other groups who may be self-determining their own recovery.
Address inequities	Recovery initiatives should be implemented in ways that recognise and seek to address, where possible, inequities in outcomes.

# social and community wellbeing



## Te Whatu Ora Tairāwhiti

Throughout the response to the three events in 2023, Cyclone Hale, Cyclone Gabrielle and the June 23 Event, the medical supply chain was impacted which meant access to medications and other health resources worsened from an already poor baseline. Te Whatu Ora's recovery and preparedness planning continues to identify priority resolutions required on how to hold and distribute medications and the provision of acute services, long term patients and at home care for isolated communities.

### # Rural patient transport and access to specialist services on East Coast

Since 2018, for patients living on the East Coast of Tairāwhiti there has been a degree of difficulty to get to and from specialist appointments at the Gisborne Hospital. As there are continued and intermittent closures on SH35 and local East Coast roads a transport pilot will be established to support the provision of access to specialist services on the coast, and for patient transfer for whānau who require in-person specialist appointments at Gisborne Hospital.

- # Patient transport will run for a period of 12 months. At the end of this period an evaluation will take place to assess whether the demand remains based on impact on whānau access to specialist care.

- # Weekly flights will occur for specialists to travel to the East Coast to provide in person clinics for whānau. This service will continue until 31 December 2023, where an assessment will be completed based on demand and the health and safety considerations of best travel options for the specialist teams.

- # Funded primary care extended consultations for whānau impacted by NIWE or the 23-26 June weather event are being provided within primary care.

### # Public Health Officer (PHO) incorporated into Recovery

The primary function of this role is to champion health across all recovery streams, providing strategic advice and support to ensure that recovery activities optimize future health benefits for the affected communities. This position will leverage comprehensive health networks to provide assurance that health disparities are not further aggravated across various work streams.

To uphold the principle of 'Health in all Policy' (HiAP), Te Whatu Ora National Public Health Service sees significant advantages in stationing a Public Health Officer within the Council Recovery Office. The aim is to guarantee that matters of health, wellbeing, sustainability, and equity are consciously incorporated in all policy, planning, and decision-making processes. This strategy seeks to improve health outcomes and minimise health disparities.

### Tairāwhiti Pasefika Recovery Plan

Attached in Appendix One is The Tairāwhiti Pasefika Recovery Plan that outline priorities and measures identified by the Pasefika community. The plan includes a range of social measures and requests including housing, health, education, employment and more for a direct response by key agencies and organisations.

# social and community wellbeing activity tables (\$M)



Activity	Provider	Total	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028
Recovery Office	GDC	7,155	2,993	3,134	1,028		
Community Led Recovery	Recovery Office	0.500	0.300	0.100	0.100		
<b>RECOVERY OFFICE TOTAL</b>		<b>7,655</b>	<b>3,293</b>	<b>3,234</b>	<b>1,128</b>		
Activity	Provider	Total	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028
Physiology Response – sustainable ongoing support	Whatu Ora	1,000		0.500	0.500		
Patient Transport for East Coast whanau access specialist appointments	Whatu Ora	0.405	0.079	0.163	0.163		
Recovery Coordination Centre - Public Health Officer	Recovery Office	0.450	0.150	0.150	0.150		
<b>TE WHATU ORA TOTAL</b>		<b>1,855</b>	<b>0.229</b>	<b>0.813</b>	<b>0.813</b>		
Activity	Provider	Total	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028
Tairāwhiti Pasefika Recovery Plan	Public Service Agencies	0.400	0.400				
<b>TE WHATU ORA TOTAL</b>		<b>0.400</b>	<b>0.400</b>				
<b>SOCIAL TOTAL</b>		<b>9,410</b>	<b>3,692</b>	<b>3,947</b>	<b>1,841</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

# economic environment



A synthesised regional proposal for targeted support for the Tairāwhiti business sector has been built through partnerships with the forestry, agriculture, horticulture, tourism/accommodation/hospitality sectors and small-to-medium sized enterprises. These sectors were identified in early post-Gabrielle discussions with stakeholder groups as having experienced significant losses and representing a large proportion of the business economy and land use in Tairāwhiti. In total they represent for the region:

- # ~42 per cent of the GDP (\$1.0Bn),
- # around half the number of employees and businesses (~12,000 and 3,000 respectively)
- # 74% of the land in the region (622,000 hectares).

In a letter sent directly to Hon Grant Robertson, Hon Damien O'Connor and Hon Kititapu Allan on 16 June 2023 (attached Appendix One), Trust Tairāwhiti identified the direct losses incurred to the five sectors as being between \$415 – \$475M as a minimum estimate. This estimate spans ten common loss types over a five year period as a result of the impacts from Gabrielle.

The businesses of Tairāwhiti are inherently resilient but Gabrielle is testing the bounds of that resilience. For the immediate response four proposed work programmes have been identified that will “help the region build back better, more sustainably and more quickly”, detailed in the bullets to the right. These will support Tairāwhiti “businesses to come back strong and fast so they can continue to support our communities and their wellbeing”.

For the next stage of Tairāwhiti’s economic recovery, Trust Tairāwhiti is transitioning into the recovery and resilience planning phase alongside sectors and agencies.

## # Recovery and resilience loans

One option is to lower the cost of finance funding offered to growers by way of a Government underwrite that could be extended to the primary sector’s banks. These would then develop the loans and manage the associated risks. It is proposed these be a 5-year low interest loan which could help alleviate the financial burden and accelerate recovery and rebuilding efforts.

## # An infrastructure recovery fund

Estimated the costs of damage to private infrastructure lie between \$25-\$30M. Much of the on-farm infrastructure is either uninsurable or prohibitively expensive to replace.

MPI has allocated \$30M for mental health and animal welfare. Regional allocations have yet to be defined however it is suggested this fund be prioritised to paying for infrastructure repairs that will allow the agriculture and horticulture sectors to get back up and running, thus lessening the likelihood of mental health and animal welfare impacts. The proposal includes requesting an additional \$10M for this. The total will represent around half of the estimated infrastructure losses.

## # An on-farm and on-orchard recovery and resilience fund

Cyclone Gabrielle occurred just prior to harvest for most annual horticultural crops and for agriculture. This has significantly affected stock carrying capacity and the 2024 crop production. It is estimated the losses to be \$80-\$90M in FY24. With no income from 2023, farmers and orchardists do not have access to cash to fund the production for the 2023/24 season’s crops. The proposal is to fund 80% of direct costs of production including employing staff to plant, prune and manage the 2024 crop for harvest. This is further detailed in the letter attached in Appendix One.

## # Rates relief

Assistance with rates would provide short-term relief for affected farmers whose income has been limited as crops have not been harvested. Similar relief is available for private houses affected by cyclone damage. An assessment of the total relief required is yet to be explored, but it is requested funding support for growers to pay Council relating to cyclone-affected land.

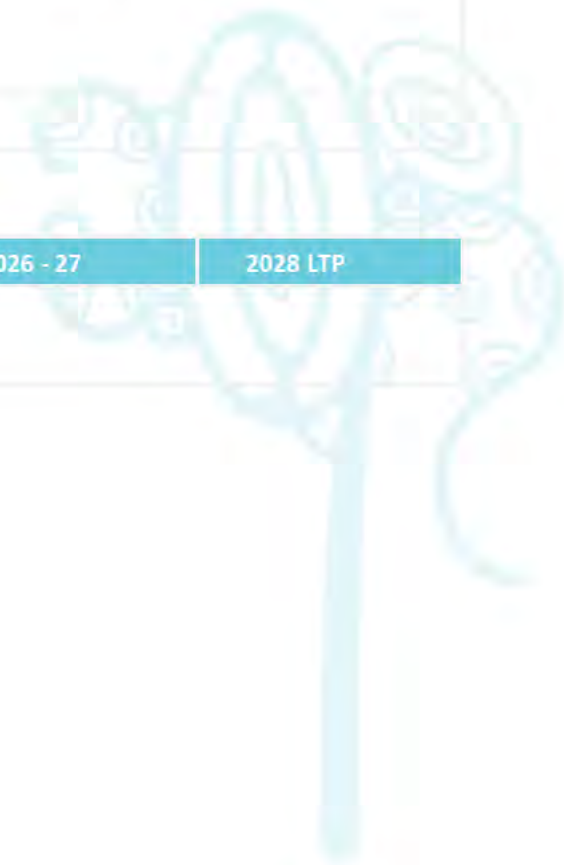
# economic activity tables (\$M)



Estimated Loss	Immediate clean-up	Infrastructure loss within the business	Crop loss recovery costs	Cost to recover	Cost to build resilience	Cost to pivot/ new opportunities	Risk if not addressed	Safe, Connected, Protected
SME's	5	Not estimated	0	0				
Tourism (SME's)	0.25	Not estimated	0	0				
Agriculture	0.160	7.15	18.80	40.41	66.36		Recovery and resilience plan under development	
Horticulture	0.220	12.43	5.74	17.731	35.90			
Forestry	0.60	5.50	0	10.60	16.10			
Fisheries (SME's)							Not currently in scope	

ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT	TOTAL	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2028 LTP
Response proposed programmes						
<b>ECONOMIC TOTAL</b>						Not yet estimated

Released under the Official Information Act 1982



# Appendix One – Tairāwhiti Pasefika Recovery Plan 2023

*Tālofa lava, Mālō nī, Kia orāna, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Mālō e lelei, Ni sa bula vinaka, Talofa, Noa'ia e mauri, Halo ola keta, Tēnā koutou katoa and warm Pacific greetings.*

This Recovery plan presents the voice of the Tairawhiti Pasefika community. This does not pre-empt the strategic Tairawhiti Pasefika Plan that is currently being prepared by local leaders. The draft strategic plan will be socialised by leaders across local Pasefika community groups and finalised in July. Therefore, this recovery plan is based on early talanoa held in March and April 2023. Costings are indicative and details may be discussed with the community as required.

The strategic plan will outline priorities and measures identified by the Pasefika community. This includes a range of social measures including housing, health, education, employment and more for a direct response by key agencies and organisations.

The Tairawhiti Pasefika community is diverse and represents many Pacific Island nations. This should be considered with the recovery response. Long-term needs and priorities of the various Pasifika leaders, nationalities, religious denominations, inter-generations and organisations will be presented in the strategic plan.

The term Regional Public Service (RPS) is used often in the table below. RPS is a network of all Tairawhiti Public Services. The RPS aims to collectively resolve regional priorities including Recovery Plans and the Tairawhiti Pasefika Plan being written at the time of this submission. The Pasefika community invites a unified public service response to recovery and strategic plans. This does not preclude non-government organisations and private business responses.

As strategic planning is still underway the level of existing funding that may be allocated to the initiatives identified is unknown. However, this information should sit with agencies that will deliberate over recovery and strategic plans. It will be useful for the community to know this information.

Lead agencies identified have not been consulted with about this Plan. Agencies are expected to advise on which one of them is responsible, potential partners or a unified response.

The initiatives are sectioned into emergency preparedness and self-reliance and resilience. A dedicated resource to drive delivery of emergency preparedness is included in the plan. This is a critical requirement to achieve the plan as there is low capacity available at present.



# Appendix One – Tairāwhiti Pasefika Recovery Plan 2023

Initiative Name	Description	Cost (\$pa)	Lead Agency	By when?	How will this initiative help achieve emergency preparedness, self-reliance or resilience?
Civil Defence & Emergency Planning	All Tairāwhiti Pasefika groups and family/households have an Emergency Response Plan	50,000 *	NEMA/Civil Defence RPS Leads	Dec 2023	Targeted Pacific community preparedness, connectivity and response to an emergency
Strengthen Pacific emergency response	20 Pacific community representatives have access to emergency management development and are resourced to lead community response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CIMS</li> <li>- First Aid training</li> <li>- Psycho-social first aid</li> <li>- Civil Defence emergency training</li> <li>- Communications</li> </ul>	20,000	NEMA/Civil Defence Te Whatu Ora MPP	Dec 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pacific community leaders are trained and receive support to respond during a weather event.</li> <li>- Trained Pasifika reps are included in regional civil defence planning processes e.g., a catastrophic event.</li> </ul>
Designated sites for emergency equipment and supplies	Emergency container/pods equipped are located at key sites that may contain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Generators</li> <li>- Solar panels</li> <li>- Container to house essential items</li> <li>- Starlink or alternative communication source</li> <li>- Defibrillator</li> <li>- Bedding</li> <li>- Dry food</li> <li>- Water</li> </ul>	30,000 each	NEMA/Civil Defence MBIE	Dec 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Targeted Pacific and wider community preparedness, connectivity and response to an emergency</li> <li>- Access to equipment and supplies available in times of emergency.</li> </ul>
Strengthen relations with local Civil Defence and emergency welfare centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Te Poho o Rawiri</li> <li>- House of Breakthrough</li> <li>- Te Tini o Porou</li> <li>- Tairāwhiti Marae stood up for emergency welfare and accommodation e.g Whakāto &amp; Ohako marae.</li> </ul>	Included *	NEMA/Civil Defence	Dec 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Targeted Pacific and wider community preparedness, connectedness and response to an emergency.</li> <li>- Improve cultural awareness between organisations, marae and Pasefika community.</li> <li>- Improve response to Pasefika community.</li> <li>- Positive feedback received about response from Te Poho o Rawiri with desire to build on relationship.</li> </ul>
Connect and support visiting Pasefika workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Connect with and increase awareness with RSE employers</li> <li>- Pasefika community connect with RSE workers</li> <li>- Clear information from NZ Immigration made available to track the flow of RSE workers into the region</li> </ul>		MBIE Immigration NZ MPP	Dec 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Familiarise employers with local Pacific support available to employees</li> <li>- RSE workers know where to get support any time.</li> <li>- Pasefika are aware of who is in region at anytime and particularly in times of civil emergency to offer support</li> <li>- Consider RSE trends for emergency planning.</li> <li>- Increased exchange and support between RSE workers and locals.</li> <li>- Happy workers are productive workers.</li> </ul>

# Appendix One – Tairāwhiti Pasefika Recovery Plan 2023

Initiative Name	Description	Cost (\$pa)	Lead Agency	By when?	How will this initiative help achieve emergency preparedness, self-reliance or resilience?
Food sovereignty and growing food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1.5FTE</li> <li>- Land – lease/purchase/gift</li> <li>- Material, tools, equipment</li> <li>- Transportation</li> </ul>	<p>120,000</p> <p>20,000</p>	<p>MSD</p> <p>MPP</p> <p>DIA</p> <p>MBIE</p>	Commence Aug for growing season	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Propagate, cultivate and prepare traditional and non-traditional foods for distribution/sale</li> <li>- Inter-generational transfer of traditional knowledge</li> <li>- Nurture and practice traditions</li> <li>- Manaakitanga</li> <li>- Guardianship</li> <li>- Food storage and provision for emergency supply.</li> <li>- Nutritional value.</li> <li>- Cost-effective and affordable.</li> <li>- Food security.</li> <li>- Enterprise.</li> </ul>
Pasefika Civil Defence & Emergency Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 0.5FTE (fixed term)</li> <li>- Opex</li> <li>- Capex</li> <li>- Set deliverables/timeframe</li> </ul>	40,000	<p>NEMA/Civil Defence</p> <p>RPS Leads</p>	July 2023	Employ 1 FTE Pasefika person to facilitate emergency preparation for Pasefika community as identified above to meet short term timeframe (6mth)
<b>Self-reliance &amp; resilience</b>					
Strategic planning and oversight	Fixed term 1FTE - Support preparation & ongoing monitoring of community led Tairawhiti Pasefika plan (3-5 yearly).	120,000	<p>MSD/MPP</p> <p>Te Whatu Ora</p>	July 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil emergency events have exposed the vulnerabilities of this community.</li> <li>- A strategic approach to identify and address priorities is the first next step.</li> <li>- Build capacity and capability of Pasefika community.</li> <li>- Increase visibility, voice and contribution to region.</li> <li>- Create opportunity and potential for more.</li> </ul>
	Support Pasefika community engagement to prepare and monitor the Tairawhiti Pasefika plan 2023.		MSD & DIA	July 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ongoing engagement- and community-ownership is required for this community led plan.</li> <li>- There has never been a plan of this sort for region and capacity is required to get started until community ready to take on.</li> </ul>
Tairawhiti Pasefika Community Profile & data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop and maintain a Pasefika Community Profile with up-to-date data and information in an easy-to-read format</li> <li>- Provide regular Immigration NZ data and information about RSE and visa workers</li> </ul>		<p>RPS</p> <p>NZI</p>	October 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tairawhiti Pasefika community is diverse representing many island nations. This should be considered with response.</li> <li>- Support planning and development with relevant and up to date data and information.</li> <li>- Measure and evaluate progress with quality baseline and new data collection.</li> <li>- Evidence-based approach.</li> <li>- Require data analysis and appropriate presentation.</li> <li>- RPS will be required to report against Pasefika priorities in strategic plan.</li> </ul>

# our approach to recovery

The Collective Impact (CI) framework is one that will bring cohesion to the recovery journey in Tairāwhiti

To deliver a coordinated community-led recovery plan, CI has been adopted as the framework for recovery. Collective agency efforts will be coordinated across recovery environments supported by the Recovery Coordination Centre (RCC).

This model will allow for operational decision-making to achieve recovery objective which ensures:

- # priorities are being driven by the collective for the benefit of Tairāwhiti,
- # the groups' focus and accountabilities are clear,
- # upholding of the Treaty of Waitangi partnership between the Crown and Tangatā Whenua.

The RCC functions are in place to mobilise, report, coordinate recovery and liaise with partners. This means activities to achieve shared measures will be developed for recovery under the CI agenda and goal.

The RCC has adopted the functions detailed to the right. The functions are applied to ensure the work will support the regional recovery effort, and factors to ensure:

- # lead agencies remain inclusive but an independent partner of the RCC to ensure recovery is based on community aspirations and collective decisions.
- # resources are accessible to support the community, iwi and agencies to develop, deliver or implement coordinated recovery in Tairāwhiti.

## COORDINATION OF RECOVERY

Coordinate, support and lead recovery activities across the region, strategic planning and develop recovery awareness in Tairāwhiti.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Engage and capture community voice to ensure it is visible in the regional recovery priorities, connecting communities to co-design recovery solutions to meet their aspirations.

## RECOVERY LEAD PARTNERS

Facilitate, co-ordinate and lead specific recovery environment activity, across the Tairāwhiti Region.

*(Social and Community Wellbeing / Economic / Built / Natural)*

## OPERATIONAL DELIVERY

The delivery of technical recovery operations across Tairāwhiti

*(for example FOSAL, Silt and Debris etc.)*

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

# community engagement

**The RCC is committed to fostering pathways for resilient and thriving communities**

## **- Manaaki tangata -**

Amongst the different meanings of Manaaki tangata, uplifting and elevating the mana of others through actions, is the expression the RCC has adopted. The reciprocal nature of manaaki suggests that the mana of all parties is maintained and enhanced throughout community engagement.

The RCC is initiating a comprehensive recovery planning process that aims to address the recovery aspirations for communities across the region. To achieve this, the RCC has extended an opportunity to communities to collaborate on Community-Led Recovery Planning which is the priority over the coming months.

## **Community-Led Recovery**

The detailed approach for recovery engagement is based on the Whānau Ora principles. This is to ensure whānau and community voice is captured authentically, and the voice carries through into the regional recovery plan.

The primary objective is to establish short, medium, and long-term recovery aspirations that reflect the diverse community needs including the holistic community wellbeing.

A successful recovery plan is best shaped by the collective wisdom and perspectives of our communities; whanau, kaumātua, tamariki and rural voices. A diversity of insights, expertise, and engagement will play a role in ensuring our community's priorities and overall vision are captured in recovery planning.

## **FOSAL**

A planned approach is being developed which fosters manaaki tangata and a focus on coordinating a connected inter-agency presence for communities and whānau affected by the categorisation process. There is a significant amount of work ahead to ensure a multi-layered approach to communications and engagement is applied to re-connect and support those impacted. The multi-layered approach is in progress and includes:

### **# Drop-in centres established**

The purpose of on-going drop in centres is to ensure clear public information is regularly available, engaging and visually informative. Coordinated inter-agency presence has been adopted for drop-ins which will see a combination of Te Whatu Ora, psychological wellbeing support, Ministry of Social Development, insurance providers and tech experts available to tailor responses for affected communities and whānau.

### **# Localised community hui**

This will be an opportunity for hapū/community/street/suburb-focused hui. It is forecast that this will be the intensive stage of this mahi.

Approach is similar to the drop-in centres but with specific localised tailored engagements to meet community needs based on the categorisation and assessments completed.

### **# Individual whānau engagements**

Given the sensitive nature of whānau situations there will be provision for one-to-one engagements through Recovery Case Coordinators, the Psychological Wellbeing Programme and partner support.

It is integral whānau have a consistent point of contact and continuity through this experience.

### **# Individual property assessments**

In some instances, individual property assessments will occur where property-specific information is required to determine the mitigation approach. At this stage this is a frequently asked request derived from individual whānau engagements.

# community engagement and wellbeing

In order to achieve community engagement and effective social wellbeing, depending on need, the roles below will be interchangeable as the demand requires. This will mean redeployment of existing resource across engagement requirements. It is expected, following extensive community engagement through the community-led recovery and FOSAL programme, there will be a better understanding of community aspirations. Through the combination of this, as well as having an iwi lead, the Social and Community Wellbeing Recovery Plan will be comprehensive, agile and action focussed.

## Community-Led Recovery Leads

These roles ensure communities and their recovery aspirations form the basis for our region's recovery. They are the integral link to community and will provide consistency and continuity of relationship in the development of community-led recovery plans. They are responsible for relationship management. They will provide support where required and most importantly be the link to facilitating appropriate agency co-ordination. These roles will provide a centralised of contact.

## Recovery Case Coordinators

Recovery Case Coordinators are providing an essential element to navigate the ongoing and critical needs of whānau. Supporting flood-affected people through the challenges (family, financial, FOSAL categorisations, housing & emotional wellbeing) they face by the provision of holistic wraparound services. Their primary role is to contribute to the wellbeing of affected individuals, family/whanau, hapu and iwi by helping to coordinate access to the services they need to enable a timely recovery.

## Psychological Wellbeing Support

Psychological wellbeing support is being rolled out across a number of recovery work streams alongside the RCC to support an inter-agency presence including:

- # Additional support to Iwi Māori Community, primary care and other service providers for support based on needs within communities
- # Whanau based response to Future of Severely Affect Land
- # Psychology wellbeing training across Health Workforce
- # Community physiological wellbeing putea fund
- # Psychology wellbeing training for Communities.

Currently the Psychological Wellbeing Network is undertaking a mapping exercise of communities, local leadership and local provider response to tailor community supports to the identified psychological needs. Currently, Te Whatu Ora taskforce has no additional funding for psychological support beyond the 2023/24 financial year as detailed in the Social Activity Tables.

9(2)(a)

---

**From:** 9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Monday, 10 July 2023 11:15 am  
**To:** ^Parliament: 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** RE: MEETING with Mayor and CE: Minister Robertson - 11 July  
**Attachments:** Briefing to Minister Robertson - Tairāwhiti Tiriti Partnerships JULY 2023\_.pdf

Morena 9(2)(a)

I hope you had a lovely weekend.

Please find attached here our briefing note for the Minister regarding Council's Te Tiriti Partnership in Tairāwhiti.

Our Mayor and CE would be happy to discuss further in their meeting with the Minister earlier in the day.

Ngā mihi,  
9(2)(a)

---

**From:** 9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 2:23 PM  
**To:** 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** RE: MEETING with Mayor and CE: Minister Robertson - 11 July

H 9(2)(a)

Thank you, and yes, that's fine 😊

---

**From:** 9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Friday, 7 July 2023 2:21 PM  
**To:** 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** RE: MEETING with Mayor and CE: Minister Robertson - 11 July

Kia ora 9(2)(a)

Our meeting includes just Mayor Rehette Stoltz and Chief Executive, Nedine Thatcher Swann.

We have been preparing a briefing note to provide to the Minister particularly ahead of his visit with the regional iwi leadership later on Tuesday to inform him of

Am I able to get that to you Monday morning for including in the Minister's pre-reading?

9(2)(a)

Ngā mihi,

---

**From:** 9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Friday, July 7, 2023 1:44 PM  
**To:** 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** RE: MEETING with Mayor and CE: Minister Robertson - 11 July

Hi 9(2)(a)

When you know, can I please have a list of meeting attendees, thank you.

9(2)(a) | Senior Private Secretary | Office of Hon Grant Robertson MP  
Member of Parliament for Wellington Central  
Minister of Finance | Minister for Sport and Recreation | Leader of the House | Minister for Cyclone Recovery  
Freepost: Private Bag 18 888 | Parliament Buildings | Wellington 6011 | Ph 9(2)(a)  
[www.beehive.govt.nz](http://www.beehive.govt.nz)

---

**From:** 9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Thursday, 6 July 2023 10:13 AM  
**To:** 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** RE: MEETING with Mayor and CE: Minister Robertson - 11 July

Brilliant thank you

Ngā mihi,

9(2)(a)

---

**From:** 9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 6, 2023 10:06 AM  
**To:** 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** RE: MEETING with Mayor and CE: Minister Robertson - 11 July

Kia ora 9(2)(a)

Minister will be accompanied by 9(2)(a) senior press secretary. Nothing specific, but Minister is aware recovery will be one of the topics.

---

**From:** 9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Thursday, 6 July 2023 9:52 AM

To: 9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: MEETING with Mayor and CE: Minister Robertson - 11 July

Thanks again 9(2)(a)

I'll chime in and just ask if you could let us know how many will attend in the Minister's delegation with him.

We will discuss recovery, but if there is any specific areas or information the Minister would like to cover, please let us know.

Ngā mihi,

9(2)(a)

---

From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2023 9:47 AM

To: 9(2)(a)

Cc: 9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: MEETING with Mayor and CE: Minister Robertson - 11 July

Hi 9(2)(a)

Thanks for getting back to me while you are on leave, appreciate it.

Yes, Minister would like to meet at the Gisborne DC offices. Is there anything else you need from me at this point?

9(2)(a) | Senior Private Secretary | Office of Hon Grant Robertson MP

Member of Parliament for Wellington Central

Minister of Finance | Minister for Sport and Recreation | Leader of the House | Minister for Cyclone Recovery

Freepost: Private Bag 18 888 | Parliament Buildings | Wellington 6011 | Ph: 9(2)(a)

[www.beehive.govt.nz](http://www.beehive.govt.nz)

---

From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Thursday, 6 July 2023 9:42 AM

To: 9(2)(a)

Cc: 9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: MEETING with Mayor and CE: Minister Robertson - 11 July

Morena 9(2)(a),

The Mayor and CE are available at 10am and are more than happy to meet with the Minister. I have cc'd the CE's Principal Advisor into this email too.

Would the Minister like to meet at the Gisborne District Council Offices?

Ngā mihi,

9(2)(a)



9(2)(a)



*The content of this email is confidential and intended for the recipient specified in message only. It is strictly forbidden to share any part of this message with any third party without written consent from the sender. If you received this message by mistake please reply to inform us so we can prevent recurrence and promptly delete it.*

**From:** 9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Thursday, 6 July 2023 9:06 am  
**To:** 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** MEETING with Mayor and CE: Minister Robertson - 11 July

Good morning 9(2)(a)

Minister Robertson will be in Gisborne on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July, and would like to know if it would be possible to meet with Gisborne DC (Mayor and CE) while he is in Gisborne as a courtesy visit. Minister is available for a 30-45 minute meeting at 10am.

Grateful for confirmation – thank you.

Regards

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a) | Senior Private Secretary | Office of Hon Grant Robertson MP  
Member of Parliament for Wellington Central  
Minister of Finance | Minister for Sport and Recreation | Leader of the House | Minister for Cyclone Recovery  
Freepost: Private Bag 18 888 | Parliament Buildings | Wellington 6011 | Ph: 9(2)(a)  
[www.beehive.govt.nz](http://www.beehive.govt.nz)

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

10 July 2023

Hon. Grant Robertson  
Minister of Finance and Cyclone Recovery

## BRIEFING TO MINISTER: TAIRĀWHITI TE TIRITI PARTNERSHIP

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this briefing is to provide Te Tiriti Partnership context for your upcoming visit to Tairāwhiti, Tuesday 11 July 2023. This briefing provides summaries of:

- Gisborne District Council's overall intent and approach to Te Tiriti Partnership
- Recent attempts to collaboratively explore Te Tiriti Partnership in practice with iwi
- Current collective governance forums and their status
- Councils' policy and guidance regarding Te Tiriti o Waitangi

### SUMMARY

Gisborne District Council (Council) is making a concerted effort to establish a meaningful Treaty partnership with tangata whenua in Te Tairāwhiti. Several significant steps have been taken to facilitate the environment to build that foundation.

However, despite Council's proactive approach, progress has been hindered by the lack of desire and response from their iwi partners. Council can only make assumptions that collaborative pathways and opportunities have stalled due to the unwillingness/unavailability. Council recognizes that true partnership can only occur when all parties are ready to proceed. We are actively seeking to build trust, enhance relationships, and overcome the challenges faced in our partnership journey.

Council is committed to giving effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and strengthening its relationship with tangata whenua. Our approach to Te Tiriti, and partnership under Te Tiriti, is progressive for local government, proactive in response to future requirements and designed to magnify the voice and status of mana whenua first. The position of central government as the Treaty partner in this dynamic requires consideration.

We feel our intent and approach to Treaty relationships is progressive and ahead of its time where the local government sector is concerned. We have unanimous endorsement from full Council and senior leadership who are right behind the direction we are taking.





## DISCUSSION

### What is our overall approach?

1. Councils' intent is to be good treaty partner and Council has developed many options to achieve meaningful bilateral relationships with iwi and hapū.
2. Council is transitioning away from 'taking Te Tiriti o Waitangi into account' and wants to 'give effect to Te Tiriti' instead. This is a commitment to enacting Te Tiriti, and a signal of intent that goes beyond the existing obligations placed upon Council by legislation.
3. We have continued to attempt to work with tangata whenua to develop a regional shared decision-making forum that has the full powers of Council.

### COUNCILS OVERALL APPROACH



### Where are we now?

4. Upcoming changes to legislation include a heightened requirement to give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and further provisions for Māori involvement in resource and infrastructure management. We are being proactive in our preparations for reform.
5. Further work will be required to jointly design and establish mutually agreed relationships and shared decision-making mechanisms with iwi. We have several collaborative pathways and opportunities that have been initiated or led by Council, that have stalled due to lack of response or desire to engage.
6. For the 2022 election Council established Māori Wards to provide greater representation for Māori. The representation arrangements involve 1 Mayor and 13 councillors in total, being:





- 8 general ward councillors elected district-wide from the Tairāwhiti General Ward
  - 5 Māori ward councillors elected district-wide from the Tairāwhiti Māori Ward.<sup>[3]</sup>
7. In 2022 Council adopted its Te Tiriti Compass, a tool to support organisational understanding and application of Te Tiriti o Waitangi across our mahi. It guides the standard to which we hold ourselves in our role as a Treaty partner. In 2023, Council has been drafting guidance to support consistent staff implementation of the compass.

#### **What are we committed to doing?**

8. Using Te Tiriti Compass, Council aims to redirect itself towards the goal of enduring Tiriti partnership. This may mean revisiting co-governance discussions over key kaupapa - such as resource management planning and recovery, while formalising the relationships between Council and hapū/marae, and jointly responding to emerging opportunities and priorities.
9. At the end of 2022 Council also committed to having a 50/50 Te Tairāwhiti Regional Management Plan (TRMP) Committee. This signals Council's intent to reset and decide the unitary plan together, in partnership with tangata whenua. Iwi nominated members, a term of reference (TOR) and other administrative matters need to be resolved before this committee is operational.
10. Council is committed to increasing existing resourcing for engagement with mana whenua and continuing existing initiatives where we fully resource iwi capacity to participate in our resource management and regulatory functions. An example of this type of initiative is the Council's Iwi Technical Trial currently funded for \$600k for over 12 months, funding each iwi \$150k, to support technical representatives to advise and inform regulatory policy.

#### **How will we get there?**

11. The partnership journey begins with building trust and in some cases, rebuilding relationships bound in respect, trust and openness. Council intends to reset, refocus, and return its energy to enhancing its Tiriti partnership mahi with mana whenua, while finding a path through the challenges currently being faced.
12. While we have a motivated set of leadership in our elected members and executive staff, a partnership can only occur when both / all parties are ready to proceed.

<sup>[3]</sup> Gisborne District Council. 2023. Our Tairāwhiti – 2022-2023 Annual Plan.





# The last 3 years

## INCREASED COMMITMENT TO TE TIRITI

### 2020

during the unprecedented COVID-19 response, Council worked with iwi to establish Rau Tipu Rau Ora- our combined regional forum and plan to address covid recovery and response mahi.

### 2021-2031 LTP

We revised our Strategic Priorities, including that we 'Deliver for and with Māori', with an emphasis on iwi being significant partners in Council decision making.

We reviewed the existing Tairāwhiti Piritahi Policy, and increased organisational resourcing for iwi engagement, Māori outcomes and capacity building.

### GOVERNANCE WĀNANGA

Across 2021-2022 we undertook relationship based wānanga with iwi leadership, governance to governance. These aimed to establish a forum for open and frank discussion leading to jointly designed partnership.

### RESOURCING IWI CAPACITY

In 2022 Council jointly designed a series of technical roles, to be housed by iwi, and funded 100% by Council. These technicians are working with Council planners and policy makers to develop our unitary plan review content from the ground up. Full time roles, these kaimahi focus on kaupapa of priority to their iwi.

### COMMITMENT TO TE TIRITI

During 2022 Councillors participated in a series of workshops in house to explore Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Te Tiriti Partnership in practice, and an articles based approach to interpreting application of Te Tiriti. Following this, staff have drafted a Te Tiriti Compass, reflected aspirations and direction provided by Councillors in workshops. This was adopted by Council in September of 2022.

### ONGOING PARTNERSHIP

A steering group of operational representatives from each iwi and Council are continuing to explore what a joint decision making body might look and feel like, what is needed to sustain it long term, and what our shared priorities are that the forum would address. These will be recommended back to governance members for decision. While we met once in 2022, efforts to bring iwi back to the table together to progress this have been unsuccessful.

Council proceeded to confirm a Tairāwhiti Plan Review Committee, and a Civil Defence committee, seeking 50/50 membership with iwi.

These forums are not a replacement for a jointly designed decision making body OR regional planning committee (RPC). Iwi member nominations to these forums have not been received.



Released under the Official Information Act 1982

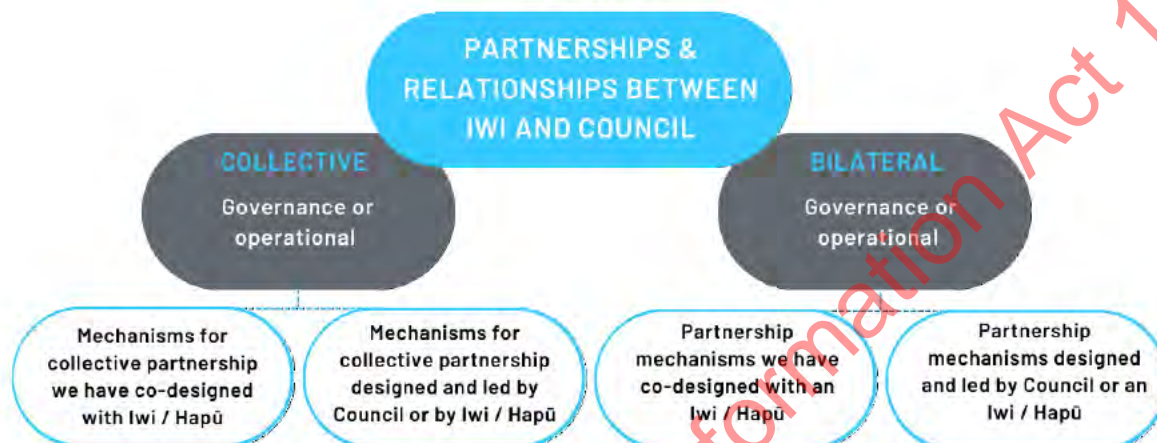




## WHAT WE HAVE DONE TO DATE

13. Council and iwi have several types of Te Tiriti partnership in action - collective relationships, bilateral relationships, designed and established together, and relationships designed and led by one side of the partnership. For this briefing we will focus on recent examples of collective partnerships.

### COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP STRANDS



#### Past partnership wānanga 2021-2022

14. Over several months in 2021 Council staff workshopped challenges and opportunities with Department of Internal Affairs facilitators, culminating in a wānanga between elected members and iwi leadership on 4 November 2021. This provided a platform for open collective discussion regarding the current and future state of partnership between iwi and Council, and what needs to occur to enhance the relationships involved.
15. This was held with the intent of continuing with a minimum of two further wānanga between iwi leaders and Council in 2022. These were aimed at enhancing relationships and ensuring a space for Council and iwi to establish a foundation for Treaty Partnership.

#### Status of partnership wānanga

16. One further wānanga was held on 9 March 2022, however the other planned workshops did not progress as partners were unavailable to attend. However, both iwi and Council did agree to delegate representatives to form a steering group. This steering group was established at the direction of iwi and Council governance to provide potential pathways and options for a regional governance forum. This forum would be bespoke to Tairāwhiti and address future requirements for a Regional Planning Committee; and presenting this back to the collective forum.

#### Steering group- 2022

17. On 2 August 2022 the steering group held its first hui, with representatives from Ngāti Porou, Ngāi Tāmanuhiri, Te Aitanga A Māhaki, Council, with legal counsel provided by Paul Beverly (Buddle Findlay). Rongowhakaata had yet to nominate their member to the steering group at that time.





### **Status of steering group**

18. While this hui was productive and held in the spirit of collaboration, no further hui were able to occur as iwi partners have been unavailable to attend any subsequent dates. Council is still attempting to bring this steering group back together.

## **COLLECTIVE GOVERNANCE FORUMS AND THEIR CURRENT STATUS**

### **Committees of Council**

19. Wastewater Management Committee. The establishment of this Committee is a requirement of the conditions of the resource consents for the upgrade and discharge of Gisborne's municipal wastewater. The committee consists of 50/50 membership between (4) Councilors and (4) iwi nominated members.
20. While Council continues to be committed to complete the wastewater treatment plant upgrade to improve water quality in Tūranganui-a-Kiwa / Poverty Bay, decisions of this body can often be delayed as the quorum is often not present. Due to capacity constraints iwi appointed positions are often either vacant, or members are unavailable to attend on agreed committee meeting dates.
21. Following 2021/ 2022 partnership wānanga, Council committed to a joint governance committee to oversee the Tairāwhiti Regional Management Plan (our unitary plan) Review. Council has also made an in-principle decision to delegate powers of Council to this committee so any decisions made by iwi and Council would be final. The committee would consist of 50/50 membership, and iwi have been invited to nominate members to the committee in February 2023. Recently, the Mayor has followed up on this invitation.
22. This committee would cease should Council and iwi (through the steering group) co-design a preferred regional forum and want decisions on regional plans to be a designation of that regional governance forum. The TRMP review Committee is not a proxy or replacement for our intent to have authentic, Te Tiriti centric partnership.
23. In 2022, following multiple states of emergency and strong working relationships during response and recovery, Council committed to adjusting the Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Group to include four iwi appointed members. Council has invited iwi to nominate their members but has not received these yet.
24. Prior to Cyclone Gabrielle, the Mayor extended an invitation to PSGE Iwi Chairs and followed up this invitation again this month. One response was received declining the invitation.

### **Rau Tipu Rau Ora (RTRO)**

25. In 2020, the leadership of Council, iwi and regional agencies, came together during the national state of emergency with the COVID-19 pandemic lock down.
26. During response efforts the collective developed a Tairāwhiti COVID-19 Pandemic Response and Recovery Plan – Rau Tipu Rau Ora. This plan also provided an overarching governance forum to oversee its implementation. The Mayor was part of this RTRO governance forum as the co-chair.





### **What is the status of Councils involvement in RTRO?**

27. In March of 2023, Council left the RTRO forum, given the demands of the response to Cyclone Gabrielle national state of emergency and to support the newly elected Council. While no longer part of governance functions, Council continues to participate and collaborate in the delivery of key tasks within the RTRO Recovery Plan.

### **Local Leadership Body (LLB)**

28. The Local Leadership Body (LLB) was first proposed through the Ngai Tāmanuhiri Claims Settlement Act of 2012. A statutory body, the LLB is a joint committee of Council. Its membership includes Rongowhakaata, Te Aitanga a Māhaki, Ngai Tāmanuhiri and Council (membership numbers are 50/50 between iwi and Council).
29. The combined rohe of this iwi extends to the southern and inland boundaries of our region, until reaching with the traditional boundaries of Ngāti Porou. The rohe of the LLB incorporates Gisborne City and the townships of Muriwai, Manutuke, Te Karaka, Patutahi, Matawai and Mōtu.

### **What is the purpose of the LLB?**

30. The purpose of the LLB is to:
- a. Contribute to the sustainable management of the natural and physical resources in the LLB area for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations, while recognizing and providing for the traditional relationship of Ngai Tāmanuhiri, Rongowhakaata and te Aitanga a Māhaki and affiliates with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga; and
  - b. To enable individuals and communities within the LLB area, as resources allow, -
    - i. to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being; and
    - ii. to achieve improved outcomes in respect of the environment; and
  - c. To ensure that the Council is appropriately informed of its statutory obligations within the LLB area, including obligations in respect of Te Tiriti o Waitangi arising under the Local Government Act 2002 and the Resource Management Act 1991 and any other relevant enactment.

### **What is the status of the LLB?**

31. Wānanga and a symposium were held in 2017 to formally establish the LLB, and members were nominated to the body. However, its inaugural meeting and final terms of reference were not progressed as iwi requested time to formalize a dispute resolution process together, independent of Council. It has since lessened in priority for some of the member iwi and has not ever been active.
32. Its purpose remains significant, and Council's Chief Executive continues dialogue with iwi chief executives in order to continue Council's commitment to establishing the LLB.
33. The Council also continues to set aside resource to support its administration in our long-term planning budgets should iwi decide to initiate its establishment.







## **Joint Management Agreement and Joint Governance Group**

### **What is the Joint Governance Group (JGG), and who is involved?**

34. In 2014 Council signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) alongside the Ministry for Primary Industries and Te Runanga o Ngāti Porou called the Waiapu Koka Hūhua. This established a working partnership between the three bodies, to exercise individual responsibilities for the restoration of the Waiapu Catchment, to give effect to commitments in the Ngāti Porou Claims Settlement Act 2012.
35. The forum that oversees the delivery of the MOU and reports on the individual actions of each party is called the Joint Governance Group, and membership consists of executive operational staff from each MOU party. The combined aim is the 100-year restoration of the Waiapu, through holistic management of land and water, and its connection and significance to Ngāti Porou.

### **What is the Joint Management Agreement (JMA) and who is involved?**

36. In 2014 Council began a process to voluntarily establish a joint management agreement (JMA) over the Waiapu catchment, with Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Porou (TRoNPnui), on behalf of ngā hapū o Ngāti Porou. Signed in 2015 this JMA remains active. A JMA forum between Council and TRoNPnui was subsequently established in 2019 and is currently active.
37. It is co-chaired by Council's Mayor, and the Chairperson of TRoNPnui, and jointly administered and advised by policy and environmental planning staff of both Council and TRoNPnui. The purpose of this forum is to share management and planning for the Waiapu and is one of the actions Council has taken in delivering on its responsibilities in the Waiapu Koka Hūhua MOU.

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

