15 October 2024



Dear

Official Information Act request relating to Cyclone Recovery Unit documents

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 18 September 2024. You requested:

"Can I please request the following titles under the OIA:

- [1]. NEMA Fortnightly Status Report to the Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery 3 September 2024
- [2]. North Island Weather Events: Progress Update on Categorisation, Buyouts, and Sediment Removal 4 September 2024
- [3]. Update on North Island Weather Events (NIWE) recovery activities in Te Tairāwhiti 5 September 2024
- [4]. Annual Preparedness Survey Findings 5 September 2024."

Documents [1] and [4] of your request were produced by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) who are an autonomous departmental agency, hosted by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC). NEMA will respond directly in relation to parts [1] and [4] of your request.

DPMC hosts the functional Chief Executive, Cyclone Recovery through the Cyclone Recovery Unit (CRU), a business unit of DPMC. With regards to your request for documents [2] and [3]:

- [2]. North Island Weather Events: Progress Update on Categorisation, Buyouts, and Sediment Removal 4 September 2024
- [3]. Update on North Island Weather Events (NIWE) recovery activities in Te Tairāwhiti 5 September 2024

I have decided to release the documents subject to information being withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of individuals
- section 9(2)(b)(ii), to protect the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or who is the subject of the information.

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
2	4 September 2024	Aide-Memoire: North Island Weather Events: Progress Update on Categorisation, Buyouts, and Sediment Removal	Released with some information withheld under section 9(2)(a).
3	5 September 2024	Aide-Memoire: Update on North Island Weather Events (NIWE) recovery activities in Te Tairāwhiti	Released with some information withheld under sections 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(b)(ii).

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 outweigh 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 DPMC'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

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Aide-Mémoire

North Island Weather Events: Progress Update on Categorisation, Buyouts, and Sediment Removal

To: Rt Hon Christopher Luxon Prime Minister Hon Mark Mitchell Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery			ion Part
Data	4/09/2024	Report Number:	DPMC-2024/25-268
Date	4/03/2024	Priority level:	Routine

Purpose

 The purpose of this aide-mémoire is to provide the regular North Island Weather Event (NIWE) progress reports on the property categorisations, Category 3 property buyouts, and progress made with sediment and debris removal and treatment.

Background

- Attached are two dashboards covering:
 - categorisation and buyout progress as of 2 September 2024
 - sediment and debris treatment and removal as of 25 August for Tairāwhiti and 30 August for Hawke's Bay.

Dashboard 1: NIWE categorisation and buyout progress

- 3. Dashboard 1 reports categorisation numbers and buyout progress for Category 3 properties.
- 4. The next round of quarterly Chief Executive level governance meetings are scheduled in Auckland on 6 September and in Hawke's Bay on 12 September. Both agendas include a deep dive into the categorisation and buyout process, with a particular focus on pace and addressing blockages.
- The next governance meeting for Tairāwhiti is scheduled for 10 October.

Auckland

6. Voluntary buyout offers have now been made to owners of 520 Category 3 properties in Auckland, an increase of 20 in the last week. The status of the offers is set out below:

Offers accepted	Properties settled	Offers not yet accepted	Total offers made
309	232	211	520 (71%)

- 7. Categorisation progress is steady, with nine more properties confirmed as Category 3 in the last week. The Auckland Council remains on track to have 92 percent of Category 3 properties confirmed by the end of September 2024. The remaining properties are expected to take longer to confirm as they involve more complex assessments to determine if property level risk mitigation work is feasible, in which case a 2P categorisation will be confirmed.
- 8. The Auckland Council is making good progress on the recruitment of new roles to speed up categorisation and voluntary buyouts. Following notification that the Council had been successful in securing \$2,240,000 from the Cyclone Recovery Capability Fund on 19 August, several positions have already been filled and other recruitment is nearing completion.

Hawke's Bay

- 9. Of the 166 Category 3 properties, owners of 161 properties (97 percent) have agreed to progress through the buyout process, and owners of the remaining five properties have formally opted out of the buyout process.
- 10. In the past week three offers were accepted and six settled. Offers have been presented to 92 percent of property owners. The status of the 148 properties where owners have received an offer is set out below:

Offers accepted	Properties settled	Offers not yet accepted	Total offers made	
124	114	24	148 (92%)	

11. This leaves 13 properties where owners are yet to receive an offer because the property value has not been confirmed. All 13 require confirmation of final valuations. Offers are expected to be presented by mid-October, subject to owners supplying the outstanding information.

Tairāwhiti

12. In Tairawhiti, there are 54 Category 3 properties eligible for a voluntary buyout. Of these, 42 owners have received a formal buyout offer from the Gisborne District Council, one more than last week. The status of these 42 properties is set out below:

Offers accepted Properties settled		Offers not yet accepted	Total offers made	
39	33	s9(2)(a)	42 (79%)	

13. There are 11 properties where owners are yet to receive an offer. s9(2)(a)

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14. s9(2)(a)

15. The Gisborne District Council has completed its categorisation process, and the scheme is now closed to new property owners. The Council is forecasting that all offers will be made by the end of October 2024. Its policy allows people until March 2025 to accept an offer, and settlement must be completed by June 2025.

Dashboard 2: Sediment and woody debris removal and treatment

- 16. In Tairāwhiti as of 25 August, total debris extracted was 446,580 tonnes from the region's catchments and beaches, which is a 93 percent rate of removal of debris across the active catchments and beaches. Of the total material cleared, 93 percent has been treated.
- 17. Extraction is nearly complete across the Lower Waimata sites. Over the past week the focus has been on transporting extracted material to burn locations and preparing the burn sites.
- 18. At the Waikanae to Midway site, extraction has progressed well despite high tides resulting from the supermoon. One further week of work is expected.
- 19. Extraction works continue in Te Arai, with fine weather resulting in good extraction and burning figures.
- 20. In Hawke's Bay as of 30 August, 474,201 cubic metres (45 percent) of high-risk material has been cleared from six catchments and beaches out of the estimated 1,042,686 cubic metres of material to be removed. 64 percent of all material removed has been treated.
- 21. Work is active across all woody debris sites in Hawke's Bay with 136,140 cubic metres removed from the estimated 204,670 cubic metres (increased from the previously reported estimate of 136,140 cubic metres) of woody debris to be cleared. The amount of woody debris to be cleared in Wairoa has been revised upwards to 150,500 cubic metres (it was previously 125,500 cubic metres). Eighty percent of all material removed has been treated.

Next steps

22. The next Weekly Update on Categorisation, Buyouts, and Sediment Removal will be sent to you next Wednesday 11 September.

Attachments:	Title	Security classification
Attachment A:	Dashboard 1: North Island Weather Events Categorisation and Buyout Process	-In-senfidence
Attachment B:	Dashboard 2: Sediment and Woody Debris Removal and Treatment	

Contact for	Contact for telephone discussion						
Name	Position	Telephone	1 st Contact				
Katrina Casey	Chief Executive Cyclone Recovery Cyclone Recovery Unit	s9(2)(a)	✓				
Helen Hurst	Executive Director, Planning and Implementation	s9(2)(a)					

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Attachment A Dashboard 1

North Island Weather Events Categorisation and Buyout Progress Weekly Update as of 2 September 2024

Highlights

- The Auckland Council has made offers to 520 Category 3 property owners (71%), an increase of 20 in the past week.
- In Hawke's Bay, 148 property owners (92%) have received offers. s9(2)(a)
- In Tairāwhiti offers have been made to 42 (79%) property owners, one more since last week. This leaves 11 still to receive an offer.

Category	1 0	2P	?	2C	@	2A	②	3	⊗
Description	Repair to previous state is all that is required to manage future severe weather event risk.	Property interventioneeded to manage if severe we event risk possibly it andem we communicate the severe we communicate the severe we communicate the severe we communicate the severe was a severe which is the severe which is the severe was a severe which is the severe was a sev	ons are future eather s, n tith ty level	Commun interventi needed fi managini severe w event risi	ions are or g future eather	Significar further assessme required the assess an property, as engag with proprowner.	ent is to as well ement	land us remain accepta residen carries	r event not be ntly vd. Some es may able, but tial use an ble risk of

Auckland

Category 3 buyouts in progress

properties still to receive an offer.

	Eligible for buyout	Awaiting opt-in or valuation underway	Valuations complete & offers made, but not yet agreed	Offers agreed or settled
Number of properties	734	214	211	309
Change on last week	+9	-11	+6	+14

In the last week 20 new offers were made to property owners and 14 offers were accepted. An additional 15 offers were settled.

Categorisation stages

	Initial impacted properties	Opted into categorisation	Desktop assessments complete	Site assessments complete
Number of properties	7,389	3,150	3,121	2,056
Change on last week	NC	+21	+17	+10

 Auckland Council continues to have more property owners opting into the buyout scheme each week, but desktop assessments are keeping pace and have been completed for 99.1% of properties.

Summary of categorisation in progress

	Cat 1	Cat 2A	Cat 2C	Cat 2P	Cat 3 eligible for buyout
Number of properties categorised	1376	N/A	s9(2)(a)	86	734
Change on last week	+16	N/A	NC	+1	+9
Estimated final. categorisation	1,994	N/A	77	175	904

Last week 26 categorisation decisions were approved, including s9(2)(a)

Hawke's Bay

Category 3 buyouts in progress

There are 13

ķĊ	Cat3 eligible for buyout	Formally opted out	Awaiting information	Comparative valuation underway	Offers made but not agreed	Offers agreed or settled
Number of properties	166	s9(2)(a)		11	24	124
Change on last week	NC	NC	NC	NC	-3	+3

- A further s9(2)(a)
- s9(2)(a) complete for 72% of properties.

The buyout process is formally

Tairāwhiti

Category 3 buyouts in progress

	Cat3 eligible for buyout	Not engaged	Negotiations underway	Offers made	Offers agreed	Offers Settled
Number of properties	54	s9(2)(a)	11	s9(2)(a)	s9(2)(a)	
Change on last week	NC	NC	-2	NC	+1	+1

- In the last week one new offer was made, one offer was accepted, and one offer was settled.
- There are 11 properties where owners are yet to receive an offer. s9(2)(a)

Sediment and Woody Debris Removal and Treatment

The dashboard sets out progress made in the removal and processing of woody debris and sediment dispersed during the North Island Weather Events for Tairāwhiti and Hawke's Bay

Tairāwhiti

Weekly progress updates since September 2023 as of 25 August 2024.

- Total woody debris extracted as of 25 August 2024 is 446,580 tonnes, which is a 93% rate of removal from active areas.
- Over the past week the focus has been on transporting and processing extracted material. 93% of removed materials has now been treated.

Projected material to be cleared (Estimated Tonnes)		Treatment							
Waimata 89,228 70,307 79% 0% 57,539 82% 1% Hikuwai 167,771 124,170 74% 0% 119,040 96% 1% Waiapu 65,000 65,000 100% 0% Removal Complete Whatatutu/ Waingaromia 12,546 30,511 243% 0% Removal Complete Waimata/ Pakarae 10,649 6,400 60% 0% 5,000 78% 0% Tikapa Beach 24,026 34,200 142% 0% Removal Complete Turanga Beaches 10,933 11,574 106% 0% Removal Complete Waikanae to Midway 14,000 8,986 64% 12% 0 0% 0% Makorori Beach 500 500 100% 0% Removal Complete Tokomaru Bay Beach 4,113 1,832 45% 0% 1,832 100% 0% Whangara Beach (Southern Side) 5,820 850 15% 0% 0		material to be cleared (Estimated	material cleared (Estimated	high risk debris removal	on last	of debris (Estimated	extracted material	on last	
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Walapu 65,000 65,000 100% 0% Removal Complete Whatatutu/ Waingaromia 12,546 30,511 243% 0% Removal Complete Waimata/ Pakarae 10,649 6,400 60% 0% 5,000 78% 0% Tikapa Beach 24,026 34,200 142% 0% Removal Complete Turanga Beaches 10,933 11,574 106% 0% Removal Complete Waikanae to Midway 14,000 8,986 64% 12% 0 0% 0% Makorori Beach 500 500 100% 0% Removal Complete Tokomaru Bay Beach 4,113 1,832 45% 0% 1,832 100% 0% Whangara Beach (Southern Side) 5,820 850 15% 0% 0 0% 0% Uawa Beach Northern 21,000 15,359 73% 0% 15,359 100% 0%	Waimata	89,228	70,307	79%	0%	57,539	82%	1%	
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Waingaromia 12,346 30,511 243% 0% Removal Complete Waimata/ Pakarae 10,649 6,400 60% 0% 5,000 78% 0% Tikapa Beach 24,026 34,200 142% 0% Removal Complete Turanga Beaches 10,933 11,574 106% 0% Removal Complete Waikanae to Midway 14,000 8,986 64% 12% 0 0% 0% Makorori Beach 500 500 100% 0% Removal Complete Tokomaru Bay Beach 4,113 1,832 45% 0% 1,832 100% 0% Whangara Beach (Southern Side) 5,820 850 15% 0% 0 0% 0% Uawa Beach Northern 21,000 15,359 73% 0% 15,359 100% 0%	Waiapu	65,000	65,000	100%	0%	Rem	oval Compl	ete	
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Turanga Beaches 10,933 11,574 106% 0% Removal Complete Waikanae to Midway 14,000 8,986 64% 12% 0 0% 0% Makorori Beach 500 500 100% 0% Removal Complete Tokomaru Bay Beach 4,113 1,832 45% 0% 1,832 100% 0% Whangara Beach (Southern Side) 5,820 850 15% 0% 0 0% 0% Üawa Beach Northern 21,000 15,359 73% 0% 15,359 100% 0%		10,649	6,400	60%	0%	5,000	78%	0%	
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Midway 14,000 8,986 64% 12% 0 0% 0% Makorori Beach 500 500 100% 0% Removal Complete Tokomaru Bay Beach 4,113 1,832 45% 0% 1,832 100% 0% Whangara Beach (Southern Side) 5,820 850 15% 0% 0 0% 0% Uawa Beach Northern 21,000 15,359 73% 0% 15,359 100% 0%		10,933	11,574	106%	0%	Rem	Removal Complete		
Beach 500 500 100% 0% Removal Complete Tokomaru Bay Beach 4,113 1,832 45% 0% 1,832 100% 0% Whangara Beach (Southern Side) 3,123 3,658 117% 0% Removal Complete Tolaga Bay Beach (Southern Side) 5,820 850 15% 0% 0 0% 0% Üawa Beach Northern 21,000 15,359 73% 0% 15,359 100% 0%		14,000	8,986	64%	12%	0	0%	0%	
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Tolaga Bay Beach (Southern Side) 5,820 850 15% 0% 0 0 0% 0% 0% Uawa Beach Northern 21,000 15,359 73% 0% 15,359 100% 0%		4,113	1,832	45%	0%	1,832	100%	0%	
Beach (Southern Side) 5,820 850 15% 0% 0 0% 0% Üawa Beach Northern 21,000 15,359 73% 0% 15,359 100% 0%		3,123	3,658	117%	0%	Removal Complete			
Northern 21,000 15,359 73% 0% 15,359 100% 0%	Beach (Southern	5,820	850	15%	0%	0	0%	0%	
Total 480,830 446,580 93% 1% 413,922 93% 1%		21,000	15,359	73%	0%	15,359	100%	0%	
	Total	480,830	446,580	93%	1%	413,922	93%	1%	

Hawke's Bay

Weekly progress updates since March 2024 as of 30 August 2024.

- 474,201 cubic metres of silt and sediment has been removed from the six active sites with 64% of it treated.
- 136,140 cubic metres of woody debris has been removed. 80% of the removed material across the region
 has been treated. The amount of woody debris to be cleared in Wairoa has been revised upwards this week
 to 150,500 cubic metres (previously 125,500 cubic metres).

	X	Extraction	on		Treatment			
Catchment / Beach	Estimated material to be cleared (cubic metres)	High-risk material cleared (cubic metres)	Percent of high-risk silt and debris removal completed	Change on last week	Treatment of debris (Estimated cubic metres)	Percent of material treated	Change on last week	
		Silt an	d Sediment rei	noval				
Esk Valley	585,190	223,592	38%	5%	201,233	90%	5%	
Awatoto, Pakowhai	60,978	22,015	36%	3%	17,612	80%	3%	
Puketapu North, Dartmoor	135,452	143,948	106%	9%	16,676	12%	0%	
Puketapu South	180,225	73,996	41%	2%	59,197	80%	2%	
Twyford / Clive	39,783	9,067	23%	0%	9,067	100%	0%	
Central Hawke's Bay	41,058	1,583	3.9%	2%	1,583	100%	2%	
Total	1,042,686	474,201	45%	5%	305,368	64%	4%	
		Woo	dy Debris rem	oval				
Napier/ Hastings	54,170	16,740	30.9%	10%	13,392	80%	10%	
Wairoa	150,500	119,400	79%	8%	95,520	80%	8%	
Total	204,670	136,140	67%	8%	108,912	80%	23%	

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Aide-Mémoire

Update on North Island Weather Events (NIWE) recovery activities in Te Tairāwhiti

To: Rt Hor Prime Min	n Christopher Luxon ister		DC.
From	Katrina Casey Chief Executive Cyclone Recovery	Report Number:	DPMC-2024/25-255
Date	5/09/2024	Priority level:	Medium

Purpose

 This Aide-Mémoire provides you with a progress update on the 2023 North Island Weather Events (NIWE) Crown funded recovery activities in Tairāwhiti, ahead of your visit to the region on 12 September.

2023 North Island Weather Event (NIWE) Funding summary

- The Government entered into a cost-share Crown Funding Agreement (CFA) with the Gisborne District Council (GDC) on 5 October 2023, providing a Crown contribution of \$204 million to support recovery in the region across Category 3 voluntary buyouts, flood risk mitigation and local transport projects.
- The GDC was also successful in applications for additional funding, made available through Budget 2023 to establish its regional recovery structure and for local flood resilience projects, and through Budget 2024 for capability to speed up delivery of recovery projects and sediment and debris removal.
- 4. Table 1 shows a breakdown of government funding, by sector, delivered to the region.

Table 1: Cyclone recovery funding for the Tairawhiti region

Description	\$ million	Comment
Category 3 voluntary buyout	15.0	50% of the cost
Flood protection work to help protect Category 2 properties from future weather events	64.0	90% of the cost
Local Transport initiatives	125.0	100% of the cost
Concessional financing arrangement	17.0	\$30 million,10-year interest free loan, represents \$17m value to the GDC
Local Government Flood Resilience Co-Investment Fund projects	16.2	Includes Resilient Homes Category 2P Scheme \$9(2)(b)(ii) and Enhanced Flood Intelligence and Resilience project \$9(2)(b)(ii)

Description	\$ million	Comment
Recovery office support, including iwi recovery offices	6.4	Budget 23 NIWE appropriation across two years
Cyclone Recovery Capability Fund to speed up delivery	4.7	Budget 24 NIWE appropriation
Social Environment	66.5	Budget 23 NIWE appropriations (at November 2023)
Economic Environment	31.2	Budget 23 NIWE appropriations, including \$2.600m from Kānoa (at November 2023)
Sediment and Debris	110.8	Includes Sediment and Debris Management Fund plus \$23.6 million from National Resilience Plan plus \$27 million from Budget 24
Total funding	456.8	

National Land Transport Funding

- 5. Additional funding for the Tairāwhiti region was allocated for State Highway works and for repairing and maintaining local roads, through the National Resilience Plan. \$407 million (which includes a 20 percent contingency) was allocated to the East Coast (Hawke's Bay through to Gisborne) for State Highway works across two years. \$130.6 million was allocated for repairing and maintaining local roads in Tairāwhiti.
- 6. The National Land Transport Programme (NLTP) for 2024-27 has allocated a further \$255 million for Tairāwhiti. The NLTP is focused on repairing the cyclone-damaged roading network and maintaining resilience of the region's land transport network. \$118 million will be invested in State Highway assets and \$115 million for local roads in Tairāwhiti.

Recovery Priorities

7. The GDC is leading the substantial recovery programme underway in the Tairāwhiti region. This includes voluntary buyouts of Category 3 properties where there is an intolerable risk to life that cannot be mitigated, flood risk mitigation projects to protect properties and communities, and local transport projects to restore the roading network.

Category 3 voluntary buyouts (as at 2 September)

8. There are 54 Category 3 properties eligible for a voluntary buyout in the region. Of these, 42 owners have received a formal buyout offer from the GDC. The status of the 42 properties is set out in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Category 3 voluntary buyouts in Tairāwhiti

Number of eligible properties	Offers accepted	Offers not yet accepted	Properties settled	Total offers made
54	39	s9(2)(a)	33	42 (79%)

9. There are 11 property owners that are yet to receive an offer and s9(2)(a)

10. Of the	11	who	are	engage	d in	the	process
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• s9(2)(a)

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- s9(2)(a)
- 11. The GDC has completed its categorisation process and the GDC is forecasting that all offers will be made by the end of October 2024. The GDC's policy allows people until 31 March 2025 to accept an offer, and settlement must be completed by 30 June 2025. However, the GDC will apply shorter timeframes where property owner circumstances allow this. The GDC has also received up to \$0.400 million in Cyclone Recovery Capability funding for legal and technical support, to progress the remaining Category 3 buyouts more quickly, and to expedite the resolution of disputes across all property categorisations.

Category 2 flood risk mitigation projects

- 12. Five flood risk mitigation projects are planned or underway that will provide community protection to Te Karaka, Gisborne City and the East Coast. Under the NIWE cost-share agreement, the Crown is contributing 90% of funding for these projects and the GDC funds a 10% share. \$64 million of Crown funding has been allocated for these projects which are summarised in Attachment A.
- 13. The Waipaoa stopbank is part of the wider flood protection scheme that protects Gisborne and surrounds. This project is well progressed, and is currently forecasting completion in June 2027, 12 months ahead of schedule. Flood modelling and optioneering is progressing to plan for other projects.

Regional transport projects

14. The Tairāwhiti NIWE Crown Funding Agreement also provides \$125 million for local transport projects to repair local roads, slips and bridges. These projects are 100% Crown funded and are summarised in **Attachment A**. Work to reopen Tiniroto Road which provides an essential inland alternative to State Highway 2 has been completed. Planning for other approved work is well progressed, provider panels are in place and considerable construction is on track to commence over this year's build season.

Local Government Flood Resilience Co-investment Fund

- 15. As part of the Local Government Flood Resilience Co-investment Fund, \$9(2)(b)(ii) has been allocated to carry out risk mitigation work for up to 161 homes requiring property level remediation to reduce the risk to life from a future event. The Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery recently approved a change in scope for this work, increasing the amount of Crown funding to lift each house to an average of \$9(2)(b)(ii), as well as allowing other properties requiring land slip remediation to be included.
- 16. Funding for this project is split between Toitū Tairāwhiti Building Limited (TTBL), funded to lift up to 34 lwi affiliated properties, and the GDC. The GDC ran a tender process to secure contractors to carry out the work on the remaining homes. That process was unsuccessful and TTBL have now agreed to carry out work for up to 82 properties. Mitigation work on the remaining eligible properties will be self-managed by homeowners and the GDC will reimburse costs of up to \$9(2)(b)(ii) per property.
- 17. As at 30 July 2024 TTBL has lifted 25 houses.

8. s9(2)(b)(ii)			

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- 19. The Cyclone Recovery Unit (CRU) and CIP are continuing to support the GDC to work towards a completion date of 30 June 2025 for this project which is when Crown funding expires. If the work is not completed by then the GDC will have to bear the remaining cost.
- 20. A further \$9(2)(b)(ii) was allocated from the Local Government Flood Resilience Co-investment Fund for the purchase and installation of monitoring equipment and flood modelling. The new telemetry system is on track to be in place by March 2025.

Whenua Māori and Marae Pathway

- 21. Work to support residents on Category 3 whenua Māori and Marae is being led by central Government. This is due to complex governance and ownership of many Māori land blocks, the regulatory system which for the most part prevents Māori land being easily transferred (i.e. purchased or sold), and Treaty duties that sit with central Government.
- 22. The whenua Māori and marae pathway enables Marae and those who reside on Māori land severely affected by the NIWE to move out of harms' way by relocating to safer places. The pathway is flexible, allowing affected Marae and landowners/residents to work with the Government on collective and fitting solutions, taking into account the range of ownership interests and the needs of whanau, hapu and iwi associated with the Marae and Māori land, and to retain ownership of the affected land. The pathway includes contributing to the relocation costs for Category 3 Marae.
- 23. The CRU is leading engagement with the five Category 3 Marae and owners of the nine residential land blocks in Tairāwhiti. Discussions are going well with the five Marae representatives, and all are currently focused on securing appropriate alternate land to relocate/rebuild to. Some are advanced in their design and costing work and CRU expects two of the Marae will be able to discuss an offer from the Crown this month and the remainder in October.

Woody debris

- 24. Cyclones Hale and Gabrielle generated approximately 800,000 tonnes of woody debris in Tairāwhiti.
- 25. The issues in the region are acute owing to the highly erodible soils, so require specific settings to manage this. The GDC is currently delivering plan changes to respond to recommendations from the Ministerial Inquiry into Land Use and address issues relating to erosion associated with rural land use activities in the region.
- 26. In response to concerns around the capability and capacity of the GDC to deliver an effective plan change, the Ministry for the Environment has provided support to bolster capability within the GDC to complete the plan change.
- 27. The region has received \$110.8 million of central Government funding to support the treatment of woody debris and sediment. This includes \$27 million for the treatment of woody debris agreed as part of Budget 2024 which is administered by the Ministry for Primary Industries.
- 28. As of 25 August, total debris extracted was 446,580 tonnes from the region's catchments and beaches, which is a 93 percent rate of the planned removal of debris across the active catchments and beaches. Removal is complete at six of fourteen locations. Of the total material cleared, 93 percent has been treated.

Key delivery risks

- 29. The key risks for the GDC to progress the Recovery work at pace include:
 - Capacity and capability within the GDC to deliver the work programme. The GDC is carrying a high proportion of vacancies, and the recovery programme represents a 500 percent increase on the GDC's usual work programme.
 - The ability to engage specialist workers in the region.
 - The GDC's ongoing ability to fund its cost-share from a relatively small rates revenue base.
- 30. The Tairāwhiti NIWE Crown Funding Agreement provides \$3 million to build ongoing capability within the GDC and the local contractor network. This project has been approved by joint Ministers and will permanently increase the region's ability to deliver transport and infrastructure projects.

Regional Recovery Structures Funding

- 31. Budget 2023 included an appropriation of \$20 million for two years of funding (from 1 July 2023) to support regional capability to manage recovery activities through Regional Recovery Structures. The Tairāwhiti region received \$6.40 million of this funding.
- 32. Tairāwhiti's funding proposal split the recovery structure into two areas: the district recovery structure (via the GDC) and the iwi recovery structure (via Toitu Tairāwhiti Housing Ltd, representing Ngai Tāmanuhri, Rongowhakaata, Te Altanga a Mahāki and Ngāti Porou). \$3.76 million went to the GDC across two financial years, and \$2.68 million to Toitu Tairāwhiti Housing Limited to share evenly across the four lwi, across two financial years.

Cyclone Recovery Capability Funding

33. Further funding of \$4.75 million allocated in August from the Budget 2024 Cyclone Recovery Capability Fund will have a significant positive impact to speed up delivery of recovery activities and enable the GDC to attract specialist technical expertise at competitive rates. The additional support includes technical resources to deliver projects, as well as procurement, consenting and legal expertise to bolster in-house resources.

Table 3 shows a breakdown of funded activities.

Table 3: Budget 24 Cyclone Recovery Capability Funding allocated to Gisborne District Council

Description of activity/ initiative	Estimated funding per activity \$ million
Accelerate roading work programme to restore access and resilience to the wider roading network	1.715
Legal support to progress outcomes for affected properties, including remaining Category 3 buyouts, and to expedite resolution of disputes	0.400
Procurement and negotiation specialists	1.123
River technical specialists to speed up modelling and optioneering	0.704
Additional resource consenting capacity	0.813
Total Cyclone Recovery Capability funding	4.755

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Contact for telephone discussion						
Name	Position	Telephone	1 st Contact			
Katrina Casey	Chief Executive Cyclone Recovery	s9(2)(a)	✓			

					Contact
Katrina Casey	Chief Executiv	e Cyclone Recovery	s9(2)(a)		V
Attachmen	ts:	Title		Security class	sification
Attachmen	t A:	Overview of Cyclone Recovery F Tairāwhiti	Projects in	-In-confidence-	
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