



26 June 2025

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Ref: OIA-2024/25-0953

Tēnā koe [REDACTED],

Official Information Act request relating to funding for residential property buy-outs

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 4 June 2025. You requested:

"[1] an expert opinion on why our property fails to be classed as category 3 despite the intolerable risk to life.

[2] correspondence between the Recover ministry and Council about funding for residential properties.

[3] all correspondence pertaining to the "CRUs criteria" between the CRU and the Far North District Council. If this cannot be supplied, Could I have a statement from the Ministry that the FNDC set its own FOSAL criteria with no involvement from the Ministry."

On 17 June 2025, I transferred part of your request to the Far North District Council (FNDC) for response. They will respond to you directly.

Part [1] of your request is not covered by the Act. This is because, in order to respond, we would need to generate new information. The Act allows you to request existing information but does not require us to create new information.

I have interpreted parts 2 and 3 of your request as being for correspondence between the Cyclone Recovery Unit (CRU) and the FNDC about funding for residential properties and the "FOSAL criteria," respectively.

Information being released

I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed below, subject to information being withheld as noted. The relevant grounds under which information has been withheld are:

- section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of natural persons
- section 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion.

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	5 September 2024	Email from CRU to FNDC	Release, some information withheld under s9(2)(a).
2	4 September 2024	Email from CRU to FNDC (including Attachments 1 and 2)	Release email, some information withheld under s9(2)(a); release Attachment 1; Attachment 2 is comprised of publicly available information (see 'Information publicly

			available for links)
3	27 May 2024	Email from CRU to various councils, including FNDC	Release, some information withheld under s9(2)(a), some information out of scope.
4	8 March 2024	Email from CRU to FNDC	Release, some information withheld under s9(2)(a)
5	6 March 2024	Email from CRU to various councils, including FNDC	Release, some information withheld under s9(2)(a)
6	18 October 2023	Email from CRU to various councils, including FNDC	Release, some information withheld under s9(2)(a)
7	9 October 2023	Email from CRU to various councils, including FNDC (including Attachments 1 and 2)	Release, some information withheld under s9(2)(a)
8	4 September 2023	Email from CRU to various councils, including FNDC (including Attachment 1)	Release, some information withheld under s9(2)(a) and s9(2)(g)(i).

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.

Information publicly available

The information withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i) for item 8 above consists of draft material provided by Auckland Council, Hawke's Bay Regional Council, and Gisborne District Council, the final versions of which are publicly available via the following links:

- Auckland Council: <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/recovery-extreme-weather-disasters/Documents/how-decide-property-risk-categories.pdf>
- Hawke's Bay Regional Council: <https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/assets/Document-Library/Cyclone-Land-Categorisation-Documents/HBRC/1.-FINAL-HBRC-Land-Categorisation-Methodology-and-Framework.pdf>
- Gisborne District Council: <https://hdp-au-prod-app-gisborne-participate-files.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/6817/4338/7114/Policy-Framework-for-Decisions-on-Storm-Affected-Land-2024.pdf>.

The following information, which was included as an attachment to the email dated 4 September 2024, is also covered by your request, and is publicly available on the respective councils' websites:

Item	Date	Document description	Website address
1	September 2023	Hawke's Bay Regional Council's Land Categorisation Process and Framework following Cyclone Gabrielle	https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/assets/Document-Library/Cyclone-Land-Categorisation-Documents/HBRC/1.-FINAL-HBRC-Land-Categorisation-Methodology-and-Framework.pdf
2	November 2023	Gisborne District Council – Category 3 Voluntary Buyout Policy	https://www.gdc.govt.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0021/63147/FOSAL-

			Category-3-Buyout-Policy-Nov-2023.pdf
3	Undated	Auckland Council – Category 3 Voluntary Buyout Support Scheme – Homeowner handbook	https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/recovery-extreme-weather-disasters/Documents/category-3-voluntary-buy-out-homeowner-handbook.pdf
4	June 2024	Masterton District Council – Voluntary Buyout and Relocation Programme – Guide	https://wairaraparecovery.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/FOSAL-Voluntary-Buyout-and-Relocation-Programme-Guide.pdf
5	Undated	Masterton District Council – Voluntary Buyout and Relocation Programme – FAQs	https://wairaraparecovery.nz/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/FOSAL-Voluntary-Buyout-and-Relocation-Programme-FAQs-1.pdf
6	1 November 2023	Tauranga City Council – Resolution Framework for Category 3 properties on Egret Avenue and Te Mutu Crescent, Maungatapu	https://infocouncil.tauranga.govt.nz/Open/2024/03/CO_20240325_AGN_2636_AT_ExternalAttachments/CO_20240325_AGN_2636_AT_Attachment_12858_4.PDF

Your correspondence of 17 June 2025

Regarding the additional email you sent on 17 June 2025, I note that local authorities have the statutory responsibility for land use and make decisions on the categorisation of properties. Each of the affected Councils had their own respective assessment and engagement processes to address the unique impact on, and needs of, their region.

Neither the Cyclone Recovery Unit, nor the Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery direct Councils on how to make decisions on the categorisation of land, and we are unable to intervene in Council decision making.

If you believe the Council has treated you unfairly, or if you wish to or to raise any issues with buyout policies and the categorisation of land, you can make a complaint to the Ombudsman. The Chief Ombudsman is there to provide an independent and impartial voice to ensure decisions are fair and equitable: <https://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/what-ombudsman-can-help/complaints-about-government-agencies>.

Similarly, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision on your request 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.

Nāku noa, nā,



Katrina Casey
Chief Executive
Cyclone Recovery

From: [Anna Wilson-Farrell \[DPMC\]](#)
To: ["guy.holroyd@fndc.govt.nz"](mailto:guy.holroyd@fndc.govt.nz)
Subject: Cyclone Recovery Unit - in Far North Wednesday 11 September
Date: Thursday, 5 September 2024 10:23:00 am
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

[UNCLASSIFIED]

Tēnā koe Guy,

I hope this email finds you well.

You will be aware that I, along with my colleague from the Cyclone Recovery Unit in the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, will be visiting the Far North district next Wednesday 11 September, to discuss the Council's plans for categorisation of land affected by the North Island Weather Events last year.

I understand you are not available on that day. Given I have not been able to make contact with yourself, or the acting CE in your absence, since the Minister sent his letter on 8 August 2024, I wanted to write and ensure that you are both aware of the of the visit, and that we will be able to meet with the right people at the council. These are quite complex decisions, with potentially significant implications for your district – we have seen this play out in other regions, where it has required financial commitments from the council and a public consultation process. You will also be aware that our Minister is very keen to ensure that this process can be carried out as quickly as possible, and that every possibility for speeding things up has been considered. We are very much looking forward to meeting with Council staff and ensuring:

- all parties have a shared understanding of the FOSAL criteria and conditions for Crown funding,
- the council is considering all the necessary steps that will need to be taken to complete categorisation and potential property buyouts, and the approach taken will ensure that the necessary work can be progressed as quickly and effectively as possible,
- any potential issues or barriers can be identified early, along with any opportunities where the CRU or other parties can assist with speeding the work up,
- we agree a delivery plan for the FOSAL work that meets the Minister's expectations and enables the capability funding to be released.

Very happy to discuss further.

Ngā mihi,

Anna

Anna Wilson-Farrell
Executive Director - Strategic Policy and Legislation
Cyclone Recovery Unit
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

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From: [Anna Wilson-Farrell \[DPMC\]](#)
To: "Esther Powell"
Cc: [Alastair Shelton \[DPMC\]](#)
Subject: FOSAL buyout policies
Date: Wednesday, 4 September 2024 2:33:00 pm
Attachments: [CRU Cyclone Recovery resources.pdf](#)
[image009.png](#)
[FOSAL Category 3 documents from NIWE councils.pdf](#)

[UNCLASSIFIED]

Kia ora Esther,

I hope this finds you well.

As requested, we have pulled together a range of FOSAL documents from different councils. The first document contains links. Not all documents are online, so we have pulled those into a pdf along with the key pieces from other agencies. I hope these help!

Ngā mihi

Anna

Anna Wilson-Farrell

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North Island Severe weather recovery Insights

Purpose:

This information note provides summary material on how councils impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle and the Auckland Anniversary flood events have supported their communities to increase resilience to flooding.

Context:

A risk categorisation framework was adopted by the Government from which funding assistance was developed. Such assistance from the Government took several forms including cost sharing arrangements for properties in different categories on the framework.

		Risk categorisation framework				
Category		1	2P	2C	2A	3
Description		Repair to previous state is all that is required to manage future severe weather risk event.	Property level interventions are needed to manage future severe weather event risk, possibly in tandem with community level interventions	Community level interventions are needed for managing future severe weather risk events.	Significant further assessment is required to assess a property, as well as engagement with property owner.	Future severe weather event risk cannot be sufficiently mitigated. Some land uses may remain acceptable, while intolerable risk of inquiry or death for residential land use.
Actions		Flood damage to repair, but no need for community interventions.	Property specific measures are necessary, for example improved drainage, raising houses. Benefits accrue to property owners.	Local government could repair and enhance flood protection schemes to adequately manage the risk of future flooding events. Cost is shared by the community.	Interventions may be required or possible, but insufficient information to answer all questions. These may subsequently move between "2" categories or to categories 1 or 3.	In the face of enhanced climate risk to the property there is unacceptable risk of future flooding. This will involve combined local and central government assistance.

Comments

- Most arrangements involve cost sharing or co-investment between Councils and Government. Funding was also available from a Local Government Flood Co-investment Fund which supported both regional and territorial district councils.
- Councils responded in different ways to the challenges in their districts, but in all instances property and land categorisation was an important precursor to the delivery of assistance.
- Councils have different arrangements for consulting and engaging those with impacted properties; in Auckland categorisation is undertaken on an opt-in basis.
- Initiatives are in different stages of implementation across councils.
- Crown Infrastructure Partners is contracted to the Cyclone Recovery Unit to deliver assistance; many of the larger projects require modified business cases.
- The following section provides links to the different council information and processes.

Land categorisation

Useful links:

[Property categorisation and resolution in storm affected areas \(aucklandcouncil.govt.nz\)](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)
(Auckland)

[Category 3 buy-out offer and Category 2P mitigation affordability: explainer - OurAuckland \(aucklandcouncil.govt.nz\)](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) (Auckland)

[Information regarding Land categorisation | Hastings District Council \(hastingsdc.govt.nz\)](http://hastingsdc.govt.nz)
(Hawke's Bay)

[Future of severely affected land | Participate \(gdc.govt.nz\)](http://gdc.govt.nz) (Tairāwhiti)

The first link from **Auckland Council** mainly serves as a directory to information about land categorisation across the website, broken down by Categories, dispute process, and how to register online for a storm-affected property risk assessment. The second link is to a news post by Auckland Council that makes clear the difference between Category 2P and Category 3. **Hawke's Bay Regional Council** has compiled key documents that have been released to the public to help understanding of how the Government's categorisation framework has been applied. **Gisborne District Council** have, similarly to Auckland, explained how the provisional assessments of properties were undertaken, and directs homeowners to pages on the website relevant to the category of their property.

Category 3

Useful links:

[Category 3 property buy-out information between Auckland Council and the government](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)
(Auckland)

[Category 3 Voluntary Buy-out Programme | Hastings District Council \(hastingsdc.govt.nz\)](http://hastingsdc.govt.nz)
(Hawke's Bay)

[FOSAL - Category 3 | Future of severely affected land | Participate \(gdc.govt.nz\)](http://gdc.govt.nz) (Tairāwhiti)

[FOSAL-Voluntary-Buyout-and-Relocation-Programme-Guide.pdf \(wairaraparecovery.nz\)](http://wairaraparecovery.nz) and
[FOSAL-Voluntary-Buyout-and-Relocation-Programme-FAQs.pdf \(wairaraparecovery.nz\)](http://wairaraparecovery.nz)
(Masterton)

Councils have provided a range of information designed to support homeowners that find their property placed in Category 3. **Auckland Council** has included the key background on the co-funding agreement between the Crown and them. Also included is the step-by-step details of their categorisation process, support available for affected homeowners, the role of insurance pay-outs in the calculation of buy-out offers, and how homeowners can dispute their categorisation or valuation. A homeowners handbook was also produced by Auckland Council, linked on the same page, which explains the scheme for Category 3 homeowners in a digestible format. **Hawke's Bay Regional Council** have outlined the key steps required for the programme to continue, and a link to their Category 3 buy-out policy. **Gisborne District Council** have included a map of land categorisations across the district, as well as the number of affected properties, and a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section that covers the buyout policy framework, insurance, and categorisation assessments. The Wairarapa Recovery Office has provided a process guide and FAQ document for those eligible in the **Masterton District Council** area. **Tauranga City Council** have also shared their Resolution Process, which we have attached separately.

Category 2P (Auckland Council)

Useful links:

[Category 2P decision information for property owners \(aucklandcouncil.govt.nz\)](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

As well as the prior explained from **Auckland Council**, the link above shows key information for Category 2P property owners: what constitutes a Category 2P property, the maximum

support available and what funding will be approved for, roles and responsibilities, what grants do/don't cover, and further information for affected homeowners etc.

[Category 2P Mitigation Tairawhiti Policy Adopted 31 July 2024](#)

Gisborne District Council revised their Category 2P policy in 2024. The new policy allows for risk mitigation activities to be undertaken in another way than had been intended originally (exclusively lifting houses by 500mm above Gabrielle flood levels).

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Out of Scope

From: Katrina Casey [DPMC]
Sent: Monday, May 27, 2024 5:26 PM
To: 'chiefexec@kaipara.govt.nz' <chiefexec@kaipara.govt.nz>; 'guy.holroyd@fndc.govt.nz' <guy.holroyd@fndc.govt.nz>; ^EXT: Simon Weston <Simon.Weston@wdc.govt.nz>; 'Kelly.Stratford@fndc.govt.nz' <Kelly.Stratford@fndc.govt.nz>; 'jmarris@kaipara.govt.nz' <jmarris@kaipara.govt.nz>; 'jong@nrc.govt.nz' <jong@nrc.govt.nz>
Cc: 'markt@nrc.govt.nz' <markt@nrc.govt.nz>; ^Parliament: Joanna Carr <Joanna.Carr@parliament.govt.nz>; Anna Wilson-Farrell [DPMC] <Anna.WilsonFarrell@dpmc.govt.nz>; Helen Hurst [DPMC] <Helen.Hurst@dpmc.govt.nz>; Kararaina Calcott-Cribb [DPMC] <Kararaina.Calcott-Cribb@dpmc.govt.nz>
Subject: Cyclone Recovery follow up to the Letter from Hon Mark Mitchell

[UNCLASSIFIED]

Kia ora Simon,

I am responding to some of the detail in the letter you sent to Minister Mitchell on 1 May, regarding Northland Councils' consideration of the Future of Severely Affected Locations (FOSAL) approach. The Minister has replied to you directly.

The FOSAL approach was originally developed with government agencies working alongside the most affected councils to determine a framework for how to respond to the three severe weather events (NIWE – Auckland Anniversary weekend flooding, and Cyclones Hale and Gabrielle in early 2023). Central government set the high-level framework for the future of severely affected locations as a result of this early work, but the detail of how it is applied and implemented has been locally led by councils. Each of the three most affected regions made their own decisions about risk thresholds, categorisation approaches and buyout policy decisions. The focus of FOSAL is on residential properties that sustained significant damage and determining if there is an intolerable risk to life should people go back and reside in the house. The Crown's role has been to provide support to councils and to share some of the key costs.

The three most affected regions were faced with the biggest impacts and the most significant costs. As a result, the Crown engaged with them initially on cost-sharing arrangements. Once these arrangements were in place, in September last year the Minister for Cyclone Recovery extended a cost-sharing offer to all affected councils outside of the three most affected regions, including those in Northland.

The offer made in the September 2023 letter was clear. It was for a 50% share of any buyouts, less insurance and EQC proceeds, should you identify any Category 3 properties. The letter also explained the process for Category 2 risk mitigation projects. It stated that should any projects be identified, councils could contact the Cyclone Recovery Unit to discuss further, but it was explicit that any projects would need to meet specific funding criteria and be subject to a contestable and prioritised process.

I consider that this letter was clear and alongside the support of Government agencies, and other councils in similar situations, provided councils with sufficient information to inform decision making about whether to accept or not what remains a voluntary offer. It has been sufficient for other councils to make a clear decision on whether to adopt the FOSAL approach. For example, Masterton District Council voted to accept the Crown's cost-sharing offer in December 2023, and Tauranga City Council in March 2024. Other affected councils have considered their situations and have determined not that they do not need to engage in categorisation or buyouts.

The focus for central government has been, and continues to be, on making the recovery move faster, give affected people greater certainty, and allow them to move on with their lives. Taking more time at this point to consider whether to apply the FOSAL residential categorisations and associated action and then the considerable work needed to develop local policies and apply them will not achieve this.

I appreciate that there would be potentially significant financial costs involved in adopting the FOSAL approach. This has been the case for all affected regions and has been a factor that they have all considered, budgeted for and, where there has been an appetite for the approach - consulted on in the year following the weather events. This is not an easy situation for any council.

Not adopting FOSAL has not influenced access to other funding sources for recovery. Other financial support to improve the resilience of weather affected properties has also been made available to Northland councils without the need for adopting a FOSAL approach. Councils were invited to submit applications to the Local Government Flood Resilience Co-investment Fund in two tranches in 2023, for projects where they had identified severe weather-related impacts. A total of \$13.95 million has been approved from the Fund, across 12 separate initiatives in the Northland Region.

I also appreciate that there are staff time and resource implications for making this decision, which impacts on other council work. As an example, your letter noted core council business of developing Long Term Plans. This was recognised by central government, which facilitated Orders in Council under the Severe Weather Emergency Recovery Act to reduce burdens on councils. For example, an Order in Council was enacted in September 2023 that allows for eight affected councils (including the Far North District Council and Kaipara District Council) to produce an LTP that covers three years rather than the usual 10, is focused on cyclone recovery.

Regarding the whenua Māori and marae pathway, the policy settings are clear and have been communicated to councils and recovery managers. There are no new or changed policy positions regarding the scope or entry into the pathway. The pathway is for whenua Māori and marae that were significantly damaged or destroyed during the severe weather events and where people face an intolerable risk to life, and as a result, have been formally identified by local authorities adopting FOSAL as Category 3. The categorisation process is carried out by councils. Without this categorisation, there is no entry point into the pathway. Other agencies such as TPK hold funding for Marae restoration and that is available for all councils to apply to.

If there are residential properties that were so severely affected by the severe weather events to be considered as potentially Category 3, I would expect councils should be aware of them this far down the track. If this land is whenua Māori and councils make the decision to categorise it as Category 3, councils should then be engaging with the CRU who will then take the lead, on behalf of the Crown, on providing support for relocation. But without councils identifying and categorising properties in the first place, the CRU is not able to consider them for inclusion in the pathway.

Finally, regarding CRU engagement and the provision of information. CRU staff, and other central government agencies, have engaged regularly with councils over the past year on the recovery and on FOSAL specifically. There have been multiple workshops, meetings, and conversations with individual councils. We have provided regular information and answered a wide range of questions about the policy settings and the process for FOSAL. We are more than happy to continue doing so as requested.

You reference a request for written guidance on "definitions, scope, funding, policy settings, and so on". We have made it clear on multiple occasions that there is no such guidance. As I noted, Central Government has set the high-level framework (which has been widely communicated) and is prepared to offer funding support (which was clearly set out in the previous Minister's letter in September, followed by the letter you received from the current Minister in March). Further details on implementing FOSAL is up to councils to determine. There is no set approach that central government has laid out. I recommend that you look at how other councils have developed their own policies and approaches for examples of how this would work.

I have attached an information document the Auckland Council has produced for its residents – although it is about category 1, it does also present the policies for categorisation and assessment that the Auckland Council has adopted. There are similarities and differences in what the Gisborne District Council and Hawke's Bay Regional Council policies are as each have different situations and complexities to address.

You have requested to see a draft contract for a cost-sharing agreement. I would like to direct you to the website of Hastings District Council, which has made its Crown Funding Agreement publicly available: <https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/assets/Document-Library/Cyclone-Land-Categorisation-Documents/Hawkes-Bay-Crown-Funding-Agreement.pdf>

You have also referenced the relevant FOSAL Cabinet papers. Some of these have recently been the subject of OIA requests regarding whenua Māori and as a result, they are available from the DPMC website here: <https://www.dPMC.govt.nz/publications/responses-official-information-requests-april-2024> I trust that this helps to clarify some of the issues and questions that you have raised. Cabinet papers are also being proactively released on the DPMC website on a regular basis.

I appreciate the complexity surrounding these decisions and the significant workloads that you each have. We will continue to ensure that your councils are included in any opportunity should it present for any further funding for recovery from these particular events and the team is available to respond to any further questions you have.

Ngā mihi,

Katrina

Katrina Casey
Chief Executive Cyclone Recovery

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Out of Scope



From: [Anna Wilson-Farrell \[DPMC\]](#)
To: "[Andy.Dowdle@fndc.govt.nz](#)"; "[Tammy.Wooster@fndc.govt.nz](#)"; "[Trent.Blakeman@fndc.govt.nz](#)"; "[Kenneth.LEWIS@fndc.govt.nz](#)"; "[Katie.Waiti-Dennis@fndc.govt.nz](#)"; "[esther.powell@fndc.govt.nz](#)"
Cc: [Alastair.Shelton \[DPMC\]](#)
Subject: Cyclone Recovery - categorisation of properties
Date: Friday, 8 March 2024 9:10:00 am
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

[UNCLASSIFIED]

Kia ora koutou

We last met with Northland councils together online in November, where we talked through the Future of Severely Affected Locations (FOSAL) policy approach and discussed where your councils were at and questions you had about the approach.

I understand from your local Recovery Manager today that Councils may be waiting on further information to inform local decision-making about whether to categorise land and consider FOSAL policy responses, including buyouts. If you do have further questions, please do let me know what these are. I recall from our previous discussion that you may have been intending to seek a formal decision from your council on engaging in FOSAL categorisation. If this is still the case, it would be helpful to know where you are at in this process. As we discussed previously, there is no obligation to adopt the FOSAL approach, so please do not read this email as suggesting that councils do need to – rather, that if you councils were still deciding, and needed to discuss anything, please do let mw know.

As always, we are here to answer any questions and help navigate. Please do let me know if you would like to set up a meeting - or just give me call. I am out of the office much of today, but fully on deck next week.

Ngā mihi

Anna

Anna Wilson-Farrell

Executive Director - Strategic Policy and Legislation

Cyclone Recovery Unit

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From: [Helen Hurst \[DPMC\]](#)
To: [Mark Trüdinger](#); [Bianca White \[DPMC\]](#); [Rod Sheridan Ext](#); [Don Cameron](#); [^AKLCouncil: Mace Ward](#); [^GDC: James Baty](#); [^EXT: Janelle Coradine](#); [^HORIZONS: Jon Roygard](#); [^Waikato: Julian Snowball](#); [^gdc: Anita Reedy-Holthausen](#); [Reece Turner](#); [Scott Dray](#); [^Wellington: Dan Neely](#); [Julian Reweti](#); [Mat Tucker](#); [Ross McLeod](#); [^Horizons: Ian Lowe](#); [Simon Taylor](#); [Garry.towler@tcdc.govt.nz](#); [Ben Jessep](#); [Herewini Te Koha \[DPMC\]](#); [Anna Wilson-Farrell \[DPMC\]](#); [Ian Laing \[DPMC\]](#); [Ryan Mearns \[DPMC\]](#); [Ratna Bose \[DPMC\]](#); [Joanna Carr \[DPMC\]](#); [Luke Chivers \[DPMC\]](#); [Malcolm Millar \[NEMA\]](#); [@NEMA Recovery \[NEMA\]](#)
Cc: [Julia Blyth \[NEMA\]](#); [Jaci Sinko \[NEMA\]](#); [Ollie Galvin \[NEMA\]](#); [Simon Chambers \[NEMA\]](#); [Matthew Bramhall \[NEMA\]](#); [Ashley Rudkevitch \[NEMA\]](#); [Erica Hardiman \[NEMA\]](#); [Rebecca Newton \[NEMA\]](#); [Salevi Tiatia \[NEMA\]](#); [Lily Foulds \[NEMA\]](#); [Ian Wilson \[NEMA\]](#); [Kate Alderton \[DPMC\]](#); [Auriole Ruka](#); [Kim Peita](#); [Kelly Stratford](#); [Glynis McCarthy \(gmccarthy@kaipara.govt.nz\)](#); [Andy Dowdle](#); [Caroline Wilson](#); [Victoria Harwood](#); [Tammy Wooster](#); [Murray McDonald \(WDC\)](#); [Jack Rudolph](#); [Mark Scott](#); [sophie.radovanovich@fndc.govt.nz](#); [Dominic Kula](#); [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); [Alastair Shelton \[DPMC\]](#)
Subject: RE: Request for Agenda Items - Recovery Managers Meeting
Date: Wednesday, 6 March 2024 5:22:35 pm
Attachments: [image007.png](#)

Kia ora Mark, while we do have this on tomorrow's agenda I thought it would be helpful to cover a few general points in advance.

The whenua Māori and Marae Pathway sits within the broader FOSAL categorisation framework. The pathway is, and has always been, focused exclusively on property on category 3 land as defined by this framework. As you know, category 3 is property that was both impacted by the severe North Island Weather Events (being Cyclones Hale and Gabrielle and the Auckland Anniversary Floods), *and* where continuing to reside there poses an intolerable risk to life that cannot be sufficiently mitigated.

Categorising the land is the responsibility of local authorities. Only local authorities make land categorisation decisions – central government does not play a role beyond having established the original framework.

You are correct that the pathway is Crown-led, and in those regions that have categorised property, the CRU is contacting affected communities directly. But this can only occur once they have been confirmed by councils as being category 3. Without categorisation, there is no way that properties can come into scope for the pathway.

We would not expect there to be any separate process of categorisation of residential general title or whenua Māori. The categorisation process (if a council chooses to carry this out) would be expected to consider all affected property, regardless of whether it is general title or whenua Māori. This is what has occurred across Tairāwhiti, Hawke's Bay and Auckland.

We can discuss further tomorrow.

Ngā mihi
Helen

From: Mark Trüdinger <markt@nrc.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, March 4, 2024 10:03 AM
To: Bianca White [DPMC] <Bianca.White@dpmc.govt.nz>; Helen Hurst [DPMC] <Helen.Hurst@dpmc.govt.nz>; Rod Sheridan [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) Don Cameron <don.cameron@tararua.govt.nz>; ^AKLCouncil: Mace Ward <Mace.Ward@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz>; ^GDC: James Baty <James.Baty@gdc.govt.nz>; ^EXT: Janelle Coradine <Janelle.Coradine@embop.govt.nz>; ^HORIZONS: Jon Roygard

<jon.roygard@horizons.govt.nz>; ^Waikato: Julian Snowball
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Garry.towler@tcdc.govt.nz; Ben Jessep <benj@mstn.govt.nz>; Herewini Te Koha [DPMC]
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<Anna.WilsonFarrell@dpmc.govt.nz>; Ian Laing [DPMC] <Ian.Laing@dpmc.govt.nz>; Ryan
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Cc: Julia Blyth [NEMA] <Julia.Blyth@nema.govt.nz>; Jaci Sinko [NEMA]
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<mark.scott@wdc.govt.nz>; sophie.radovanovich@fndc.govt.nz; Dominic Kula
<dominic.kula@wdc.govt.nz>; s 9(2)(a) @teroroa.iwi.nz

Subject: RE: Request for Agenda Items - Recovery Managers Meeting

Kia ora Kate (and koutou, for transparency),

After last week's suggestion that the Kaupapa Māori Pathway / Whenua Māori Pathway would now only being rolled out in regions where District Councils had adopted FOSAL overall (which is different from what we'd understood to be the case), I think it would be good to devote significant time to this during Thursday's Group Recovery Managers / Cyclone Recovery Unit meeting.

For example, from my perspective:

- In regions where District Councils do not decide to adopt FOSAL (which is possible for the three Northland District Councils), the Crown arguably still has an obligation to tangata whenua to deliver the Kaupapa Māori Pathway / Whenua Māori Pathway – this was a central govt-led initiative, brings with it funding, and has been communicated to (at least some) hapū and iwi. In regions where District Councils do not adopt (residential) FOSAL,

will the Kaupapa Māori Pathway / Whenua Māori Pathway still be delivered?

- Prior communication from CRU stated that the Kaupapa Māori Pathway would be centrally-led, and that CRU would be contacting hapū and iwi directly. What communication has CRU had with hapū and iwi in Northland about the Kaupapa Māori Pathway?
- If CRU is not planning on delivering the Pathway in regions where District Councils do not adopt “residential FOSAL”: Given that the CRU slides about the Pathway have been sent to District and Regional Councils’ Māori Relationship Managers and some iwi leaders by the Regional Recovery Office (as part of local operational and governance arrangements), there may be some expectation that the Pathway will still be delivered in Tai Tokerau. I’m not sure that iwi would be expecting negotiations about funding to remediate whenua Māori (including marae and urupā) as being dependent on whether District Councils adopt a different piece of work (relating to freehold residential land). This would appear to raise some significant communication and legal issues for the CRU (especially in relation to Te Tiriti), and could cause some reputational issues for the regional Recoveries and/or regional CDEM Groups, even though this is not of our making. How does CRU plan to resolve this?
- Last week, I think there was mention about affected marae, urupā, and so on would need to be categorised by District Councils as Cat 3. However, as far as I’m aware, the only communication to the District Councils so far about categorisation has been about affected residential properties. (And I don’t think a requirement for District Councils to do this work for the Kaupapa Māori Pathway was raised at either of the two all-of-Councils meetings with CRU about FOSAL, in August and September last year, or in any of the GRM/CRU meetings.) Has CRU communicated their expectation to District Councils that they would need to assess whenua Māori? If so, can that communication please be forwarded to Group Recovery Managers for our situational awareness? If District Councils are not in a position to categorise whenua Māori, will central government be doing this work?

[For transparency: I’ve copied in the Northland CDEM Chair, Māori Relationship Managers for the Regional and District Councils in Tai Tokerau, the Local Recovery Managers, and the District Council staff who are coordinating the “residential FOSAL” pathway in Tai Tokerau, as the above issues all potentially affect their work.]

Given the gravity of the above issues, I think it would be good to discuss them in detail on Thursday.

Ngā mihi

Mark Trüdinger

Emergency Management Recovery Specialist /

Group Recovery Manager

Northland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group

Northland Regional Council » Te Kaunihera ā rohe o Te Taitokerau

M s 9(2)(a)

From: [Anna Wilson-Farrell](#)
To: ["Mark Trüdinger"](#); [Chris O'Gorman \[DPMC\]](#); ["Andy Dowdle"](#); ["Tammy Wooster"](#); ["trent.blakeman@fndc.govt.nz"](#); ["kennith.lewis@fndc.govt.nz"](#); ["Amanda Bennett"](#); ["cstanforth@kaipara.govt.nz"](#); ["gmccarthy@kaipara.govt.nz"](#); ["judolph@kaipara.govt.nz"](#); ["Jenny Rooney"](#); ["Michael Day"](#); ["Dominic Kula"](#); ["tony.phipps@wdc.govt.nz"](#)
Cc: ["guy.holroyd@fndc.govt.nz"](#); ["Tom FitzGerald"](#); [Graham MacLean \[DPMC\]](#); [Alastair Shelton \[DPMC\]](#)
Subject: RE: All-of-Councils FOSAL session with Cyclone Recovery Unit (CRU)
Date: Wednesday, 18 October 2023 10:32:00 am

Thanks Mark. Chris and I will be happy to move the time. Is it easier for Northland councils to nominate some times? It is relatively easy for me to move my/our diaries at this end to accommodate.

Ngā mihi

Anna

From: Mark Trüdinger <markt@nrc.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 18 October 2023 10:05 am
To: Chris O'Gorman [DPMC] <Chris.O'Gorman@dpmc.govt.nz>; Andy Dowdle <Andy.dowdle@fndc.govt.nz>; Tammy Wooster <Tammy.Wooster@fndc.govt.nz>; trent.blakeman@fndc.govt.nz; kennith.lewis@fndc.govt.nz; Amanda Bennett <abennett@kaipara.govt.nz>; cstanforth@kaipara.govt.nz; gmccarthy@kaipara.govt.nz; judolph@kaipara.govt.nz; Jenny Rooney <jrooney@kaipara.govt.nz>; Michael Day <mday@kaipara.govt.nz>; Dominic Kula <dominic.kula@wdc.govt.nz>; tony.phipps@wdc.govt.nz
Cc: guy.holroyd@fndc.govt.nz; Tom FitzGerald <tomf@nrc.govt.nz>; Graham MacLean [DPMC] <Graham.MacLean@dpmc.govt.nz>; Anna Wilson-Farrell <Anna.WilsonFarrell@dpmc.govt.nz>; Alastair Shelton [DPMC] <Alastair.Shelton@dpmc.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: All-of-Councils FOSAL session with Cyclone Recovery Unit (CRU)

Kia ora Chris,

Thanks for offering to set this up.

Unfortunately, I can't make that time – s 9(2)(a)

I've seen that others have RSVPd that that time would work for them; if we can still change the time, that would be great, so that I can provide some level of regional coordination (a statutory requirement for my role).

I also note that while this meeting is billed as 'all-of-Councils', it looks like the invitation list was only for the Northland Councils – but the request we'd sent through was for a meeting with all of the remaining Councils around Aotearoa who are still working through FOSAL, so that we could share ideas, questions, and so on.

Perhaps I can follow this up with Anna first, and we can then work out a meeting time from there.

Ngā mihi

Mark Trüdinger

Emergency Management Recovery Specialist /

Group Recovery Manager

Northland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group

Northland Regional Council » Te Kaunihera ā rohe o Te Taitokerau

M s 9(2)(a)

P s 9(2)



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From: Chris O'Gorman [DPMC] <Chris.O'Gorman@dpmc.govt.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2023 2:54 PM

To: Andy Dowdle <Andy.dowdle@fndc.govt.nz>; Tammy Wooster <Tammy.Wooster@fndc.govt.nz>; trent.blakeman@fndc.govt.nz; kennith.lewis@fndc.govt.nz; Amanda Bennett <abennett@kaipara.govt.nz>; cstanforth@kaipara.govt.nz; gmcCarthy@kaipara.govt.nz; jrudolph@kaipara.govt.nz; Jenny Rooney <jrooney@kaipara.govt.nz>; Michael Day <mday@kaipara.govt.nz>; Dominic Kula <dominic.kula@wdc.govt.nz>; tony.phipps@wdc.govt.nz

Cc: guy.holroyd@fndc.govt.nz; Tom FitzGerald <tomf@nrc.govt.nz>; Mark Trüdinger <markt@nrc.govt.nz>; Graham MacLean [DPMC] <Graham.MacLean@dpmc.govt.nz>; Anna Wilson-Farrell <Anna.WilsonFarrell@dpmc.govt.nz>; Alastair Shelton [DPMC] <Alastair.Shelton@dpmc.govt.nz>

Subject: All-of-Councils FOSAL session with Cyclone Recovery Unit (CRU)

[UNCLASSIFIED]

Kia ora koutou

Mark Trüdinger has suggested that an online meeting regarding FOSAL with councils would be valuable. An opportunity to hear each other's questions, concerns, and plans.

CRU are very happy to accommodate.

Mark has informed us that the next two weeks are problematic due to the EMPA conference and

NLU forum, and our team have limited availability the week beginning 30 October.

I'm wondering if **Monday 6 November after 3pm** might work for people?

Please let me know your interest and availability by reply. I am happy to set up a Microsoft Teams meeting.

With thanks,
Ngā manaakitanga
Chris

Chris O'Gorman (she/her)
Executive Assistant, Cyclone Recovery

M +64 9 [REDACTED]

E chris.o'gorman@dpmc.govt.nz

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Released under the Official Information Act 1982

From: [Katrina Casey \[DPMC\]](#)
To: [Flood Resilience \(DPMC\)](#)
Cc: [fiona.mctavish@boprc.govt.nz](#); [^Kaweraudc: Russell George](#); [stacel@odc.govt.nz](#); [geoff.williams@rotorualc.nz](#); [marty.grenfell@tauranga.govt.nz](#); [john.holyoake@westernbay.govt.nz](#); [Steph.OSullivan@whakatane.govt.nz](#); [^Horizons: Michael McCartney](#); [shayne.harris@mdc.govt.nz](#); [bryan.nicholson@tararua.govt.nz](#); [jong@nrc.govt.nz](#); [Jill.coyle@fndc.govt.nz](#); [jmarris@kaipara.govt.nz](#); [^EXT: Simon Weston](#); [^EXT: Chris Mclay](#); [CEO@hcc.govt.nz](#); [^Hauraki DC: Langley Cavers](#); [dmcleod@mpdc.govt.nz](#); [tanya@otodc.govt.nz](#); [^SouthWaikato: Susan Law](#); [jgardyne@taupo.govt.nz](#); [aileen.lawrie@tcdc.govt.nz](#); [gavin.ion@waidc.govt.nz](#); [Garry.Dyet@waipad.govt.nz](#); [Ben.Smit@waitomo.govt.nz](#)
Subject: Local Government Flood Resilience Co-investment Fund – due by 3 November
Date: Monday, 9 October 2023 9:58:46 am
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Flood resilience fund - initiative considerations.pdf](#)
[Flood resilience fund - information template.pdf](#)

[UNCLASSIFIED]

Tēnā koutou

Hon Grant Robertson, Minister for Cyclone Recovery, recently wrote to you about cost sharing for Future of Severely Affected Locations (FOSAL) responses to the North Island Weather Events (NIWE), including Cyclones Hale and Gabrielle, and the Auckland anniversary weekend floods. That letter referenced Crown funding for projects where risks can be mitigated by community or property level interventions. This letter sets out the contestable process for you to propose near-term initiatives for funding.

The Local Government Flood Resilience Co-investment Fund (the Flood Resilience Fund) is for local authorities in areas impacted by the NIWE to seek Crown co-investment to support the proactive management of climate-exacerbated flood risk. The focus for funding is on near-term initiatives—in other words, completed this financial year, or at least able to get underway this financial year and able to be completed by June 2025—that will build flood resilience. Initiatives must also reflect local contributions (which can be direct funding or met through means such as project management or design work).

As you consider options for mitigating risks to life from future severe weather events and increasing flood resilience in residential properties that were significantly impacted by the NIWE, we would like to discuss with you if there are any initiatives in your region that you think may be eligible to be considered for this funding. Your contact is Anna Wilson-Farrell, Executive Director of Strategic Policy and Legislation, at +64 ^{s 9(2)(a)} or CRUFloodResilience@dpmc.govt.nz

Action	Timing
Local authorities discuss potential initiatives with CRU	Now–3 November
Final paperwork (template attached) due to CRU	3 November
Officials complete the review of initiatives and provide advice to Ministers <i>see attached for questions that officials will consider alongside other factors such as other available funding, cost sharing, equity</i>	Mid- late November
Local authorities advised of funding decisions	Requires Ministerial decisions. Aiming to be able to advise of decisions in early December (TBC – we will keep you informed of the timeframe)

Ngā mihi,

Katrina



LOCAL GOVERNMENT FLOOD RESILIENCE CO-INVESTMENT FUND

Guidance for agencies to develop advice on funding decisions

The fund is for local authorities in areas impacted by the North Island Weather Events (NIWE) to seek Crown co-investment to support the proactive management of climate-exacerbated flood risk. Initiatives should be able to be underway this year and must be able to be completed by June 2025.

Officials will consider the following questions (alongside other factors such as available funding, cost sharing, equity) when developing advice for Ministers about the package of initiatives for the first tranche of funding.

Indicators / questions to be considered as and where appropriate	
<p>Priority</p> <p>The initiative should contribute to resilience to future flood risks in the areas affected by NIWE and be ready to start this year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can the local authority provide sufficient evidence as to why this initiative is urgent and provides value for money for the Crown that outweighs the benefits of taking a more considered approach? How soon will the initiative begin to improve flood resiliency? Has the local authority clearly identified why this initiative is a priority? e.g., but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is it included in Te Uru Kahika proposal "Before the deluge: Building flood resilience in Aotearoa"? Is it prioritised in the Regional Recovery Plans? Is there a window of opportunity to invest now that will be lost?
<p>Value for money</p> <p>The initiative should represent good value for money, delivering greatest benefits for least cost.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are the benefits of the initiative clear? Does the proposal include a credible and favourable assessment of the likely intended and unintended costs and benefits (as appropriate for the scale of the investment)? Does the initiative use the PARA (protect, avoid, relocate, and accommodate) framework for risk management? Has the initiative sought to minimise maladaptation (including future-proofing resilience investments against changing flood risks due to climate change and future costs created by the intervention) and moral hazard risks? Has the initiative considered long-term risk? If the initiative is a near-term fix, is there a cost-effective long-term solution? Does the initiative deliver wider social, economic, environmental and/or cultural outcomes (e.g., nature-based solutions)?
<p>Alignment</p> <p>The initiative should be aligned to other activity that is planned or already being delivered.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the initiative aligned with other post-NIWE recovery activities (e.g., FOSAL, Regional Recovery Plans, National Resilience Plan)? Does the initiative align with other related government priorities, (e.g., priorities identified in the National Adaption Plan)?
<p>Deliverability</p> <p>The initiative should be planned to be completed no later than the 2024/25 fiscal year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the initiative be completed in the current fiscal year or within the 2024/25 fiscal year? Has all other necessary funding (e.g., for related repair work, for ongoing asset management after the physical infrastructure is built) been secured? Do the relevant parties have the capability and capacity to deliver the initiative on time and within budget, taking into account limited market capacity, any planning/consenting requirements, and the ability to procure and manage the investment? Does the initiative identify key delivery risks and mitigations?

<p>Additionality</p> <p>The initiative should not be something that the authority or beneficiaries of the initiative could pay for.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has the local authority demonstrated the initiative is not: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - something the council has already budgeted for? - something that the beneficiaries of the initiative could pay for?
<p>Iwi/Māori engagement</p> <p>The initiative should demonstrate that engagement with relevant iwi/Māori has occurred.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has the initiative been jointly submitted/supported by relevant iwi/Māori? • Have iwi/Māori been engaged in the development of the initiative and is there a plan for how they will be engaged as the initiative is rolled out?
<p>Betterment*</p> <p>The initiative should protect residential properties to a more flood resilient standard than the pre-NIWE state.</p> <p><i>*for initiatives that support physical infrastructure works to deliver risk reduction alongside repair work</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has the local authority provided clear evidence that the initiative is restoring an asset to a more flood resilient standard? Has the local authority clearly differentiated between what is eligible for the 60 percent government CDEM contribution and what is betterment? • Is the resilience standard being built to transparent, clearly articulated and reasonable?



LOCAL GOVERNMENT FLOOD RESILIENCE CO-INVESTMENT FUND

Information for near-term initiatives proposed for funding

The fund is for local authorities in areas impacted by the North Island Weather Events (NIWE) to seek Crown co-investment to support the proactive management of climate-exacerbated flood risk.

This form is to be used for initiatives that can be underway this year and be completed by June 2025.

Please return the completed form by email to: CRUFloodResilience@dpmc.govt.nz

Section 1: Overview Information

Initiative ref #: [for DPMC use only]

1. Initiative title:

2. Please provide a brief description of the initiative.

[Briefly outline the initiative, confirming that it is urgent, priority work that contributes to the resilience and proactive management of climate-exacerbated flood risks. Is this contained in the Regional Recovery Plan? Is there a window of opportunity to invest now that will be lost?]

3. Which territorial authority/authorities is the initiative located in?

4. The initiative is:

Initiative Type	✓	Total funding sought (\$m)
Physical infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Planning and assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Data acquisition	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other: please specify	<input type="checkbox"/>	

5. Contact details:

Organisation Name:	<input type="text"/>		
Contact Name, Role:	<input type="text"/>		
Email Address:	<input type="text"/>	Telephone:	<input type="text"/>



Section 2: Initiative Detail

6. Funding profile:

Capital funding proposed (\$m)				
	2023/24	2024/25	Outyears	Total
Flood Resilience Fund			N/A	
Local funding contribution				
Other funding please specify				
Total capital funding				
Operating funding proposed (\$m)				
	2023/24	2024/25	Outyears	Total
Flood Resilience Fund			N/A	
Local funding contribution				
Other funding please specify				
Total operating funding				

7. Describe the likely intended and unintended costs and benefits (including social, economic, environmental and/or cultural) that the initiative will deliver (i.e., value for cost).

8. How have iwi/Māori been engaged in the development of the initiative? What is the plan for how they will be engaged as it progresses?



9. Describe how the project contributes to the long-term resilience of the region. How does the initiative align with other post-NIWE activity (i.e., sequencing with other initiatives) and Te Uru Kahika proposal “Before the deluge: Building flood resilience in Aotearoa”? If the initiative is a near-term fix, how does this support a cost-effective long-term solution?

10. How does the initiative align with wider government priorities (e.g., priorities identified in the [National Adaptation Plan](#))?

11. Describe

- how the initiative fits in the PARA (protect, avoid, relocate, and accommodate) framework for risk management;
- which other intervention options under the PARA framework have been considered; and
- why this initiative is the optimal intervention.

12. For physical infrastructure initiative, describe how it protects residential properties to a more flood resilient standard than the pre-NIWE state, and/or how the initiative seeks to minimise maladaptation and moral hazard risks.



13. Describe the local contribution to the initiative. What ongoing requirements (e.g., funding, staffing, maintenance) would emerge from this initiative, and how will you these manage these?

For Example

- *This project will identify critical locations where the council will invest in flood warning monitoring, which will be funded by x.*
- *After this project builds x asset, ongoing maintenance will be funded by y.*
- *Ongoing operational funding is being sought from x fund.*
- *Capacity to analyse data collected from this project will be provided by x.]*

14. Is this initiative included in Te Uru Kahika/Regional and Unitary Councils Aotearoa “Before the deluge: Building flood resilience in Aotearoa” investment proposal (December 2022)?

Yes: No:

a. If yes, please describe how the initiative priority/design/scope changed post NIWE?

15. Was this initiative previously identified in a local authority planning process?

Yes: No:

a. If yes, please describe the outcome of the process, including any funding decisions.

b. Has the initiative priority/design/scope changed post NIWE? If so, please describe how.

16. Has funding for this initiative previously been applied for from any part of Government?

Yes: No:

If yes, please describe which funding mechanism/agency, the outcome of the discussions, and who such discussions were with (which Ministry and official).



17. If not progressed via this fund, how would this initiative progress (e.g., raise rates, bid for Budget 2025 funding, apply for National Resilience Plan funding) or how would you otherwise address the issue it is seeking to solve (e.g., shift focus to flood warning systems instead of building higher stopbanks)?

Section 3: Implementation

18. Please provide an overview of milestones completed to date.

Milestone	Date Completed
e.g., assessment, design work	

19. Proposed breakdown of the spend and activity each quarter (\$m):

e.g., consent granted, construction begins	2023/24			2024/25				Total
	Q2 Oct-Dec 23	Q3 Jan-Mar 24	Q4 Apr-Jun 24	Q1 Jul-Sept 24	Q2 Oct-Dec 24	Q3 Jan-Mar 25	Q4 Apr-Jun 25	



20. Describe the capacity and capability available to deliver the initiative on time and within budget.

[Empty response box for question 20]

21. Describe any challenges that would prevent the initiative from commencing before the end of the calendar year.

[Empty response box for question 21]

22. Is the success of the initiative reliant on other unresolved factors (e.g., unsecured funding from other sources, law change, approval of long-term plan)? If so, please briefly describe.

[Empty response box for question 22]



23. What are the key delivery risks (i.e., aspects that would affect your ability to deliver the initiative on time and within budget)? Please categorise each risk as low/medium/high and include a short explanation of the rating and how you will mitigate the risk.

Description of risk <i>[e.g., workforce availability, consent requirements]</i>	Low / Med / High	Commentary and mitigation

24. What other information would be useful context for consideration?

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Out of Scope

From: Anna Wilson-Farrell

Sent: Monday, 4 September 2023 2:46 pm

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Subject: Cyclone Recovery - risk categorisation slides ahead of session on Thursday 7 September

[UNCLASSIFIED]

Kia ora koutou

I hope the week has started well for you.

Ahead of our online catch up at 2:30pm on Thursday afternoon, please find attached the slides resulting from the sessions that the Treasury and Ministry for the Environment facilitated with Hawke's Bay, Tairāwhiti and Auckland councils.

This is an overview for your information. The Future of Severely Affected Locations policy approach and process is council-led. It is up to councils to make decisions on if and how property is categorised. Councils in Hawke's Bay, Tairāwhiti and Auckland are finalising their categorisation methods/metrics/thresholds and these methods and approaches will be finalised in funding agreements with the crown, so will become clearer soon.

See you on Thursday,

Ngā mihi

Anna

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16/08/2023

Potential metrics and council approaches to risk categorisation in NIWE impacted regions.

This slide deck is based on discussions in a series of technical-level workshops in July/August 2023 between central and local government officials. This workshop series aims to facilitate information sharing and encourage consistency of understanding around specific issues.

The focus was on risk categorisation approaches for Categories 1, 2, and 3 – and to share information about what councils are using as criteria, metrics, and thresholds. The content of these slides reflects current thinking presented in discussions. Neither the metrics nor the overall approach are the confirmed position of any council, and further refinement is expected by councils as they finalise categorisation and undertake technical assessment.

It is recognised that, alongside national consistency, a degree of flexibility and discretion is also desirable for councils, and that applying a principles-based approach might be better than one based on strict rules.

Due to different local circumstances, including level of evidence available, it is accepted that the metrics and thresholds used by councils may differ.

Risk category thresholds – councils' approach

Title	Category Description	Category Example	Criteria	Risk threshold
3	Future severe weather event risk cannot be sufficiently mitigated. In some cases some current land uses may remain acceptable, while for others there is an unacceptable risk of injury or death.	In the face of enhanced climate risks the property may face unacceptable risk of future flooding. Other property could be subject to unstable land that poses an ongoing risk.	<p>Impacted by NIWE, and</p> <p>Land damage makes rebuild technically or economically infeasible; or</p> <p>Risk to life safety from flood and landslide is intolerably high, and</p> <p>Compelling evidence that only a buyout [or grant] can reduce risk to a tolerable or acceptable level at an acceptable cost.¹</p>	<p>Severe magnitude of impact from NIWE events</p> <p>Intolerable risk to life safety</p>
2c	Community level interventions are effective in managing future severe weather event risk	Local government repairs and enhances flood protection schemes to adequately manage the risk of future flooding events in the face of climate change effects.	<p>Impacted by NIWE, and</p> <p>Risk to life safety from flood and landslide is intolerably high, and / or</p>	Severe magnitude of impact from NIWE events
2p	Property level interventions are needed to manage future severe weather event risk, including in tandem with community level interventions.	Property specific measures such as improved drainage and raising houses is necessary. Benefits accrue to property owners, but some may face affordability issues.	<p>Risks to property are intolerably high</p> <p>Initial analysis suggests that risk can be made tolerable or acceptable through community or property level interventions and use of the land for current purposes can continue, but</p>	<p>Intolerable risk to life safety; and/or</p> <p>Intolerable risk to property,</p>
2a	Potential to fall within 2C / 2P but significant further assessment required	Interventions may be required / possible but insufficient information to provide initial categorisation (these may subsequently move between "2" categories or to 1 / 3).	<p>Further analysis is required to confirm the most cost-effective options to reduce risk to tolerable or acceptable levels on an enduring basis.²</p>	
1	Repair to previous state is all that is required to manage future severe weather event risk	Minor flood damage to repair but no need for significant redesign/retrofitting. Private insurance is sufficient but uninsured may face hardship	<p>Impacted by NIWE</p> <p>Risk to life safety from flood or landslide is tolerable or acceptable.³</p>	

Thresholds - Potential Metrics

Flood Metrics:

NIWE post-event observed impacts

(post-disaster rapid building assessment / detailed damage evaluation?)

- Height of water level in building
- Observed damage to building structure (on site and satellite)
- Observations of high energy flow (debris, trees etc)
- Placard type
- Issues with evacuation in flood (?)

Modelled flood risk (existing models)

- Range of AEP floods modelled (1% 2% 0.5%)
- **Flood Depth and Velocity (D * V) above habitable floor level / finished ground level** (threshold based on vulnerability)
- Frequency at which Depth * Velocity is risk to life safety (1% or 2% AEP etc.)
- Rate of rise
- Debris factor
- Dry or safe egress route / dry refuge
- Level of service from flood protection / breach modelling
- Calculated Annual Individual Fatality Risk (AIFR)

Site-specific (flood risk) assessment

- Surveyed floor levels and egress routes
- Options for property-level risk reduction

Cost effectiveness

- Whole of life financial cost of buyouts/grants relative to community or property level interventions
- Professional judgement on how enduring community or property level interventions will be – short-term or long-term risk reduction

How metrics might be applied (not confirmed)

Category 3 Threshold:

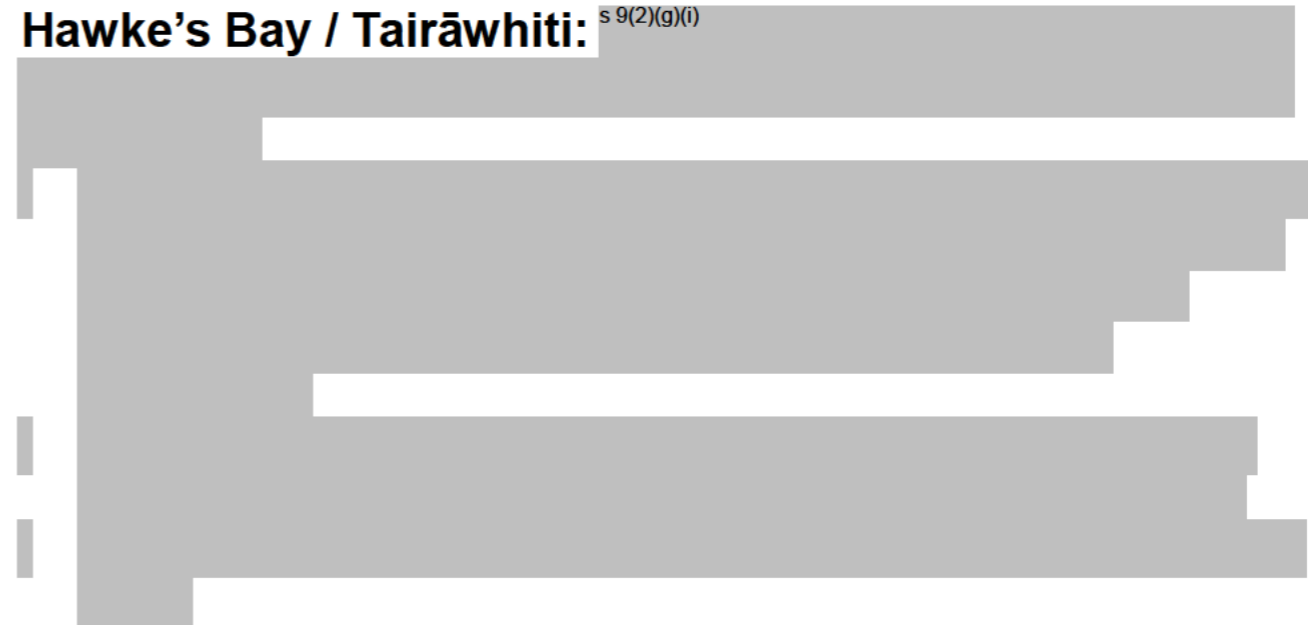
Auckland:

s 9(2)(g)(i)



Hawke's Bay / Tairāwhiti:

s 9(2)(g)(i)



Thresholds - Potential Metrics

Geotechnical / Land stability Metrics:

NIWE post-event observed impacts

(post-disaster rapid building assessment / detailed damage evaluation?)

- Land instability classification e.g. landslide (movement, velocity, volume etc.)
- Observed damage to building structure
- Placard type
- Issues with evacuation

Technical assessment of land stability risk (for area or site-specific)

- Identification of land damage
- Land stability assessment (quantitative, modelled)
- Quantitative assessment of Annual Individual Fatality Risk (AIFR)
- Qualitative assessment of risk to property
- Identify whether there are options to reinstate / repair damage to tolerable risk

Cost effectiveness

- Whole of life financial cost of buyouts/grants relative to community or property level interventions
- Professional judgement on how enduring community or property level interventions will be – short-term or long-term risk reduction

How metrics might be applied (not confirmed)

Category 3 Threshold:

Auckland:

s 9(2)(g)(i)

Hawke's Bay / Tairāwhiti:

• s 9(2)(g)(i)

Category 2 Threshold:

Auckland:

• s 9(2)(g)(i)

Notes

- 1. These criteria paraphrase the criteria agreed by EWR on 31 May, adjusting terminology to align better with the recently released ECQ Risk Tolerance Methodology, <https://www.eqc.govt.nz/resilience-and-research/reducing-risk/risk-tolerance-methodology/> (key definitions excerpted on following slide). The criterion “imminent threat to life” has been removed, reflecting a judgement that it does not add anything beyond what is already captured by “Risk to life safety from flood and landslide is intolerably high”. Additionally, references to “life and safety” have been changed to “life safety”, reflecting more common terminology associated with natural hazard management.
- 2. Category 2 has not been further defined by Cabinet beyond what has been announced publicly, so the text included here is a reflection of the actual approaches we understand councils to be taking – noting that there are different views across councils.
- Under the framing set out above, the consequence for the property owner of inclusion in Category 3 is a buyout offer. The consequence of inclusion in Category 2 depends on the outcome of a business case and funding application process. If ultimately interventions are practically and fiscally possible, the risk associated with Category 2 properties will be brought to tolerable or acceptable levels. If interventions are not practically or fiscally possible, **those properties within Category 2 that are subject to an intolerable risk to life safety (which may be just a subset of Category 2 properties) should move to Category 3** and receive buyout offers. There is no specific policy response associated with Category 2 properties subject to intolerable risks other than to life safety but where mitigations are not possible. Opinions and practice as to whether it is desirable for Category 2 to include a risk threshold other than intolerable risk to life safety – this area is an example of one where council approaches may evolve over time.
- 3. Category 1 does not mean there is no risk at all, or that there was no impact from the North Island Weather Events. Additionally, it is possible that community level interventions designed to protect properties in either Category 2 or Category 3 could offer some level of risk reduction to Category 1 properties as well.

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EQC terminology

Level of risk	Associated risk terms	Explanation	Descriptive example(s)
Intolerable	Catastrophic Severe Unacceptable Extreme High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk cannot be justified except in extraordinary circumstances. Activity must cease until risk is removed or reduced. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resilience of the land use has or will soon be exceeded beyond sustainable risk reduction measures, with continued use of the land no longer sustainable; and/or The coping capacity of a community or property has been exceeded, or will soon be exceeded; and/or Life safety and/or functionality of the building is threatened beyond risk reduction measures; and/or The consequential effects of the development on the environment will be irreversible. 'X' number of events leading to one or more of the points above have occurred in 'Y' years
Tolerable	Significant Substantial Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk is accepted only if the benefit gained is shown to outweigh the risk (using the 'As Low As Reasonably Practicable' principle¹) Tolerable only if risk can be mitigated at a cost proportional to the benefit gained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The sustainable use of the land can continue with cost effective risk reduction measures; and Monitoring of the natural hazard and climate change risks is undertaken to allow changes in risks to be <u>managed</u>; Communities can cope with the impacts from natural hazard <u>events</u>; The life safety risk and/or functionality of the land use can be managed to safeguard the future of the land use.
Acceptable	Low Insignificant Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broadly acceptable Monitor and maintain assurance that risk remains at this level 	Activity can occur with limited controls or restrictions.

References

Technical references for additional information

- EQC risk tolerance methodology includes standard definitions and terminology: [Risk tolerance methodology : Toka Tū Ake EQC](#)
- Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection, Flood Emergency Response Classification of the floodplain includes guidance for example on ability to evacuate: [adr-guideline-7-2.pdf \(aidr.org.au\)](#)
- Landslide risk: [PART A: \(landsliderisk.org\)](#)
- Reducing Landslide Risk through land-use planning: [Attachment \(planning.org.nz\)](#)

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