



26 May 2026

Ref: OIA-2025/26-0675

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Official Information Act request: Advice on funding for marae resilience

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act (the Act), which was received by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) on 22 April 2026. You requested:

“Under the OIA can I please request all advice produced by DMPC (or received by DMPC from other agencies or offices) on funding for marae resilience. Please scope the content broadly, I want any information on response funding and proactive resilience funding. Please also include any direction provided from the Minister and his office on changing tagged contingencies, reducing or moving the funding.

Can this please be scoped for the last year.”

On 28 April 2026, you refined your request to be for:

- *“Requests from Minister Potaka*
- *Information held by or produced by DMPC*
- *Any information or advice received by DMPC from other agencies or offices (e.g. for comment) regarding this topic.*

Taken together, your original request and the refinement of 28 April have been interpreted as seeking all information held by DPMC that was either created over the last year (22 April 2025 – 22 April 2026), or received by DPMC from other agencies or offices over the same period, relating to funding for marae resilience.

On 12 May, we notified you of our decision to partially transfer your request to the National Emergency Management Agency, the Ministry for the Environment, and Te Puni Kōkiri. The present response covers any additional material DPMC holds; that is, information not covered by the responses from those agencies.

Information being released

Identified as in scope of your request are the documents listed below, which I have decided to release, 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 individuals
- section 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion
- section 9(2)(j), to enable negotiations to be carried on without prejudice or disadvantage.

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	15 September 2025	Aide Memoire: Final report back on Regional Recovery Structures Capability Funding	Release, some information withheld under s9(2)(a),
2	13 May 2025	Aide Memoire to support Tairāwhiti Marae announcement 15 May 2025	Release, some information withheld under s9(2)(a), s9(2)(g)(i), and s9(2)(j).

Information publicly available

The following information is also covered by your request and is publicly available on DPMC's website:

Date	Document description	Website address
27 June 2025	Aide-Memoire: Status of core NIWE Recovery Actions and Transition Arrangements	https://www.dPMC.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2025-08/pr-status-niwe-recovery-actions.pdf

Accordingly, I have refused your request for the documents listed in the above table under section 18(d) of the Act – the information requested is publicly available

Information to be withheld

Also identified as relevant to your request is a briefing provided by the DPMC Policy Advisory Group to the Prime Minister. These briefings are provided to the Prime Minister in confidence to support him in his role as leader of the Government and chair of Cabinet. The briefing is withheld in its entirety under the following sections of the Act:

- 9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials
- 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion.

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 the DPMC 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



Lisa Daniell
Acting Deputy Chief Executive, Policy and Delivery Unit



Aide-Mémoire

Final report back on Regional Recovery Structures Capability Funding

To: Hon Mark Mitchell, Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery

Date	15/09/2025	Priority level:	Low
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Purpose

1. This briefing provides you with the fourth and final six-monthly report back on the regional recovery structures capability funding for councils affected by the 2023 North Island weather events (NIWE). This report back covers the period 1 January to 30 June 2025.

Background

2. Budget 2023 included an appropriation¹ of \$20 million over two years to fund Regional Recovery Structures (RRS) to support regional capability to manage recovery activities. Allocation of this funding was agreed by the previous Minister and Associate Minister for Cyclone Recovery in June 2023.
3. In May 2024 you agreed to use the unallocated \$925,393 of funding in 2023/24 to further support the Auckland Council's recovery structures across 2023/24 and 2024/25 [DPMC-2023/24-1219 refers].
4. As a condition of receiving this funding, regions are required to provide a six-monthly report to DPMC on the progress of funded activities. This is the fourth and final report back.

Reports have been received or have been extended

5. The Gisborne District Council expended all its funding and provided DPMC with a final report back in November 2024, which was summarised in the 27 February 2025 report back to you [DPMC-2024/25-745 refers].
6. In December 2024 and June 2025 respectively, variations were agreed for both the Hawke's Bay Regional Council and the Northland regional Council to extend the grant period by 9 months (from 30 June 2025 to 31 March 2026) to enable recovery activities to continue into an additional financial year.
7. Both councils that were granted an extension will provide the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) with a final report at the end of the grant period (after 31 March 2026).
8. All other regions have submitted reports, which are summarised below in **Attachment A**.

¹ Non-Departmental Appropriation: Extreme Weather Recovery – Local and Regional Support. Note that the Cyclone Recovery Capability Fund is also within this appropriation.

Some funding will be returned to the Crown

9. Table 1 below shows the funding allocations made over two years. A total of \$70,000 was not allocated and was returned to the Crown as part of DPMC's 2024/25 year-end process. This is shown as an underspend in your report on a Non-departmental Appropriation reported appended to the DPMC Annual Report 2024/25 [DPMC-2025/26-143 refers].
10. The Tararua District Council was allocated \$900,000 and has advised of an underspend of \$95,019. This funding will be recovered by DPMC and returned to the Crown during 2025/26.

Table 1: RRS funding allocation

Region	2023/24 FY	2024/25 FY	Total funding allocated
Hawke's Bay	\$7,349,607	nil	\$7,349,607
Gisborne District Council	\$1,880,000	\$1,880,000	\$3,760,000
Toitu Tairāwhiti	\$1,340,000	\$1,340,000	\$2,680,000
Auckland	\$2,760,393	nil	\$2,760,393
Thames-Coromandel	\$450,000	\$450,000	\$900,000
Tararua	\$450,000	\$450,000	\$900,000
Wellington/Wairarapa	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$700,000
Northland	\$310,000	\$350,000	\$660,000
Waikato	\$110,000	\$110,000	\$220,000
Total	\$15,000,000	4,930,000	\$19,930,000
Unallocated	nil	70,000	70,000
Unspent	nil	\$95,019	na

Next steps

11. This is the final routine report back on Recovery Structure funding.
12. If any issues, concerns or variations are raised following the receipt of the two Councils granted reporting extensions we will report back to you.

Contact for telephone discussion			
Name	Position	Telephone	1 st Contact
Alan Cassidy	Deputy Chief Executive, Corporate	+64 s9(2)(a)	✓
Angela Mansell	Director, Organisation Direction and Development	+64 s9(2)(a)	

Attachments:	Title	Security classification
Attachment A:	Summary of reporting on regional recovery structure capability funding 1 January to 30 June 2025	IN-CONFIDENCE UNCLASSIFIED

Attachment A: Summary of reporting on regional recovery structure capability funding 1 January to 30 June 2025

1. A summary of the reporting on regional recovery structures capability funding for the period 1 January to 30 June 2025 for the District Councils is provided below.

Northland

2. The Northland Regional Council (NRC) received \$0.66 million to fund staffing costs for iwi liaison engagement activities; recovery office costs; and wind down and evaluation assessment activities.
3. The NRC received a nine-month extension to the grant period, and will provide a final report back after 31 March 2026, and no later than 31 May 2026. We understand the NRC is on track with recovery activities funded through the conditional grant agreement. If any issues are raised in this report, DPMC will report this back to you as the Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery.

Auckland

4. The Auckland Council received \$2.76 million to fund additional staff (including a community and social wellbeing outreach lead, accommodation services lead and community liaison) and back-office support.
5. The Auckland Council reports the grant has been fully utilised to deliver targeted recovery support, strengthen leadership and wellbeing, and enable community- and iwi-led recovery planning across Auckland. While the funding period has ended, the work it enabled will continue with activities now transitioning into wind down, knowledge transfer, and long-term resilience building.

Tairāwhiti

6. Tairāwhiti's funding proposal split the recovery structures into two areas: the district recovery structure via the Gisborne District Council (GDC), and the iwi recovery structure via Toitu Tairāwhiti Housing Ltd.
7. The district recovery structure includes recovery capacity and capability for district council purposes, whilst iwi recovery structure funding incorporates "connector capability" for Ngai Tāmanuhiri, Rongowhakaata, Te Aitanga a Mahāki and Ngāti Porou.

Gisborne District Council

8. The GDC received \$3.76 million funding for a Recovery Office to lead recovery and resilience-building efforts across the region (including staffing costs, corporate support, and associated office overheads); and a regional advisor to provide strategic guidance, coordination, and oversight of the recovery initiatives. The GDC has now expended all recovery structure funding and provided the CRU with a final report on 27 November 2024.

Toitu Tairāwhiti Housing Ltd.

9. Toitu Tairāwhiti Housing Ltd received \$1.34 million for the 2023/24 and 2024/25 Financial Years, and administered funding to four Tairāwhiti iwi.
10. In June, Toitu Tairāwhiti Housing Ltd provided a final close out report to the CRU, confirming all funding had been expended, and all funded activities are complete. The report notes the significant challenges faced by Tairāwhiti iwi over the 24 months of the grant period as the region recovers from the effects of Cyclone Gabrielle, and praises the vital role whanau played in the recovery.

11. The report notes RRS funding has given iwi the blueprint of a sustainable recovery system, and the opportunity to continue to progress for shared leadership and co-investment in a resilient future.

Hawke's Bay Regional Council

12. The Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC) received \$7.35 million of funding for staffing costs; iwi liaison engagement activity; premises rental and IT costs; and contingency funding.
13. The HBRC received a nine-month extension to the grant period, and will provide a final report back after 31 March 2026, and no later than 31 May 2026. We understand the HBRC is on track with recovery activities funded through the conditional grant agreement. If any issues are raised in the final report, DPMC will report this back to you as the Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery.

Thames-Coromandel District Council

14. The Thames-Coromandel District Council (TCDC) received \$0.9 million to fund staff costs (including recovery leads); iwi liaison engagement activity; and the development and implementation of a Strategic Recovery Communications Plan.
15. TCDC funding was fully spent with the main recovery activities over January to June 2025 including stabilising slips at Thornton Bay and Adams Road in order to protect Council infrastructure, employment of a Community Resilience Manager, establishment of a philanthropic revenue stream, and continued repair and rebuild of State Highway 25 and over 100 local road sites damaged in the storms. The main variation between planned and actual activity, was reallocating resource from governance activity into employment of staff to speed recovery activity.
16. TCDC reports the recovery plan is now business as usual. The repair of the local road network and State Highway network continues through to the end of the year and is being funded by NZTA and TCDC roading programmes.

Tararua District Council

17. The Tararua District Council (TDC) received \$0.9 million of funding for staffing costs; support for iwi involvement in operational recovery activities and the Mayor's Taskforce for Cyclone Recovery; and corporate staffing costs and associated overheads.
18. The final close out report confirmed all funded activities are complete, including a confirmed funding model for land stability, five additional community hubs, and five of six marae supported with resources for resilience, including shipping containers, heaters, civil defence supplies, etc.
19. TDC reported an underspend of \$95,019 from reduced staffing costs and the urban community hubs requiring less funding. This funding will be recovered by DPMC and returned to the Crown during 2025/26.

Masterton District Council

20. The Masterton District Council (MDC) received \$0.7 million to fund governance and iwi partnerships, and the Recovery Office.
21. The Wairarapa Recovery Office completed the FOSAL Voluntary buyout including recovery and resilience across the three Wairarapa Councils, with reducing governance structure and governance assurance activities.

Waikato

22. The Waikato District Council (WDC) received \$0.22 million to fund staff costs (including Adaptive Management Planning and a Community Resilience Strategic Advisor).
23. The funding supported immediate recovery and long-term resilience in Port Waikato, including physical works (e.g., retaining walls, drainage), risk assessments, and a sand push-up programme for storm protection. It also established a full-time adaptive management role and partnerships with mana whenua and community groups to integrate grassroots input into resilience planning.
24. A Community Resilience Strategic Advisor led marae-focused resilience efforts, launching tailored plans for emergency response, infrastructure needs, and resilience actions. A multi-agency group, 'Te Roopu Awhina,' was formed to support marae preparedness while a marae resilience data tool enhanced data sharing and planning. Additional funding was secured from Trust Waikato and WEL Energy Trust to support ongoing delivery.

Proactively Released



DEPARTMENT OF THE
PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET
TE TARI O TE PIRIMIA ME TE KOMITI MATUA

Aide-Mémoire

Aide Memoire to support Tairāwhiti Marae announcement 15 May 2025

To:
Hon Mark Mitchell
Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery

Hon Tama Potaka
Minister for Māori Development
Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti

Copy to:
Rt Hon Christopher Luxon
Prime Minister

Date	13/05/2025	Priority level:	High
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Purpose

1. You are traveling to Tairāwhiti on 15 May to announce that Relationship and Funding Agreements have been signed between the Crown and Marae Trustees to relocate the five Tairāwhiti marae severely damaged in the severe weather events of 2023.
2. This briefing provides key information to support this announcement.

Background

3. In December 2024, Joint Ministers¹ agreed to the following allocation of funding for the five Marae on severely affected (Category 3) land in Tairāwhiti [DPMC-2024/25-531 refers]:

Table One: Allocation of funding for Tairāwhiti Marae

Marae	s9(2)(i)
Hinemaurea ki Mangatuna Marae	
Ōkuri Marae	
Puketāwai Marae	
Rangatira Marae	
Takipū Marae	
Total	

4. Note these figures can't at this time be made public because the Marae have not as yet entered into their procurement processes and the figures are commercially sensitive.

¹ Ministers of/for Finance, Emergency Management and Recovery, Māori Development and Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti

5. The figures that can be used about cost are as follows. A total of \$136.215m, allocated from Budgets 23 and 24 will fund the entire Whenua Māori and Marae relocation Programme. It includes the costs to relocate owners of 24 whenua Māori properties to safety as well as demolition of residential structures and covers some assistance to support affected sites of cultural significance, principally Urūpa.
6. All five Marae have signed Relationship and Funding Agreements with the Crown and in all cases have acquired the new sites for the relocation. You are scheduled to announce the fact the Agreements have been signed on 15 May.
7. On 8 May, the Chief Executive, Cyclone Recovery provided you with a draft press release announcing the marae relocation agreements being signed, and draft talking points for the Prime Minister and Minister Mitchell to support the announcement. These are attached again for your reference.
8. You will make the announcement, alongside the Prime Minister and Minister Potaka, at the at Tūranga Tangata Rite, a flagship housing development led by Toitū Tairāwhiti Housing Limited in Gisborne City.
9. Detailed profiles of each Marae and key attendees are included in Attachment A.

Next steps

10. Your office is working with Minister Potaka's office to finalise details of the run sheet, and a copy will be provided to you once confirmed.
11. We have worked with the Marae to prepare photo presentations that will be displayed at the event (Your office has a copy).
12. The Chief Executive, Cyclone recovery and Deputy Chief Executive, Whenua Māori and Marae Pathway, Cyclone Recovery Unit will be there to support you at the announcement on Thursday.
13. We understand you will be visiting the new site for each Marae over the coming months. The CRU will provide you with supporting material ahead of these visits.

Contact for telephone discussion			
Name	Position	Telephone	1 st Contact
Katrina Casey	Chief Executive Cyclone Recovery	+64 s9(2)(a)	✓

Attachments:	Title	Security classification
Attachment A:	Marae profiles and attendee details	IN-CONFIDENCE UNCLASSIFIED
Attachment B:	Draft PR: Tairāwhiti Marae relocation announcement 15 May 2025	IN-CONFIDENCE UNCLASSIFIED
Attachment C:	Talking points: Tairāwhiti Marae announcement 15 May 2025	IN-CONFIDENCE UNCLASSIFIED

Attachment A:

Puketāwai Marae

Puketāwai Marae is situated in *Koura-te-uwhi*, approximately 3.5 km north-east of Tolaga Bay township and toward the coastline, at

22-24 Kaiaua Road
Tolaga Bay
Gisborne, 4077

The name of the whare tipuna (wharenui) is *Te Amowhiu*, who was the mother of *Te Rangipure-ora* and a direct descendant of *Hauiti*. The Wharekai, called the War Memorial Hall, was opened and dedicated on 27 September 1958 (following WWII).

The Marae is administered by the Kourateuwhi 1B3A1 Māori Reservation Trust, with four trustees: ^{s9(2)(a)} [REDACTED]

The block on which the Marae sits was originally created by partition order in 1917² (partitioned from a larger initial block, Kourateuwhi 1B3A). It was designated a Māori Reservation in 1927, by the Native Land Court (see [Native Land Court Order 95 WP 24](#)). The 1927 order records the existence of the wharenui “Te Amowhui” and a church “Te Emanuere”.

At the time Cyclone Gabrielle hit, Puketāwai Marae was part way through a Marae redevelopment, which had been planned between 2017 and 2021.



² Later cancelled and replaced by a new partition order in 1927.

Ōkuri Marae

Ōkuri Marae is located in *Mangatuna*, approximately 3.5 km north-east of Tolaga Bay township, at

1024 Waiapu Road (SH35)
Mangatuna
Gisborne, 4077

The name of the *whare tipuna* (wharenuī) is also *Ōkuri*, daughter of *Te Rangitaumaru* and direct descendent of *Hauti*.

The Marae is administered by the Mangatuna 18, 19 & 20 Māori Reservation. There are eight trustees: ^{s9(2)(a)}

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The block on which the Marae sites (Mangatuna 18, 19 & 20) was created by Partition Order made by the Māori Land Court on 25 October 1967.³ In 1986, 4064ha of Part Mangatuna 18, 19 & 20 were set apart as a Māori Reservation, for the purposes of a marae for the common use and benefit of the *Nga Uri o Kuri Hapu* and *Ngati Kahukuranui Hapu* and the Maori people of New Zealand.⁴

Following Cyclone Hale, whanau took the decision to begin to deconstruct the whare to keep Ōkuri safe from future weather events. This means when Cyclone Gabrielle hit, Ōkuri had been taken down. The deconstructed whare is being stored in a container in Tolaga Bay, awaiting reinstatement at its new location.



³ [MLC Minute Book reference: 6 TOL 286](#)

⁴ [New Zealand Gazette 12 June 1986, No. 89, page 2488.](#)

Hinemaurea ki Mangatuna Marae

Hinemaurea ki Mangatuna Marae is located in *Mangatuna*, approximately 3.5 km north-east of Tolaga Bay township, at

15 Mangatuna Road
Tolaga Bay
Gisborne, 4077

The name of the whare tipuna (whareniui) is *Hinemaurea*. *Hinemaurea* is a direct descendant of *Hauiti*, and the wife of *Te Aotaki* (from *Ngati Ira*) and mother of *Ruataupare*.

The Marae is administered by Mangatuna 1G Māori Reservation Trust. There are 6 Responsible Trustees: ^{s9(2)(a)}

[REDACTED]

The existence of Hinemaurea whareniui in Mangatuna has been formally acknowledged since at least 1943, when *Hinemaurea Meeting House* was recorded as an authorised polling-place for the Eastern Māori Electoral District.

The Second World War memorial gates at Hinemaurea Marae were opened in 1946⁵. These gates were the first memorial to be completed on the East Coast in honour of those Māori soldiers who made the supreme sacrifice in World War II.



⁵ See [Mangatuna Marae memorial gates \(nzhistory.govt.nz\)](http://nzhistory.govt.nz/mangatuna-marae-memorial-gates)

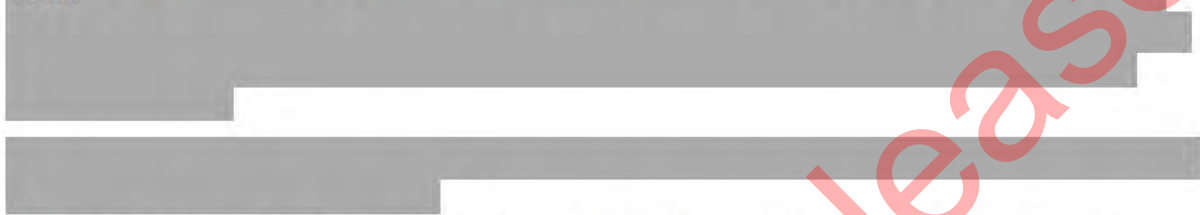
Takipu Marae

Takipū Marae is located just south of Te Karaka, some 30 km inland from Gisborne, at

2343 Matawai Road
Te Karaka
Gisborne
4093

The name of the whare tipuna (wharenuī) is Te Poho o Pikihoru, an esteemed ancestress of the hapū Te Whanau a Taupara of Te Aitanga ā Mahaki. The Marae connects ancestrally to the

The Marae is administered by Ruangarehu K Māori Reservation. There are seven trustees:
s9(2)(a)



Te Poho o Pikihoru was completed in 1888, but had fallen into disrepair by the early 1940s. The replacement meeting house of the same name opened on Saturday 8th of March 1958. Between 3000 and 4000 people assembled for the opening and dedication of the Takipu meeting house.

Te Aitanga a Mahaki war memorial at Takipū Marae, near Te Karaka, was opened on 8 March 1958. The Hon. Ereuera Tirikatene, MP, opened the whare kai, Turanga Tangatarite, while Colonel K.A. Keiha, former commander of 28th Māori Battalion, opened the new carved meeting house, Te Poho o Pikihoru (some sources have this the other way round).

The buildings were dedicated by the Rt. Rev. W. Panapa, Bishop of Aotearoa.



Rangatira Marae

Rangatira Marae is located just west of Te Karaka, across the Waipaoa River, at:

66 Rangatira Road
Te Karaka
Gisborne, 4022

Ko Maungahaumi te maunga, Ko Waipaoa te awa, Ko Rangatira te marae, Ko Te Whakahau te whareniui, Ko Ngāti Wahia te hapū, Ko Te Aitanga a Māhaki te iwi

The name of the whare tipuna (whareniui) is Te Whakahau. The Marae belongs to the hapū of Ngati Wahia, the iwi of Te Aitanga ā Mahaki.

The Marae is administered by Rangatira 3J1A1 Māori Reservation Trust. There are five trustees: ^{s9(2)(a)}

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The building of the whareniui Te Whakahau was completed in 1926. The name derives from the original proverbial saying of Te Kooti Arikirangi Te Turuki 'Whakahautia te Rongopai I te Ngāwari me te Aroha – *Proclaim the gospel, the gentler faith and the love of God*'.



Attachments B and C are withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the OIA. The final version of Attachment B is publicly available here: <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/government-supports-tair%C4%81whiti-marae-relocate-safer-ground>

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