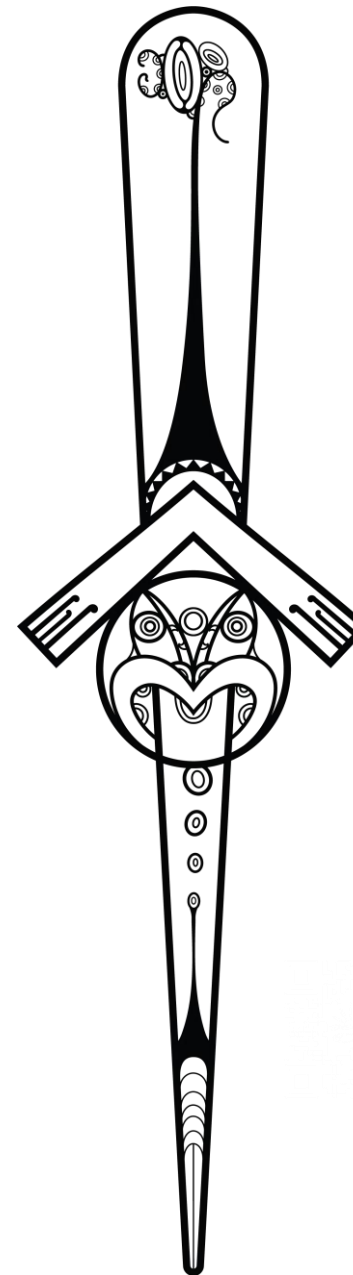




our road to recovery – Tairāwhiti

Weekly Report #3 – 17 April 2023



recovery coordination centre update

The Regional Recovery Office (TRRO) is working toward ensuring a co-ordinated recovery effort is facilitated. This report is structured to identify an overview of the week and key risks/issues. The report also provides specific updates in each work stream, Social, Natural, Economic and Built.

Key actions for this week include firming up inputs for the development of the Minister's plan for submission to Government and to progress community engagement through a Collective Impact Methodology which will be tested and consolidated within the next two weeks.

Weekly Overview

- Meeting with Cyclone Recovery Taskforce led by Sir Brian Roche to facilitate discussion on work being undertaken on the rapid risk assessment of high risk/high impact locations with the insurance sector to help build this picture.
- Providing soft support with Wairoa Recovery Manager
- Progressing *Collective Impact* discussions with AOG agencies in support of community engagement.
- Peer review of information for stream reports on information for Built (Gareth Morgan) Economic stream (Paul Winton)
- Draft contract received for first tranche of funding for RRO
- MFE follow-up received on options for disposal of woody debris – funding decision yet to be made
- Exercise of CDEM powers for approval of temporary accommodation in flood prone areas (high risk). Simpson Grierson progressing discussion for Order in Council
- Meeting with Waka Kotahi to ensure coordination of information inputs into Minister's report
- Follow up for check in on stickered houses commenced
- Preparing for visits from Minister McNaulty 18th of April and Minister Edmonds 27th April
- DIA - Deputy CE – Local Government Michael Lovett and Warren Ulusele, Partnership visit to Tairāwhiti to discuss impacts and recovery.
- Tairāwhiti Forestry Debris Taskforce planning underway
- Ombudsmen visit to Te Tairāwhiti
- New Zealand Claims Resolution Service in region this week to meet with communities to provide claims support and clarify information requirements
- Ongoing operational responses, CDEM debriefs and assistance to landowners to remove sediment from rivers in order to reduce the risk of further flooding to houses.

Risks/Issues

- MBIE Funding application declined for funding to cover urgent natural hazards research at local and regional level and for understanding the new river channel dynamics following Cyclone Gabrielle. We intend to submit information for funding of this in our Minister's plan.
- Inconsistencies in data from insurers aligning with Council's data.

Agencies are experiencing:

- An increase in family harm and there is an assumption the increase is a result of the pressures caused by the cyclone.
- Increased concerns around the destructive behaviour in children, also assuming this is resulting from the cyclone.

MSD data continues to show an increase in main benefit numbers.

Silt removal continues to present ongoing technical and operational challenges.

Estimated costs in the built environment are expected to be substantial. This will be peer-reviewed to ensure robustness.

Ongoing requests at short notice from Central Government for engagement / requests for information / policy positions.

Future vulnerability of our infrastructure as we head into Winter.

Uncertainty around Order in Council for exercise of powers under CDEM legislation for temporary housing / 10 year LTP and Annual Plans

The alignment of iwi aspirations in recovery and how Central Government will facilitate an environment for a partnership approach. The Recovery Office is keen to support iwi aspirations, we just lack the clarity about what that looks like.

built environment



Overall, the Built Environment team is making good progress towards understanding the response and recovery scope and scale. Resilience scope remains unclear, although there are several examples where resilience options are available.

Further alignment meetings have occurred to ensure information provided to DIA is consistent and reflective of information being gathered for the Minister's report. As the Office works through this process, it is evident that future investment into the built environment will be significant.

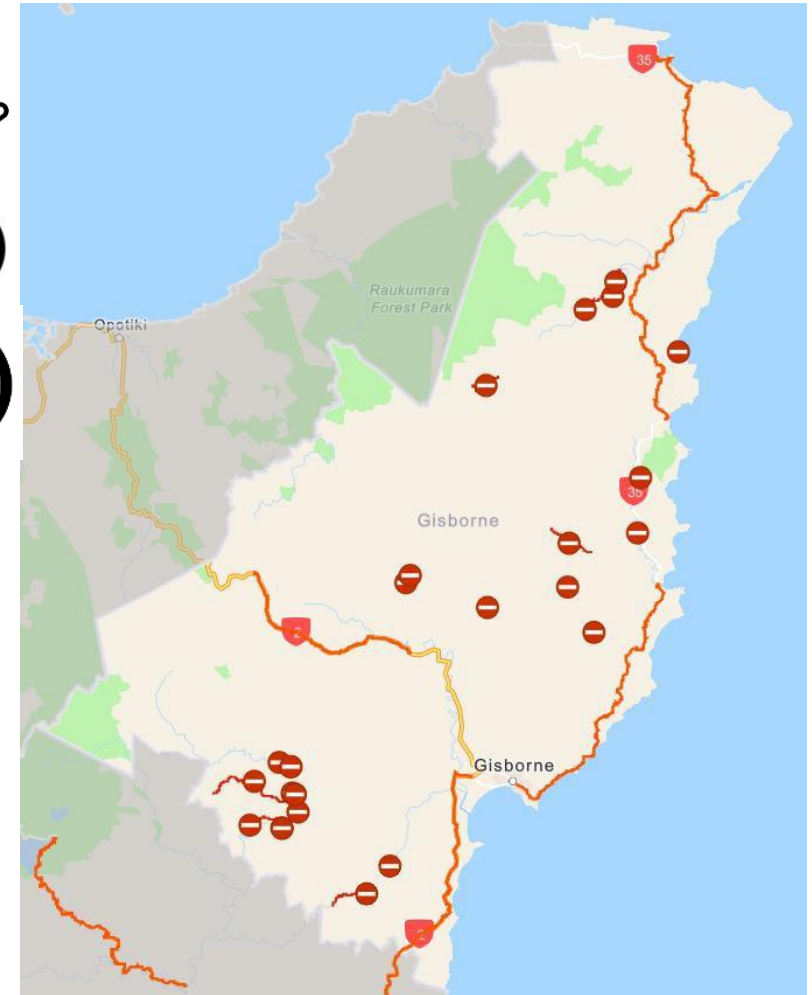
Connection with Waka Kotahi/NZTA is important to ensure there is an established communications channel for reporting and progress to flow through to the Recovery Office.

The team continues to get a full appreciation of the scope and scale of built environment recovery requirements. This work has highlighted several critical linkages including, for example, *the economic impact and lost productivity from limited road access is a fundamental issue in the Economic Environment stream. The flow-on effects of a slower than possible recovery will be wide reaching.*

The critical overlap between natural and built infrastructure focusses around flood ways. Sediment and woody debris are having a major environmental effect, impacting the capacity and resilience of the flood drainage networks. Understanding the stop bank conditions and river capacity is fundamental to both work streams

The operations teams in GDC is focussed on preparing for winter by clearing drains and removing built up woody debris. This risk is not to be underestimated. The asset base is vulnerable to future weather events, and once the wet weather arrives any further construction work will be hindered and costly due to lost productivity and material costs.

LOCAL ROADS



HOUSING



526 TOTAL ASSESSMENTS



29 RED STICKERS



203 YELLOW STICKERS



15 IMMINENT RISK

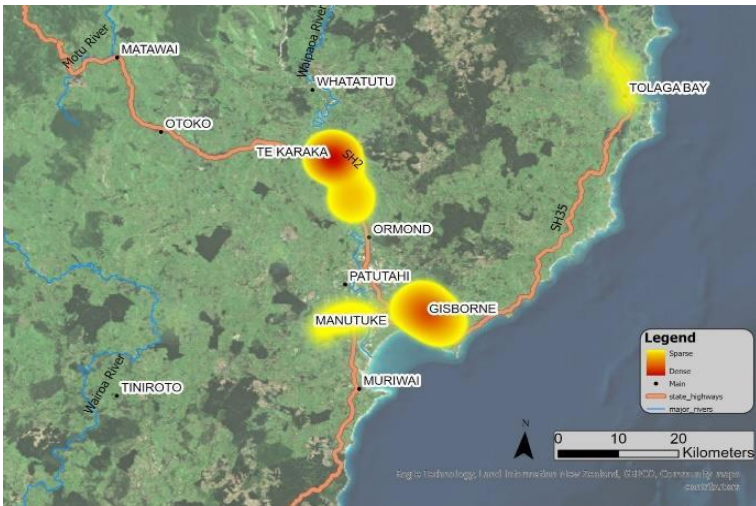
natural environment



The key focus in the Natural Environment is working on assessment of homes, separating red stickered dwellings from yellow stickered. Red stickered dwellings are identified as a risk due to landslides and land movement, whereas yellow stickers are mostly due to inundation.

Rapid housing assessments are occurring north of Tokomaru Bay where properties need to be assessed for red / yellow stickers. There are complex issues around Section 124 notices and dwellings on land with unconsented/illegal buildings, as well as people that have been displaced and what support they will receive.

Some categories of properties don't fit into any red, yellow or white framework and they fall under 'imminent' risk. There are 15 properties confirmed across the region. People can continue to live in these properties however they are under imminent risk due to the land instability.



The heatmap groups all buildings assessed by the GDC Building Services team post Cyclone Gabrielle. The graphic illustration expresses the amount assessments conducted with red being the most occurrences and yellow signifying the least.

Aerial imagery over Gisborne has been acquired and a current regional assessment on woody debris is underway. Additionally, there is work happening in the biological space and trials with Uawanui in catching freshwater fish using indigenous techniques.

Managed Retreat High Risk / High Impact

GDC met with Sir Brian Roche and members contributing to the taskforce this week. It was useful to gain a better insight into the process and timeframes. It did highlight risks and resourcing issues that GDC will have if there is to be meaningful contribution to the outcomes for our region, particularly given the initial timeframes that were shared.

Although there is a need to help provide certainty as soon as possible wherever possible, we are confronted by how soon some decisions will be announced and the lack of meaningful local data input and community voice as yet.

We requested assistance from the Government at this hui to ensure a partnership approach towards meaningful participation. The sooner this issue is resolved the sooner there is contribution of our data and on-the-ground knowledge and expertise. It is a priority to merge views to get the best possible data which is why it is so important for us to have additional resources to contribute this mahi as soon as possible so our community is not disadvantaged.

Silt Removal

There are 117 properties on the list for silt removal with more being lodged each day as they see the contractors in the community.

 **68 COMPLETED**

 **7 IN PROGRESS**

\$150k spent

 **17 NOT REQUIRED**

 **\$200k accrued**

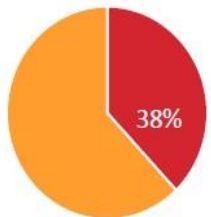
economic environment



In the economic space, there is work happening in parallel streams. One being the distribution of Government business grant funding which is in turn informing areas of needs and losses with businesses. There are currently 800 – 850 businesses who have applied for funding. Applications for these grants closed midnight 16th April 2023, with the number expected to be around 900. The panel assessments will be completed the week of April 17 and the balance of funds will be paid to all successful applicants within the next 10 days (week ending 23rd April 2023).

Grant Applications Overview

Percentage of Maori Businesses



825 Applications

753 Applications processed

622 Applications approved



\$6.37m funds distributed

\$19.24m funding requested

\$53.73m Estimated loss

Loss is self declared and only covers the businesses that have applied for grants, not the full economic picture)

The second workstream is the preparation of the economic recovery plan. This plan is being informed by the information collected from grant applications along with engagement with all different sectors. The sector engagement comes in various forms given the broad nature of the economic impacts. Horticulture is looking well organised with a rich amount of data and strong mapping. Agriculture is finding its way and Trust Tairāwhiti is wrapping resources around this.

The economic loss position across sectors is emerging slowly and the numbers are climbing as expected. There is work underway to understand the economic implications of how the natural, built and economic environments intersect together.

Trust Tairāwhiti is currently funding the recovery planning from its own resources but is having discussions on this and may have a way forward with Kanoa.

Risk areas of interest are:

1. The collection of agricultural data, which incorporates Whenua Māori, may not be consistent with modelling by iwi. Trust Tairāwhiti is looking to work with iwi to test the data collected.
2. Agricultural data collection of losses incurred is currently incomplete. Trust Tairāwhiti is seeking funding data from banks and is working through this process. However, there is a complex privacy consideration when receiving information from banks and the data is commercially sensitive. This may need to be escalated. In parallel with the bank discussions, Trust Tairāwhiti has reached out to accountants and farm advisors to get their assessment of losses.

social environment



There is a continued connection with the Mayoral Relief Fund team who have been going through applications. To date the Mayoral Relief Fund and the Disaster Relief Fund have distributed just over \$1.5m.

\$1.507m allocated

\$3.387m
total funds available

The social stream lead agencies have met twice this week. Within the stream lead hui, several risks arose including:

- an uncoordinated approach to community engagement.
- duplication of funding distribution into the region.
- a disconnection between Recovery Environments and their interdependencies.

Within stream lead hui it has been reported that agencies are experiencing:

- an increase in family harm and there is an assumption the increase is a result of the pressures caused by the cyclone.
- increased concerns around the destructive behaviour in children, also assuming this is resulting from the cyclone.

As a result, Ministry of Education have funded more councillors to support schools. The support is based on requests from individual schools. Awhi Mai, Awhi Atu (Counselling in Schools) has seven providers, providing service to 20 Kura within Tairāwhiti. This project started in 2021 and currently has a budget bid until December 2023.

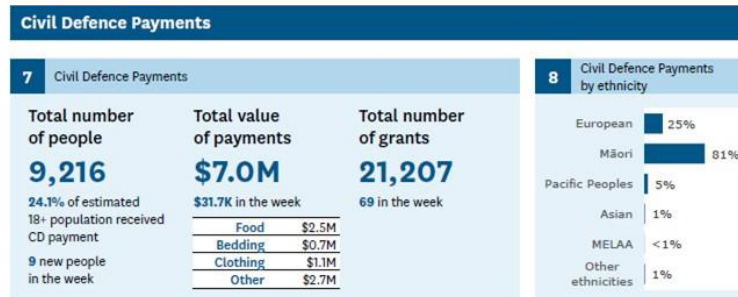
There is currently \$562K funding available to provide additional wellbeing support across Tairāwhiti and Hawkes Bay until 30th June 2023. At this stage no additional funding has been confirmed for Awhi Mai, Awhi Atu from 1st July 2023 onwards other than the contracts that are currently in place with the current seven providers until December 2023.

Current providers have been taking referrals from any school, where they have capacity on a case-by-case bases after the cyclone to try and provide some support for our rohe but the ideal would be for each school to have their own allocation and provider given our current circumstance.

MSD continues to conduct an outbound calling campaign to people who received Civil Defence Payments due to this fund closing on 15 April 2023. MSD is working to identify their needs and is either; (1) supporting them with BAU products and services or (2) referring onto relevant services based on their need.

MSD data continues to show an increase in main benefit numbers. This is likely to increase as CD payments end and people are transitioned either into main benefit or employment payments.

We will know more about the effects of the CD payments ending in the weeks following the 15 April 2023.



Main Benefit Recipients

↑ **168** (3.0%) increase since the event.
For the equivalent period in 2022
↓ **177** (3.1%) decrease

Jobseeker Support – Work Ready Recipients

↑ **105** (6.1%) increase since the event.
For the equivalent period in 2022
↓ **138** (7.7%) decrease

Jobseeker Support – Work Ready Grants

↑ **12** (100.0%) increase since the event.
For the equivalent period in 2022
↑ **3** (6.7%) increase

Jobseeker Support – Work Ready Cancels into work

↑ **18** (200.0%) increase since the event.
For the equivalent period in 2022
↓ **24** (42.1%) decrease

The RRO and New Zealand Claims Resolution Service and the Insurance Council of New Zealand are working together to support individuals and businesses. There appears to be a misalignment of information around what people can and cannot claim for.