



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



Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Long-term Insights Briefing Topic Consultation

Building resilience to Hazards

October 2024

Briefing topic consultation

Our proposed topic is:

Everyone plays a part: building New Zealand's resilience in the context of global trends and our unique natural environment.

Background

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) leads [New Zealand's National Risk and Resilience Framework](#). The National Hazards Board includes Chief Executives from government agencies¹ who have levers and responsibilities to help New Zealand prevent, prepare for, respond, and recover from significant hazard events. The Ministry for the Environment is responsible for providing advice to the New Zealand Government on the identification of and reduction of the effects of natural hazards under the Environment Act 1986 and related functions under the Resource Management Act 1991.

DPMC and the Ministry for the Environment are leading this Long-term Insights Briefing (Briefing) on behalf of National Hazards Board.

We are seeking your views on the proposed topic to help shape and focus what is included in the Briefing.

What is a Long-term Insights Briefing?

The Public Service Act 2020 requires agencies publish a [Briefing](#) at least once every three years. These Briefings are prepared independently of ministers, and are designed to:

- Provide information about long-term trends, risks and opportunities that may affect New Zealand.
- Provide impartial analysis including policy options for the matters raised in the Briefing.

The future affects us all, and this consultation is an opportunity to have your say on what you think this Briefing could cover. Government agencies are required to consult with the

¹ Department of Internal Affairs, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Fire and Emergency New Zealand, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Transport, Ministry for Primary Industries, National Emergency Management Agency, New Zealand Defence Force, New Zealand Police.

public, as this helps ensure the topic explores a problem affecting New Zealanders and shares useful information to inform public opinion, academic research, and potential future policy initiatives.

Why this topic?

New Zealanders have experienced a range of disasters and crises caused by major hazard risks, including earthquakes, a global pandemic, severe weather, flooding, and infrastructure failure.

Many of these types of events are expected to be more severe and occur more frequently over the next 10-15 years.

New Zealand's experience is shaped by a range of global trends (e.g., climate change, technological development, geostrategic instability), as well as its national features (e.g., its natural landscape, people, political economy, and demography).

To better protect its people and assets, New Zealand must improve its resilience to these types of events ahead of time. This requires everyone working together with a shared understanding of future challenges and opportunities.

What issues will the Briefing explore?

We will explore global trends and national features that could impact the type, rate, and scale of significant hazard events in New Zealand over the next 10-15 years.

We plan to look across a range of potential disasters and crises caused by major hazard risks and consider possible common impacts that New Zealand could encounter, including consideration of social and economic costs.

Importantly, our goal is to identify opportunities for how New Zealand might strengthen its resilience, for example, by looking at required skills, equipment, activities, information sharing opportunities, and other ways to build resilience to future challenges.

We want to hear what you think

1. Will the proposed topic provide information on an issue that affects New Zealand and is it important for our country's future?
2. Thinking about the proposed topic, what issues should we explore in this Briefing?

How to make a submission

Please make your submission via the [feedback form here](#).

Next steps

- Your feedback will help inform research and analysis for our draft Briefing.
- By mid-2025, we will undertake a second round of public consultation on the draft Briefing. *If you are interested in being involved in this second stage consultation, please let us know in the feedback form.*
- Our goal is to present the final Briefing to the House of Representatives by late-2025.

Submissions are official information

Submissions you make become official information, and the content of submissions can be asked for under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). Under the OIA, we must make information available unless there is good reason for withholding it.