



## Proactive Release

The following document has been proactively released by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC).

### Supporting Regional and Local Recovery Structures

The following documents have been included in this release:

**Title of paper:** Supporting Regional and Local Recovery Structures (EWR-23-SUB-0022 refers)

**Title of minute:** Supporting Regional and Local Recovery Structures (EWR-23-MIN-0022 refers)

**Title of minute:** Report of the Cabinet Extreme Weather Recovery Committee: Period Ended 17 March 2023 (CAB-23-MIN-0086 refers)

**Title of minute:** Supporting Regional and Local Recovery Structures (CAB-23-MIN-0086.01 refers)

Some parts of this information release would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Where this is the case, the relevant section of the Act that would apply has been identified. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

### Key to redaction code:

- section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of individuals
- section 9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials

~~In Confidence~~

Office of the Minister for Cyclone Recovery

Cabinet

## Supporting regional and local recovery structures

### Proposal

- 1 As requested by the Extreme Weather Recovery Committee (EWR) on 7 March, this paper describes governance and organisational recovery structures in cyclone affected regions and districts. It also seeks agreement to a stop-gap 'regional recovery structures fund', while the Department of Internal Affairs carries out an assessment of local government resourcing needs.

### Relation to government priorities

- 2 This paper concerns the Government's ongoing response to Cyclone Hale, Cyclone Gabrielle and the Auckland Floods.

### Executive Summary

- 3 The regional recovery governance structures for each of the affected regions are consistent with the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Act 2002 (CDEM Act) recovery framework.
- 4 Given the complexity and scale of the event for some areas, communities are putting in place additional roles and functions to bolster their regional recovery structures.
- 5 I propose to further bolster regional arrangements with a \$5 million fund to provide grants for regional recovery structures. This fund will be quickly available to councils for iwi, independent and other community representation in governance, and for advice and support on assurance.
- 6 The fund will also provide an initial allocation for councils' resourcing needs in the hardest hit areas. As was done for Kaikoura and Buller following the devastating events in their communities, the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) is carrying out an assessment of councils' resourcing needs to deliver the recovery. DIA will report back to EWR on 28 March 2023. However, funding is needed now to bridge the gap while this more comprehensive assessment is carried out to ensure the recovery is not delayed.
- 7 An additional \$2.45 million is sought for administering the fund (\$0.450 million) and for the Minister for Auckland's role (\$2.00 million).

### Introduction

- 8 On 7 March EWR agreed in principle to the recovery governance structures for Auckland, Coromandel, Tairāwhiti and Hawkes Bay, subject to editing and finalising minor details between the relevant regional Minister and the Minister for Cyclone Recovery.

- 9 EWR further directed DPMC, in consultation with the Regional Ministers and other relevant agencies, to report back to EWR on 14 March with advice on
- the regional structures proposed for Northland, Bay of Plenty, Waikato, and Tararua and Wairarapa;
  - an appropriate process for a contingency fund for the regional structures; and
  - whether the recovery management processes and structures being proposed for each regional structure are consistent with the legislative functions and responsibilities prescribed under the CDEM Act, including the role of Recovery Managers under that Act [EWR-23-MIN-0008 refers].
- 10 This paper first sets out the key roles and responsibilities set out in the CDEM Act for recovery. It summarises each regional structure in relation to the CDEM Act framework, including those discussed at EWR on 7 March 2023, noting any points of difference.
- 11 There will be a role for the Regional Public Service Commissioners and locally based central government public services to support these recovery structures.
- 12 This paper proposes a fund to support these regional recovery structures. The difference between the scope of this fund and other related funding proposals that are in train now or will be as the recovery progresses are explained. This paper does not cover central government recovery activity in the regions.

### **CDEM Act roles and responsibilities**

- 13 CDEM Act and supporting guidance provides a well-understood framework for response and recovery from extreme weather events.
- 14 The key governing body, with the decision-making authority over the planning and delivery of a recovery<sup>1</sup> is the CDEM Group. CDEM Groups are made up of elected officials within a region - the Mayors and the Chair of the Regional Councils. In the case of a unitary authority like Gisborne District Council and Auckland Council, the CDEM Group is a committee of the council. Some CDEM Groups include additional members in an advisory capacity and Māori/iwi.<sup>2</sup>
- 15 The CDEM Group appoints the statutory officer for the leading the recovery ‘the Recovery Manager’. To be successful, Recovery Managers need to be skilled in planning, coordinating and managing relationships nationally and locally.
- 16 Group and Local Recovery Managers have access to the emergency recovery powers during both national and local transition periods. A transition period is the formal period between a State of Emergency and business-as-usual accountability and decision-making.

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<sup>1</sup> CDEM Groups are standing committees. They have a range of responsibilities including planning, risk identification, risk management and response to emergencies

<sup>2</sup> The Emergency Management Bill proposes to make Māori representation on CDEM Groups mandatory

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- 17 CDEM Groups must appoint a Group Recovery Manager, who must direct and coordinate CDEM Group resources made available to them during a transition period, and perform any other functions delegated by the CDEM Group. Local Recovery Managers can also be appointed by CDEM Groups, and directed to carry out any of the functions, duties or powers of the Group Recovery Manager.
- 18 In practice, the Group Recovery Manager coordinates the recovery at a regional level, whereas the Local Recovery Manager manages the recovery within their district. The Local Recovery Manager is required to follow any directions given by the Group Recovery Manager.
- 19 After the transition period, the Group and Local Recovery Managers continue to coordinate and plan recovery activities, with decision-making sitting with councils as usual.
- 20 The CDEM Act and guides and regulations made under the Act, provide a fit for purpose recovery framework which recognises specific regional needs and provides consistency.

### **Regional Recovery Structures**

- 21 The regional recovery structures below are consistent with the CDEM Act. No legislative change to the CDEM Act or the Local Government Act 2002 is required to implement the structures.

#### *Northland: Minister Kelvin Davis (Appendix A)*

- 22 The CDEM Act structure approved by the CDEM Group is in place and operational. This structure includes iwi and mana whenua explicitly at all levels. The Northland CDEM Group is chaired by Kelly Stratford (Ngapuhi me Ngati Wai me Ngai Te Rangi). The Group Recovery Manager will be the lead official for the recovery in the region.
- 23 Minister Davis is particularly concerned that climate change resilience is taken into account in recovery planning and rebuild work. He will work with the CDEM Group and Climate Adaptation Te Tai Tokerau to that end through the recovery.

#### *Auckland and Coromandel: Minister Michael Wood (Appendix B)*

- 24 Auckland has a relatively straight forward recovery structure, being a unitary council. An interim Group Recovery Manager has been appointed and the permanent Recovery Manager is in the process of being appointed, with central government and the Chair of the Independent Māori Strategy Board invited to be on the interview panel.
- 25 Separate to the council and the CDEM Act requirements, Minister Wood has established a local Tāmaki Makaurau Recovery Advisory group in Auckland to ensure there is a direct connection with the people on the ground and his role as a regional recovery lead Minister.

- 26 For Thames-Coromandel District, Minister Wood also proposes an advisory group to support him in his role as regional minister.

*Integration of Minister for Auckland role and regional lead role*

- 27 There needs to be an integrated approach between the role of the Minister for Auckland and his role as regional lead for Auckland and the Coromandel. To enable this integration and sufficient support for the Minister to fulfil his portfolio commitments, he is seeking a total contribution of \$2 million to be administered by MBIE:

- \$1.5 million to support the Minister in his capacity as Minister for Auckland and regional lead for Auckland; and
- \$500,000 for the Auckland and Coromandel advisory groups.

*Waikato: Minister Nanaia Mahuta*

- 28 The Waikato Region's structure will be confirmed at Cabinet.

*Tairāwhiti and Bay of Plenty: Minister Kiri Allan (Appendix C)*

- 29 Minister Allan advises that the model in Appendix C has been developed in conjunction with Gisborne District Council, CDEM Joint Committee, Iwi CEOs and Trust Tairāwhiti. It is partially modelled off Cyclone Bola and experiences since then including COVID-19.

- 30 Te Rau Kupenga is to be an independent advisor working across Minister Allan and the key decision-makers and officers in the region to:

- provide visibility and assurance key issues are being addressed appropriately by the governors and officers
- broker solutions when different parties can't reach agreement on the path forward
- provide advice and support to those leading the development of an overall recovery plan for the region
- work with the different leads in the recovery structure to ensure coordination and alignment of the recovery plan.

- 31 In the Bay of Plenty, existing governance and CDEM recovery structures are being used for recovery and are fit for purpose for those areas.

*Hawke's Bay: Minister Stuart Nash (Appendix D)*

- 32 The Hawke's Bay recovery structure in Appendix D was developed by the region's leaders. It has been approved by the CDEM Group and the Matariki Governance Committee, which is the overarching governance group for the Hawke's Bay that includes mayors, Post Settlement Governance Entities (PSGEs) and iwi. The CDEM

Group has also moved to appoint an Interim Recovery Manager while the structure in Appendix D is stood-up.

- 33 The 'Hawke's Bay Regional Delivery Agency' will not be a legal entity. The structure will be established without changing the CDEM Act and the Local Government Act. Memoranda of Understanding between councils, iwi and other partners will form the basis for the arrangements. The Group Recovery Manager will be the lead official for the recovery in the region, consistent with other regions and the CDEM Act.

*Tararua and Wairarapa: Minister Kieran McAnulty (Appendix E)*

- 34 The Wairarapa and Tararua recovery structures are consistent with the CDEM Act, and fit for purpose for their communities and the scale of the events. The three Wairarapa councils have one recovery structure across the three councils.

**Fund to support regional structures**

- 35 I propose that a fund is established to support regional recovery governance structures, given the extra complexity created by the number of districts impacted at the same time. The purpose of the fund is to help ensure effective and representative governance to lead the recovery in each region.

- 36 It would be a relatively small fund that gives grants to councils for:

- Fees for independent chairs, members or iwi/ Māori leaders to be on the region and/or district's CDEM endorsed overarching steering committee (attendance fee and time to prepare for meetings);
- Fees for members on advisory groups endorsed by the CDEM Group and Regional Recovery Minister, that would not otherwise be able to participate due to the financial position of the group they represent;
- Fees for independent advisors to work with council and iwi governance during the recovery;
- Contractors or fixed term staff to provide governance with advice on the assurance over and reporting on recovery activities, up to a maximum of two per region. Given the very large sums of money that governors will be overseeing, building in dedicated risk and assurance advice to governance groups from the beginning will be one important factor in a successful recovery.
- Contractors or fixed term staff to provide recovery activity support to the hardest hit areas such as Wairoa and Thames-Coromandel Districts. This allocation will not be the full support needed by councils but a stop-gap while the DIA seeks funding through the North Island Weather Events Phase 1 Omnibus Funding Process, following assessments of councils' financial positions. DIA will report to EWR on 28 March.

37 A maximum allocation per region would be established so councils can plan accordingly. Those areas most in need would be prioritised. Factors to take into account in determining this maximum include:

- a desk-top assessment of the council's financial position
- funding already received from central government
- relative assessment of the scale of recovery effort needed
- whether it is more appropriate to provide funding at a regional level or at a district level

38 The fund would be administered by DIA, established under Vote Internal Affairs. Except for some funding for Minister Wood's advisory groups in Auckland and the Thames-Coromandel District, a council would be the entity that receives the funding. An MOU would be drawn up between DIA and a lead council for the regional group setting out reporting and accountability arrangements. With both the Buller and Kaikōura councils all recovery expenditure was put through this mechanism for visibility and assurance reasons.

39 s9(2)(f)(iv)

40 The fund would not cover business-as-usual governance. Some iwi /Māori leaders and other entities may prefer to receive the funding for their involvement in recovery governance directly. Iwi /Māori groups can apply for funding directly for their recovery activities, such as communications out-reach, response work and engagement, as outlined in paragraph 49 below, which could support iwi /Māori leaders to engage in the regional models.

41 I propose that the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance are delegated decision-making over this fund so it may be announced in the week of 20 March.

### **Other funding will be needed to support local government**

42 Several of the councils impacted by the cyclones will need funding to carry out their recovery functions and/or their core council functions over the next one to two years. As noted above, funding for this purpose will be covered by DIA's bid into the North Island Weather Events Phase 1 Omnibus Funding process, following initial assessments of the financial position of councils. DIA will report to EWR on 28 March.

43 This fund does not cover funding for the recovery related public sector activity in the regions, which will be covered by agencies' bids into the North Island Weather Events: Omnibus Phase 1 process.

44 Direct support for the designated Ministerial leads for affected regions is covered by the Cyclone Recovery Unit also being considered at EWR on 14 March.

## Te Tiriti o Waitangi analysis

- 45 The Crown is required under Te Tiriti o Waitangi to protect Māori rights and interests, including the right of Māori to control decisions in relation to their lands and the things of value to them. The principles of the Treaty also require a commitment to partnership that includes good faith engagement with and appropriate knowledge of the views of iwi and Māori communities. The Crown must take steps to ensure Māori are not disadvantaged, and provide opportunities to Māori to exercise their rangatiratanga, and meaningfully contribute to decision-making. The importance of these principles and requirements has been highlighted in engagements with iwi / Māori to date, including from the National Iwi Chairs Forum and through Te Arawhiti's communication channels.
- 46 The Waitangi Tribunal have noted that in times of crisis, risks to Māori are heightened, which increases the Crown's responsibility to ensure it meets its obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi, in order to address the increased burden on Māori as a result of the inequities experienced as a result of the crisis<sup>3</sup>. The regions and communities impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle have high Māori populations, with an estimated 568,300 Māori in the affected regions<sup>4</sup>, many of whom are some of the most vulnerable; 80 percent of the Māori population in Northland Region live in the most deprived communities, 78 percent in the Gisborne Region, and 64 percent in Hawkes Bay<sup>5</sup>.
- 47 To meet obligations under Te Tiriti of Waitangi, the role of iwi / Māori has been embedded into the design principles for the recovery at national, regional and local levels. It is intended that there will be roles for iwi / Māori, with decision-making opportunities and responsibilities at all levels. These structures, particularly at a local level, will need to be flexible and adaptable to recognise and allow for the needs of each specific community, and acknowledging that there are a number of Māori-led recovery initiatives underway.
- 48 In addition, Te Puni Kōkiri is administering \$9 million of the Māori Response Package to support hapori Māori and marae, through investment in:
- Capability and capacity support (including, for example, relief staffing, clean-up expenses, generators and communication equipment)
  - Planning and co-ordination infrastructure
  - Cultural infrastructure (including Marae)
- 49 The remainder of the Māori Response package (\$6 million) is for:
- Whānau Ora (\$3 million): to build workforce capability and capacity, to deliver elements of the aligned funding packages (such as the recovery funding administered through MSD) in a whānau-centred way.

<sup>3</sup> *Haumaru: The COVID-19 Priority Report (2022)* <https://waitangitribunal.govt.nz/assets/Covid-Priority-W.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> Approximated based on Census 2018.

<sup>5</sup> Based on the Socioeconomic Deprivation Index from 2018 Census: DepIndex 8, 9 and 10.



- Iwi capability and capacity (\$3 million, administer by Te Arawhiti): to directly fund and partner with Iwi to support Iwi capacity and capability to respond.
- 50 This funding sits alongside other Government funding packages including Civil Defence payments, farmer and grower recovery funding, and community support packages.
- 51 Agencies and other responsible organisations will continue to actively engage and partner with iwi / Māori as the response and recovery evolves.

### Financial Implications

52 s9(2)(f)(iv)



53 As noted above, in addition, the DIA will be submitting an initiative as part of the North Island Weather Events: Omnibus Phase 1 process to enable councils to stand up recovery initiatives and deliver core local government functions to their communities.

### Legislative Implications

54 No legislative implications from this paper.

### Impact Analysis

55 A regulatory impact statement and a climate impact assessment is not required for this paper.

### Consultation

56 This paper was prepared by the Cyclone Recovery Unit in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. The following agencies were consulted on the paper: Auckland Policy Office, National Emergency Management Agency, Department of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Te Arawhiti, Te

Puni Kōkiri, and the Treasury. The Public Service Commission and the Ministry of Social Development were informed of the paper.

### Proactive Release

57 The Minister for Cyclone Recovery will proactively release this Cabinet paper in due course.

### Recommendations

The Minister for Cyclone Recovery recommends that the Cabinet Committee:

- 1 **note** local government and communities are transitioning from response to recovery from the recent severe weather events in the North Island;
- 2 **note** that regional recovery structures are consistent with the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Act 2002 (CDEM) and no legislative change to the CDEM Act or the Local Government Act 2002 is required to implement the structures;
- 3 **note** that the scale of the recovery effort and the complexity of multiple recoveries across regions at once, means that the usual CDEM Act structures are being bolstered with additional roles and governance in some regions;
- 4 **note** that the Department of Internal Affairs is carrying out an initial assessment of councils' resourcing needs to deliver the recovery and will be seeking funding through the North Island Weather Events: Omnibus Phase 1 process to enable councils to stand up recovery initiatives and deliver core local government functions to their communities;
- 5 **invite** the Minister of Local Government to report back on the assessment of councils resourcing needs outlined in recommendation 4 on 28 March 2023;

6 s9(2)(f)(iv)

7 s9(2)(f)(iv)

8 **agree** to establish the following new appropriation:

| Vote | Appropriation Minister | Appropriation Administrator | Title | Type | Scope |
|------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|------|-------|
|------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|------|-------|

|   |                       |   |  |                                |   |
|---|-----------------------|---|--|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Business, Science and Innovation</b> | Minister for Auckland | Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment | Extreme Weather Events – Auckland and Coromandel Advisory Groups | Non-Departmental Other Expense | This appropriation is limited to providing support for North Island weather events advisory groups and other related governance structures. |
|---|-----------------------|---|--|--------------------------------|---|

9 **approve** the following changes to appropriations to give effect to the policy decisions in recommendations 6 and 7 above, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net debt:

|  | \$m – increase/(decrease) |              |         |         |                    |
|--|---------------------------|--------------|---------|---------|--------------------|
|  | 2022/23                   | 2023/24      | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 & Outyears |
| <b>Vote Internal Affairs</b><br><b>Minister of Local Government</b><br>Departmental Output Expense:<br>Local Government Policy and Related Services<br>(funded by revenue Crown)   | -                         | s9(2)(f)(iv) |         |         |                    |
| Non-Departmental Other Expense:<br>Supporting Local Government with Natural Hazard Events  | 2.500                     |              |         |         |                    |
| <b>Vote Business, Science and Innovation</b><br><b>Minister for Economic Development</b><br><b>Policy Advice and Related Services to Ministers MCA</b><br>Departmental Output Expense:<br>Policy Advice and Related Services - Economic Development<br>(funded by revenue Crown) | 0.500                     |              |         |         |                    |
| <b>Vote Business, Science and Innovation</b><br><b>Minister for Auckland</b><br>Non-departmental Other Expense:<br>Extreme Weather Events – Auckland and Coromandel Advisory Groups  | 0.200                     |              |         |         |                    |
| <b>Total Operating</b>   | <b>3.200</b>              |              |         |         |                    |

10 **agree** that the proposed changes to appropriations for 2022/23 above be included in the 2022/23 Supplementary Estimates and that, in the interim, the increases be met from Imprest Supply;

11 **agree** that decision making on the fiscal management treatment of the expenses incurred under recommendation 9 above be delegated to the Minister of Finance, following further advice from Treasury;

12 s9(2)(f)(iv)

13 **authorise** the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance to make decisions jointly on the detail of the fund.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Grant Robertson

Minister for Cyclone Recovery

## Appendix A: Northland: Minister Kelvin Davis

### Northland CDEM Group Recovery Structure

This event has been significant and, because of its region-wide impacts, will have prolonged consequences for affected communities and the wider Northland region. The recovery work identified (and still to be identified) will require sustained coordination and collaboration with recovery partners and the community. The CDEM Group Recovery Structure below will oversee, and deliver, the Recovery Plan for Northland.

The structure is designed to be agile and flexible. In the short-term, there may be a high staffing requirement to help continue work activities rolling over from Response, particularly in project coordination, welfare, and community consultation, and communications. Priorities are to establish the Recovery Team with staff and supporting systems such as information management, IT, financial systems, and administrative support. The four Recovery Programme Groups of Welfare, Lifelines, Rural Recovery, and Marae Preparedness will coordinate much of the necessary Recovery work.

As with the CIMS structure, Functions will not always equate to one person – many people may be needed to fulfil one Function (such as the Māori Support Service), and one person may fulfil multiple Functions (for example, the Group Recovery Manager will take on the lead role for Strategy & Planning, and Project Coordination, at least initially).

The Group Recovery Manager, supported by the Recovery Team, will maintain an overview role and coordinate planning, programme management, monitoring, and communication. Over time, the agencies with a day-to-day mandate to provide services will operate in a modified business-as-usual, and ultimately the role of the Recovery Team will wind down. The timeframe for that is unknown at this stage, but it is likely to be at least six months.

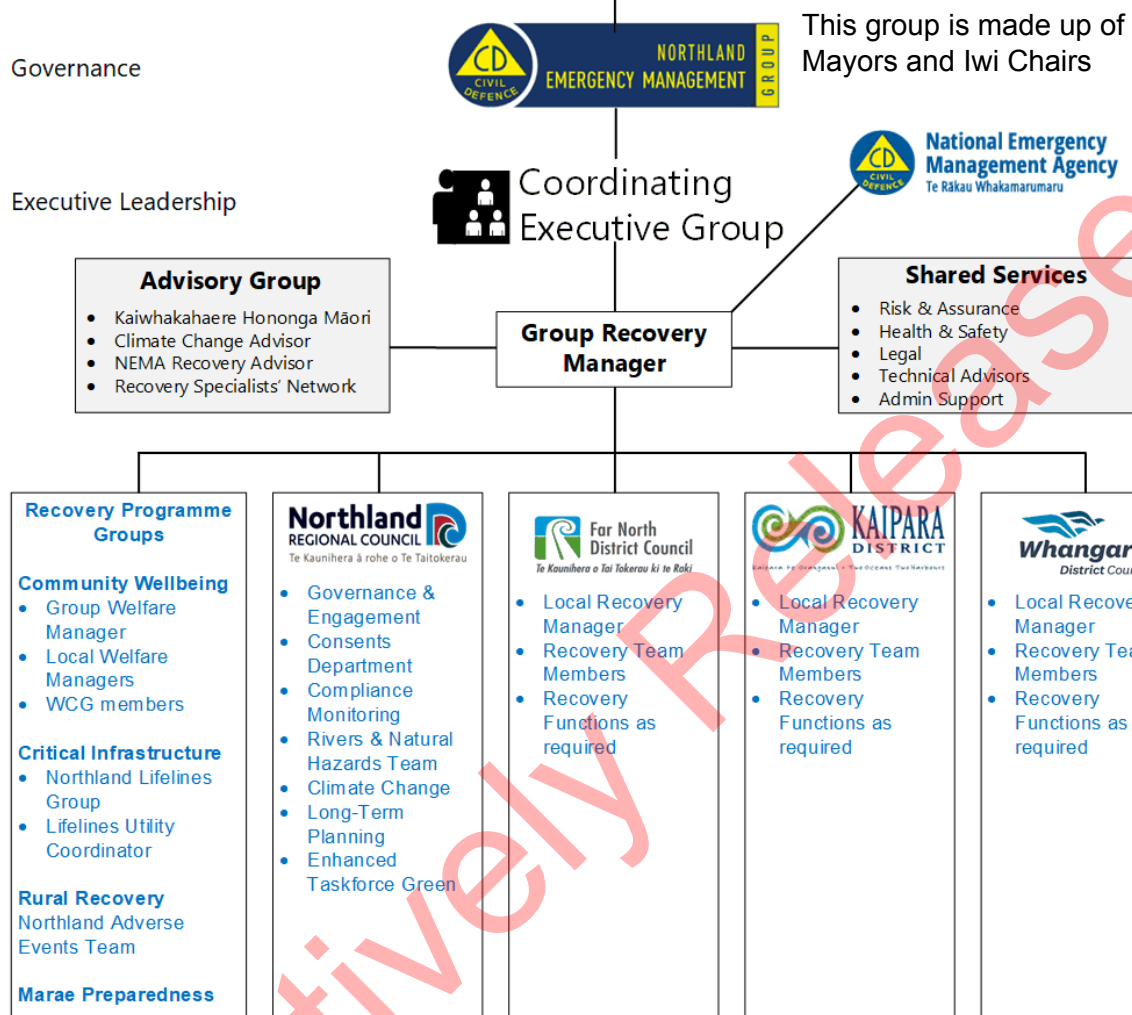
### Māori representation, accountability, and advisory support

The Northland CDEM Group Recovery Structure below builds in Māori representation, accountability, and advisory support at all levels:

- Governance: The Northland CDEM Group is chaired by Kelly Stratford (Ngapuhi me Ngati Wai me Ngai Te Rangi).
- Executive Leadership: Northland CDEM's Coordinating Executive Group includes three Iwi representatives: Mariameno Kapa-Kingi (CEO, Te Rūnanga Nui o Te Aupōuri), Snow Tane (General Manager, Te Roroa), and Hone Dalton (Operations Officer, Te Kotahitanga E Mahi Kaha Trust, Kaikohe).
- Management: The Group Recovery Manager will be supported by s9(2)(a) Kaiwhakahaere Hononga Māori, who will provide accountability in working with, and for, tangata whenua across Tai Tokerau, as well as advice on engaging with senior management within NRC.
- Recovery Programme Groups: one of the key Recovery Programmes in this plan is Marae Preparedness, incorporating Marae Preparedness Plans, communications, climate adaptation funding, and physical emergency preparedness resourcing.
- Operational / core Recovery Team members: s9(2)(a) Kaiārahi Tikanga Māori and s9(2)(a) Kaiārahi Kaupapa Māori, will provide day-to-day advice and support about tikanga, Te Ao Māori, and Te Reo Māori. s9(2)(a) will provide videography.

# Northland CDEM Group Recovery Structure – Cyclone Gabrielle 2023

## Communities of Tai Tokerau Northland

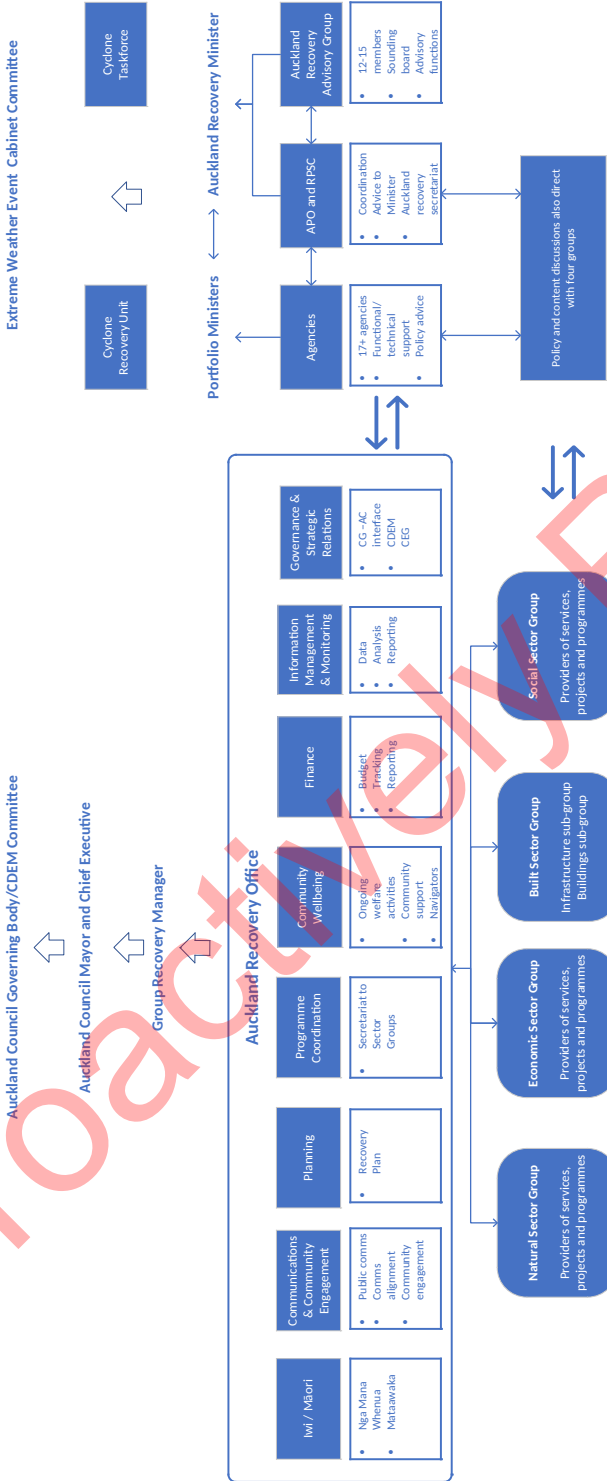


| Recovery Functions    |                                       |                                       |  |  |                                     |   |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| Māori Support Service | Communications & Community Engagement | Strategy & Planning                   | Project Coordination                   | Community Wellbeing                      | Information Management & Monitoring | Finance & Resourcing                    |
| Te Ao Māori           | Comms strategy                        | Regional Initial Recovery Action Plan | Oversight of Recovery Programme Groups | Leading Welfare Recovery Programme Group | Recovery Indicator Dashboard        | Resourcing staff for Recovery Functions |
| Tikanga               | Social media                          | Regional Recovery Plan                | Oversight of District Council delivery | Coordinating welfare delivery            | Monitoring GECC Intel comms         | Establishing finance systems            |
| Te Reo                | Mass media                            | Operational structure & scheduling    | Coordinating special projects          |  | Research and statistics             | IT support                              |
| Community engagement  |                                       |                                       |  |  | GIS                                 | Database support                        |

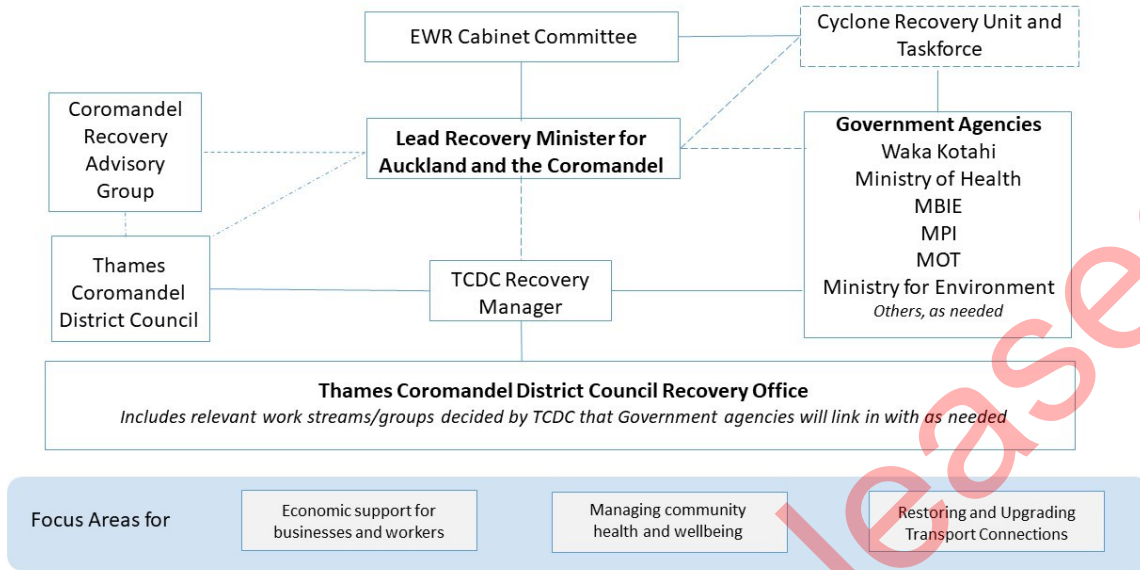
# Appendix B: Auckland and Coromandel: Minister Michael Wood

## Auckland Council Group

## Central Government



# Thames-Coromandel District structure

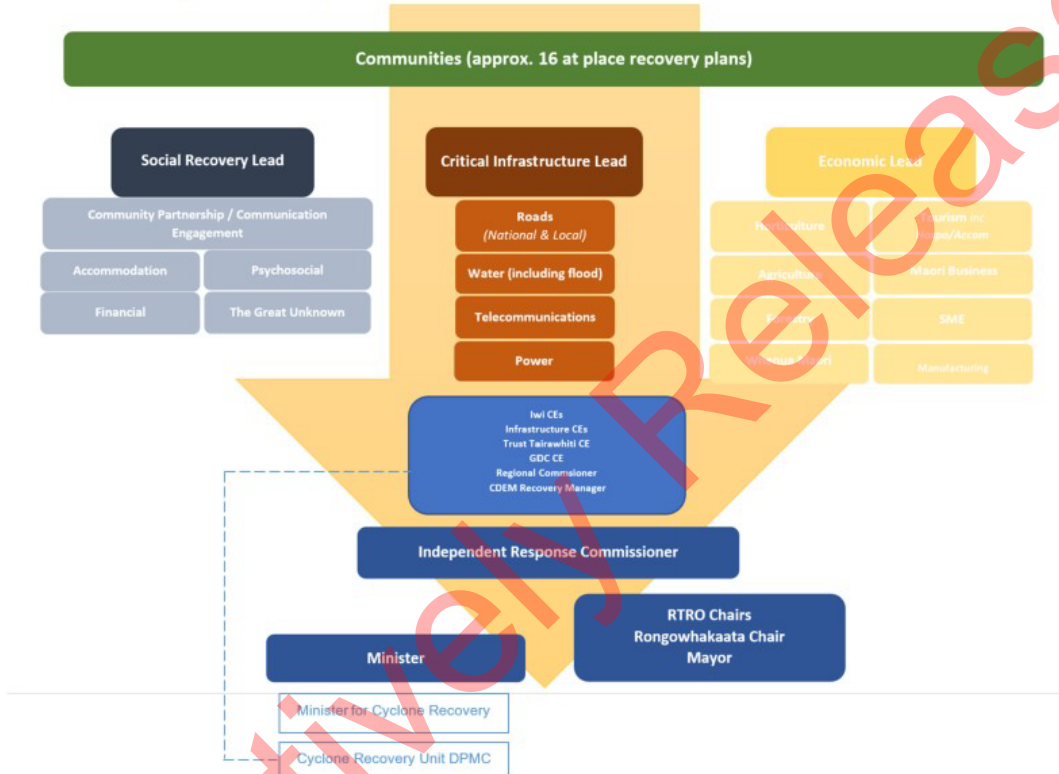


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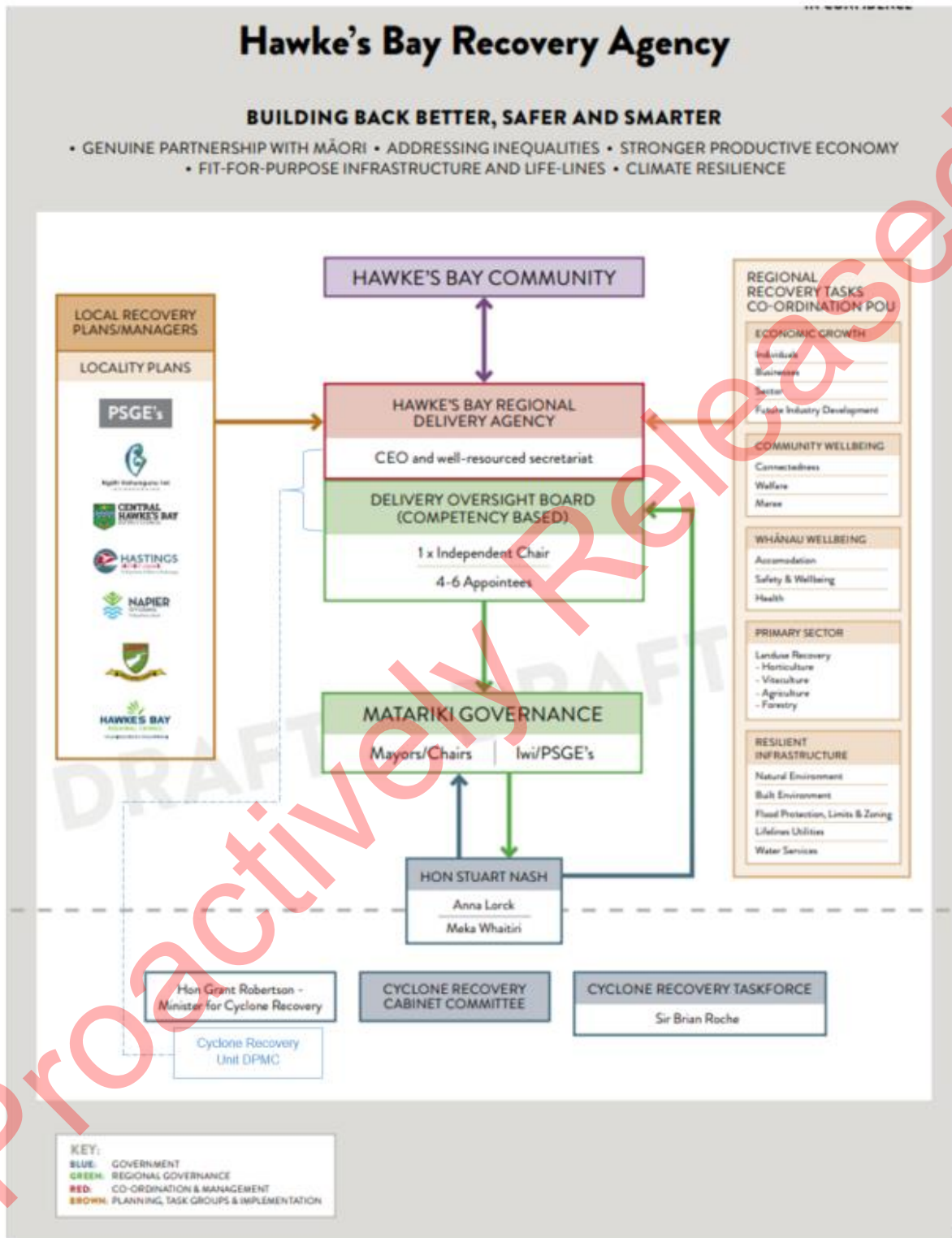


# Appendix C: Tairāwhiti and Bay of Plenty: Minister Kiri Allan

## Tairāwhiti Cyclone Recovery



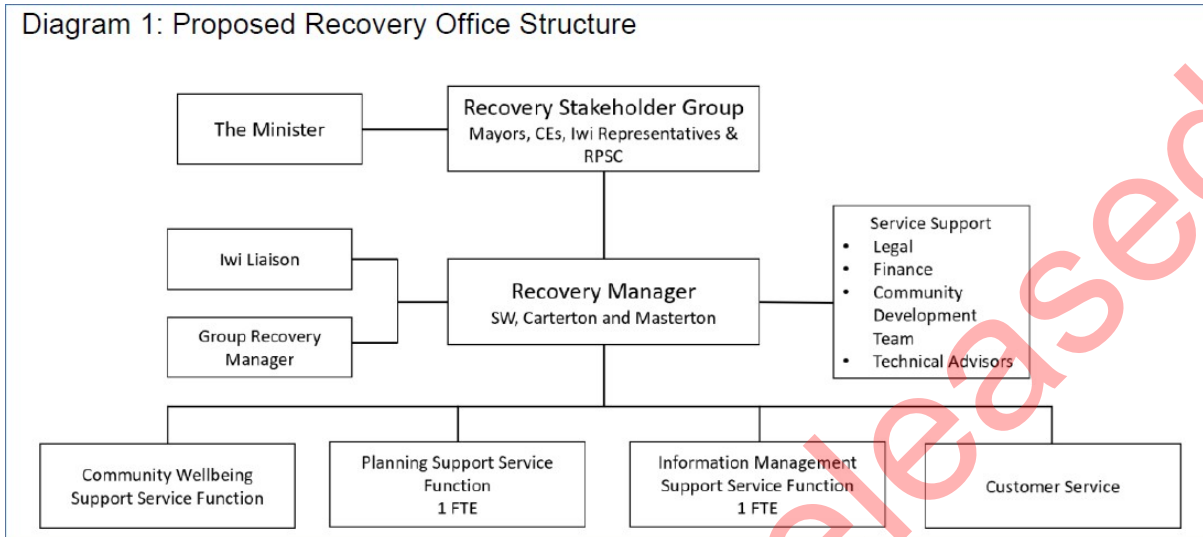
## Appendix D: Hawke's Bay: Minister Stuart Nash



## Appendix E: Wairarapa and Tararua: Minister Kieran McAnulty

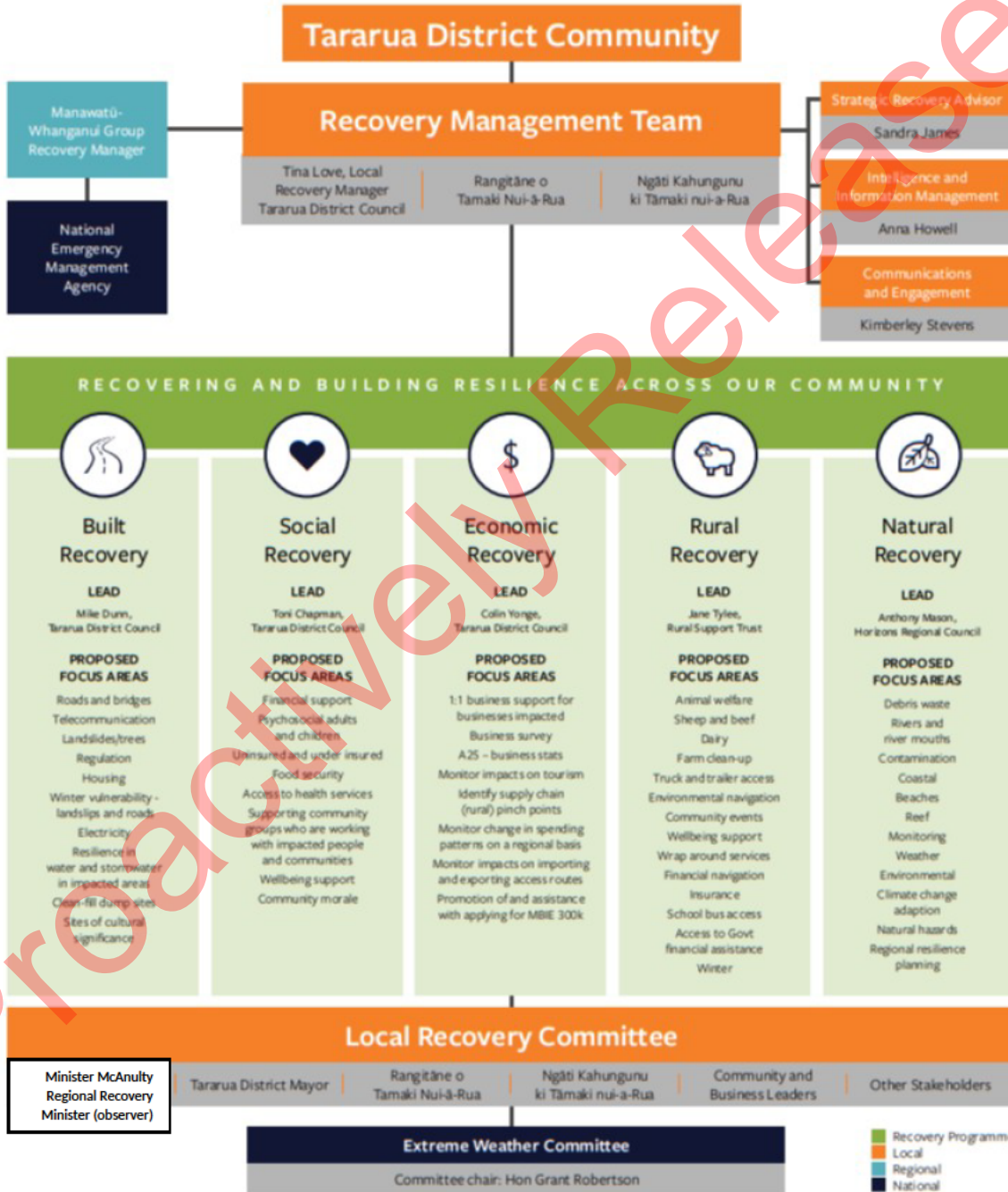
### Wairarapa

Diagram 1: Proposed Recovery Office Structure



Proactively Released

We will work together to support our people and communities to recover from the impacts of Cyclone Gabrielle, and to build resilience for our future.





# Cabinet Extreme Weather Recovery Committee

## Minute of Decision

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*This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.*

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### Supporting Regional and Local Recovery Structures

**Portfolio**                      **Cyclone Recovery**

On 14 March 2023, the Cabinet Extreme Weather Recovery Committee, exercising its Power to Act in accordance with its terms of reference:

- 1        **noted** the contents of the submission under EWR-23-SUB-0022 and the additional documents tabled by regional Ministerial leads (Regional Ministers) on the development of their respective proposed regional structures;
- 2        **authorised** the Minister for Cyclone Recovery and the Associate Minister for Cyclone Recovery, in consultation with the Regional Ministers and other Ministers as appropriate, to take decisions on the submission and to approve the finalised regional structures.

Janine Harvey  
Committee Secretary

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**Present:**

Hon Carmel Sepuloni  
Hon Kelvin Davis  
Hon Grant Robertson (Chair)  
Hon Dr Megan Woods  
Hon Michael Wood  
Hon Kiri Allan  
Hon Stuart Nash  
Hon Nanaia Mahuta  
Hon Barbara Edmonds  
Hon Meka Whaitiri

**Officials present from:**

Office of the Prime Minister  
Officials Committee for EWR



# Cabinet

## Minute of Decision

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### **Report of the Cabinet Extreme Weather Recovery Committee: Period Ended 17 March 2023**

On 20 March 2023, Cabinet made the following decisions on the work of the Cabinet Extreme Weather Recovery Committee for the period ended 17 March 2023:



EWR-22-MIN-0022 **Supporting Regional and Local Recovery Structures**  
Portfolio: Cyclone Recovery

Separate minute:  
CAB-23-MIN-0086.01



Rachel Hayward  
Secretary of the Cabinet

Proactively Released



# Cabinet

## Minute of Decision

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### Supporting Regional and Local Recovery Structures

**Portfolio**                      **Cyclone Recovery**

On 20 March 2023, following consideration by the Cabinet Extreme Weather Recovery Committee (EWR), Cabinet:

#### Background

- 1        **noted** that on 14 March 2023, EWR, exercising its Power to Act in accordance with its terms of reference:
  - 1.1      noted the contents of the submission under EWR-23-SUB-0022 and the additional documents tabled by regional Ministerial leads (Regional Ministers) on the development of their respective proposed regional structures;
  - 1.2      authorised the Minister for Cyclone Recovery and the Associate Minister for Cyclone Recovery, in consultation with the Regional Ministers and other Ministers as appropriate, to take decisions on the submission and to approve the finalised regional structures;

[EWR-23-MIN-0023]

- 2        **noted** that on 16 March 2023, the Minister and Associate Minister for Cyclone Recovery, in consultation with other Ministers as appropriate and exercising their Power to Act as authorised above, made decisions on the submission under EWR-23-SUB-2022;
- 3        **confirmed** the decisions referred to in paragraphs 2 above, specifically the decisions set out in paragraphs 4 to 18 below;

#### Regional recovery structures

- 4        **noted** that local government and communities are transitioning from response to recovery from the recent severe weather events in the North Island;
- 5        **noted** that regional recovery structures are consistent with the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Act 2002 (CDEM), and that no legislative change to the CDEM Act or the Local Government Act 2002 is required to implement the structures;
- 6        **noted** that the scale of the recovery effort, and the complexity of recoveries across multiple regions at once, means that the usual CDEM Act structures are being bolstered with additional roles and governance in some regions;



- 7 **noted** that the Department of Internal Affairs is carrying out an initial assessment of councils’ resourcing needs to deliver the recovery, and will be seeking funding through the North Island Weather Events: Omnibus Phase 1 process to enable councils to stand-up recovery initiatives and deliver core local government functions to their communities;
- 8 **invited** the Minister of Local Government to report back to the EWR on the assessment of councils’ resourcing needs outlined in paragraph 7 above on 29 March 2023;

**Fund to support the regional recovery structures**

9 s9(2)(f)(iv)



10 s9(2)(f)(iv)



11 **agreed** to establish the following new appropriation:

| <b>Vote</b>                             | <b>Appropriation Minister</b> | <b>Appropriation Administrator</b>              | <b>Title</b>   | <b>Type</b>                    | <b>Scope</b>  |
|---|-------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Business, Science and Innovation</b> | Minister for Auckland         | Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment | Extreme Weather Events – Auckland and Coromandel Advisory Groups | Non-Departmental Other Expense | This appropriation is limited to providing support for North Island weather events advisory groups and other related governance structures. |

12 **approved** the following changes to appropriations to give effect to the policy decisions in paragraphs 9 and 10 above, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net debt:

|   | \$m – increase/(decrease) |              |         |         |                    |
|---|---------------------------|--------------|---------|---------|--------------------|
|   | 2022/23                   | 2023/24      | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 & Outyears |
| <b>Vote Internal Affairs<br/>Minister of Local Government</b>   |                           |              |         |         |                    |
| Departmental Output Expense:<br>Local Government Policy and Related Services<br>(funded by revenue Crown)   | -                         | s9(2)(f)(iv) |         |         |                    |
| Non-Departmental Other Expense:<br>Supporting Local Government with Natural Hazard Events   | 2.500                     |              |         |         |                    |
| <b>Vote Business, Science and Innovation<br/>Minister for Economic Development</b>  |                           |              |         |         |                    |
| Policy Advice and Related Services to Ministers MCA<br>Departmental Output Expense:<br>Policy Advice and Related Services - Economic Development<br>(funded by revenue Crown) | 0.500                     |              |         |         |                    |
| <b>Vote Business, Science and Innovation<br/>Minister for Auckland</b>  |                           |              |         |         |                    |
| Non-departmental Other Expense:<br>Extreme Weather Events – Auckland and Coromandel Advisory Groups   | 0.200                     |              |         |         |                    |
| <b>Total Operating</b>  | <b>3.200</b>              |              |         |         |                    |

13 **agreed** that the changes to appropriations for 2022/23 above be included in the 2022/23 Supplementary Estimates and that, in the interim, the increases be met from Imprest Supply;

14 **agreed** that decision-making on the fiscal management treatment of the expenses incurred under paragraph 12 above be delegated to the Minister of Finance, following further advice from Treasury;

15 s9(2)(f)(iv)

16 **authorised** the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance to make decisions jointly on the detail of the fund;

- 17 **authorised** the Minister for Cyclone Recovery and Associate Minister for Cyclone Recovery to finalise the distribution of the initial establishment funding as detailed in paragraph 9.1 above;
- 18 **invited** the Minister for Cyclone Recovery and the Associate Minister for Cyclone Recovery to advise EWR on the final regional recovery arrangements.

Rachel Hayward  
Secretary of the Cabinet

*Secretary's Note: This minute supersedes EWR-23-MIN-0022.*

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Proactively Released