



**CENTRAL
HAWKE'S BAY**
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Keep up to date with the latest
information on:

- Council Facebook page
[@CHBDistrictCouncil](#)
- Council website www.chbdc.govt.nz
- Listen to Central FM broadcasting
on 106FM, 105.2FM, 99.4FM

Cyclone Gabrielle Rural Communities Information Pack

March 2023

Information available in this pack:

Update from Mayor Alex
Rural communities and businesses
– key information
MPI Recovering from Cyclone
Gabrielle in Hawke's Bay
IRD factsheet
MSD employer support

Together we thrive! E ora ngātahi ana!



**CENTRAL
HAWKE'S BAY**
DISTRICT COUNCIL



A letter to the community from Mayor Alex Walker:

Kia ora and hello Central Hawke's Bay

On 14 February 2023 our community was confronted with what was to become one of the biggest natural disasters in New Zealand's history, Cyclone Gabrielle.

A number of our rural communities had to respond immediately to threats to life and property. Many more are now coming to grips with the longer-term impacts.

I want to acknowledge the incredible work that many of you have done in supporting each other and in working closely with Council to develop quick solutions to problems such as road access.

Our Council team have been working hard to keep the community informed throughout this response to Cyclone Gabrielle.

This pack has been put together to provide you with information about the support available to you, your family and your rural or farming business as you start to think about recovery and next steps.

If you already have this information, great! We would love for you to pass it on to someone else who might need it.

As always, do not hesitate to reach out to our team if we can help.

Together we thrive! E ora ngātahi ana!

Mayor Alex Walker.

- Council Facebook page @CHBDistrictCouncil
- Council website www.chbdc.govt.nz
- Listen to Central FM broadcasting on 106FM, 105.2FM, 99.4FM

Cyclone Gabrielle

Rural Communities and Businesses – Key Information

We know that our rural communities have been heavily impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle and that, for many, the rebuild and recovery process will be ongoing.

The challenges are physical, financial and emotional. But there is support available, and we encourage you to reach out for help.

A range of industry bodies and government agencies have put together information that will support you and your business as you start to think about recovery and the coming months. We've included a few of the most relevant ones in this pack.

In addition, we have included, on this page, some information specific to Central Hawke's Bay, and some other items of interest.

If you need help to access any of the information in this pack, please visit the Waipawa Library, 64 High Street, or The Knowledge and Learning Hub – Te Huinga Wai, 4 Bogle Brothers Esplanade, OR talk to your catchment advisor or industry body advisor.

For support for you and your whānau:

Reach out to East Coast Rural Support Trust if you are feeling under the pump, or if you're worried about a neighbour, family member or friend – **0800 787 254**.

For personal/family welfare needs call the Council team for advice, we can link you with people and services that can help – **06 857 8060**.

General advice on looking after your mental health:
www.farmstrong.co.nz

It's OK to talk (free call or text with a trained counsellor, 24/7) **1737**

Support and advice for your farming business:

Refer also to the MPI fact sheet overleaf.

If you have lost grazing or supplementary feed to flooding, there is donated livestock feed available from the Waipukurau Racecourse at the Livestock Support Hub. Open by appointment, phone Kirsty Lawrence on **027 268 8890**.

If help is needed on-farm register with Federated Farmers Farmy Army: **www.fedfarm.org.nz**

Cloud Farming – free flood recovery app:
www.cloudfarmer.app/farm-flood-recovery

Dairy NZ support: **www.dairynz.co.nz/business/adverse-events/cyclone-response**

Beef and Lamb: **www.beeflambnz.com/cyclone-gabrielle-info**

Support for orchardists – resource finder: **www.nzapifinder.co.nz**

Soil repair after flooding: **www.landwise.org.nz/projects/soil-repair-after-cyclone-gabrielle**

Private water supplies: **www.taumataarowai.govt.nz/for-communities/emergencies**

Practical help for small block holders:
www.smallfarmserviceshb.co.nz

Financial support:

Refer also to the attached fact sheets.

Fencing material grants:

www.farmlands.co.nz/Cyclone-Gabrielle-Advice-Hub/Post-Your-Support

Central Hawke's Bay Mayoral Relief Fund:

www.chbdc.govt.nz/our-council/mayoral-relief-flood-response-fund

Hawke's Bay Disaster Relief Fund:

www.hdc.smartygrants.com.au/HBDRF

MBIE fund (for non-farm rural businesses):

www.hbchamber.nz/business-support/cyclone-and-flood-recovery

Roading update:

For the latest updates on local roads in Central Hawke's Bay: **www.chbdc.govt.nz/services/roads-and-streets-land-transport/roads-streets-and-weather-event-information/** and to report issues call **06 857 8060**.

For State Highways visit **www.journeys.nzta.govt.nz/traffic** and to report issues phone **0800 4 HIGHWAYS (0800 44 44 49)**.



Recovering from Cyclone Gabrielle in Hawke's Bay

Cyclone Gabrielle has taken a heavy toll on the Hawke's Bay region's farmers and growers. Help is there to get you through the immediate crisis and to recover.

Government funding

\$51 million fund for recovery

You can apply for a grant from this \$51 million fund through the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI). The following grants are available:

- Up to \$10,000 for farmers to kick start your recovery with money for water infrastructure repairs and fencing.
- Up to \$2,000 per hectare up to a maximum of \$40,000 for growers to remove silt from trees and vines, other clean up tasks, and work to reduce future losses, such as preserving trees in orchards and vines for future production.

To ask for a grant

Fill out the form on the **(MPI website) www.mpi.govt.nz/cyclonerecovery**. MPI staff are also going into isolated areas with hard copies of these forms and will help filling them out.

You will need to describe the damage from the cyclone and the work you need to do.

If you don't have internet access to do this, call MPI on **0800 00 83 33** and ask for help.

Applications for the clean-up grants are open until 20 March 2023, but those in hard-to-reach areas have until 3 April 2023. Farmers and growers who have already received MPI clean-up grants are not eligible to apply again.

Contact your sector groups

Sector groups are a key source of help, support and information, and are in touch with their members directly.

DairyNZ

Phone: **0800 4 DairyNZ (0800 4 324 7969)**

Email: info@dairynz.co.nz

Beef and Lamb New Zealand

Phone: **0800 BEEFLAMB (0800 233 352)**

Email: enquiries@beeflambnz.com

Federated Farmers of New Zealand

Phone: **0800 327 646**

Horticulture New Zealand – Ahumāra Kai Aotearoa

Phone: **+64 4 472 3795**

Email: info@hortnz.co.nz

Hawke's Bay Fruitgrowers' Association

www.hbfa.co.nz

New Zealand Apples & Pears

Email: info@applesandpears.nz

New Zealand Kiwifruit Growers Incorporated

Phone: **0800 232 505**

Email: info@hortnz.co.nz

Apiculture New Zealand

Email: memberships@apinz.org.nz

Ministry for Primary Industries

www.mpi.govt.nz

Phone: **0800 00 83 33**

Email: info@mpi.govt.nz



Further help:

Rural Support Trust

www.rural-support.org.nz

Phone: **0800 RURAL HELP** or **0800 787 254**

Federated Farmers' Farmy Army

Federated Farmers register matches those wanting people to help with volunteers offering assistance.

Info on home page: www.fedfarm.org.nz

Those in need can request help here. Those wishing to volunteer their skills/time can register here

Mental Health Foundation

www.mentalhealth.org.nz/helplines

Depression.org.nz

www.depression.org.nz

Phone: **0800 111 757** Text: 4202

Farmstrong

www.farmstrong.co.nz

Email: info@farmstrong.co.nz

Civil Defence payments

Call Work and Income on 0800 400 100 for information

Civil Defence provides money for those affected by this disaster. You don't have to be on a benefit to qualify and non-residents may be eligible. These payments can help with:

- emergency food, clothing and bedding
- accommodation costs if you can't stay at home and have to stay in paid accommodation
- loss of income due to an inability to work caused by the flooding
- the cost of having evacuees staying with you in places such as a private home, marae or community centres.

Work and Income financial support

There are lots of ways Work and Income can help, and their staff can point you in the right direction based on your situation. You don't have to be on a benefit.

See: www.workandincome.govt.nz/urgent-costs

Looking after animals

Feed Coordination Service

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) and Federated Farmers have restarted the national Feed Coordination Service. The service helps match people with grazing or supplementary feed for sale to those who need it.

Phone: **0800 FARMING (0800 327 646)**

Or register online:

- Grazing needed <https://arcg.is/0eTPSK0>
- Grazing available <https://arcg.is/OWneD>
- Feed needed <https://arcg.is/11z9mz0>
- Feed available <https://arcg.is/1azj0n>

Injured or sick animals

Contact your local veterinary practice for support for any injured or sick animals. The New Zealand Veterinary Association has information and guidance if your animals have been exposed to flood water, including signs to look out for: <https://nzva.org.nz/public/flood-resources-public>

Deceased farm livestock

The Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC) is leading the disposal of dead livestock and is receiving and coordinating calls for collection and disposal.

If already on farm, farmers may be able to bury their own dead livestock as per normal conditions.

Bury any animals more than 50 metres from a waterway and think about your usual pest and vermin control.

If the dead animals are not on farm, or there are too many on the property for you to deal with, please phone Hawke's Bay Regional Council on 06 835 9200 or 0800 108 838. The council will coordinate collection and appropriate disposal.

You can also seek advice from your sector group.

Federated Farmers has developed a ([regional guide on stock burial and offal pits](#)).

www.fedfarm.org.nz/FFPublic/Policy2/Policy_Factsheets/Regional_rules_on_stock_burial_and_offal_pits.aspx

DairyNZ also has a ([Dead Stock Disposal Best Practice Guideline](#)).

www.dairynz.co.nz/environment/on-farm-actions/waste-management/dead-stock-disposal/



Dealing with waste

If you have waste on a lifestyle block, farm or orchard, the Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC) can help you remove larger volumes.

Silt removal

Landowners are asked to remove the silt from around vines or trees and move it to a location on their own property with suitable access for trucks.

Contact HBRC on **06 835 9200** or **0800 108 838** to arrange removal.

Posts and wire

Tanalised posts and wire cannot be disposed of through burning as it will release toxic chemicals into the wider environment.

Where landowners have large quantities of posts & wires from fences, viticulture and horticulture operations, these can be collected by HBRC and held in a secure site for further work. HBRC will arrange collection and suitable remedial work to separate wire for wire recycling and returning of usable posts to farmers.

Contact HBRC on 06 835 9200 or 0800 108 838 for removal of posts & wire fences.

Wood waste

HBRC strongly recommends against burning wood waste as it can spread contamination.

If you have wood waste on a lifestyle block, farm or orchard, HBRC can help remove larger volumes. Landowners are asked to move the wood waste to a location on their property with suitable access for trucks

Contact HBRC on 06 835 9200 or 0800 108 838 for removal

Looking after yourself, your whānau and your staff

Hawke's Bay Civil Defence Emergency Management Welfare Helpline – **0800 117 672**

If you need help with your health and wellbeing, accommodation, food supply, household goods, animal welfare and rural support – this free helpline is open from 8am – 8pm on weekdays and 8am to 4.15pm at weekends.

If you're already having your needs met by your local marae, welfare centre, or other service, stay with them. This 0800 helpline is an additional service, not a replacement of existing ones. The helpline is not for accessing financial support – in those cases, contact MPI or the Ministry for Social Development.

Rural Support Trust – 0800 7877 254
or www.rural-support.org.nz

Talking to others can help. A good place to start is your local Rural Support Trust who provide free and confidential support and advice. This nationwide network is run by local people to help farming families and rural communities

Phone: **0800 787 254** or www.rural-support.org.nz



Other useful information

Rural Support Trust

Each of the country's 14 Rural Support Trusts have local, rural people who know from experience that pressures can mount up. Your local trust can provide support and advice. Talking to them is confidential, and free of charge. They can connect you with the services you need, whether it's financial and business advice or health services.

Farmers can contact the Rural Support Trust on **0800 RURAL HELP** or **0800 787 254**. Please see the Rural Support Trust website for more information.

National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

NEMA has a helpful factsheet on the support available following Cyclone Gabrielle.

Please visit the NEMA website for more information, including who to contact.

Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE)

MBIE has information and advice for businesses affected by Cyclone Gabrielle, such as:

- looking after your employees
- operating safely
- insurance claims
- finance and banking
- buildings and landlord responsibilities.

You can find more information on the MBIE website

Paying your tax

IRD is aware many customers will have been affected by flood and other weather-related damage and may need help to keep up with their tax obligations, including filing and paying on time. Visit the IRD website for more information: <https://www.ird.govt.nz/updates/news-folder/flooding-in-the-north-island>

Farm Business Advice Fund

Qualifying farmers can receive up to \$6000 to seek independent financial or business advice. The Farm Business Advice Fund is managed by Rural Support Trusts. Banks are jointly funding the initiative. Apply through your local Rural Support Trust:

www.rural-support.org.nz/Help-Support/Financial-Pressure

Farm Debt Mediation Scheme

If you're under financial stress, the Farm Debt Mediation Scheme helps level the playing field in debt discussions with your creditor. Almost 40 neutral and independent mediators have been authorised to offer services, and farmers can request mediation at any time. MPI can also assist with the costs of mediation and preparing for mediation through a hardship fund. For more information see: www.mpi.govt.nz/the-farm-debt-mediation-scheme-2

Rural Women New Zealand – Adverse Events Grants

There is financial assistance available where there is an identified urgent need following a declared adverse event such as a flood, drought, fire or earthquake. It is available to individuals, communities and groups, with a particular emphasis on rural women and children: ([Charitable Grants and Support: Rural Women NZ](#))

www.ruralwomennz.nz/charitable-grants-and-support-draft/

Food Safety information following the floods

New Zealand Food Safety (MPI) has developed guidance based on international guidance, scientific evidence, and best practice for commercial produce growers following flooding events.

More information is available at: www.mpi.govt.nz/funding-rural-support/adverse-events/food-safety-in-natural-disasters-and-emergencies/guidance-for-harvesting-flood-affected-produce-for-human-consumption/

Cyclone Gabrielle 2023 – Inland Revenue

We understand that you may need additional support because of Cyclone Gabrielle.

Contact Inland Revenue

- Call our dedicated phone line **0800 473 566**
- Send us a message in myIR with the keyword flood in the subject line
- Come in to one of our offices
- Refer to our website for the most up-to-date information: **ird.govt.nz**

Removing penalties and interest

If you let us know as soon as you reasonably can that you've been significantly affected by this weather, we'll remove any penalties once the tax is paid in a reasonable time. We will also remove interest charged up to 30 April 2023.

Paying in instalments

Once you have worked out what you can afford to pay, you can set up an arrangement to pay in instalments. This will stop late payment penalties from applying.

Provisional tax

If you think your annual income is going to drop, you can choose to estimate your provisional tax for the year. This will reduce your provisional tax to pay.

Donated trading stock

Normally if you give goods away you still have to pay tax as if you'd sold them, but until 31 March 2024 you might be entitled to some tax relief.

Income equalisation scheme

This covers you if you farm, have an agricultural business on land in New Zealand, or have a fishing or forestry business. You may be able to make a late deposit or an early withdrawal of funds in the scheme outside of the usual time frames.

We have ways to help you if you are based in:

Northland

Auckland

Waikato

Bay of Plenty

Gisborne

Hawke's Bay

Cyclone Gabrielle 2023

Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Financial support package

If your business has been affected by the cyclone or flooding, you might be able to apply for a grant of up to \$40,000 to keep operating and maintain cashflow. Local partners in Northland, Auckland, Coromandel, Bay of Plenty, Tairāwhiti, Hawke's Bay and Tararua are distributing the grants.

You can find out criteria and how to apply on **business.govt.nz/cyclone-recovery** or call the business helpline **0800 500 362**.

Employment after disasters

Regular employment law still applies to all existing employment agreements following a natural disaster or severe event. Contact Employment New Zealand for help:

0800 20 90 20

employment.govt.nz/employment-during-and-after-disasters/

Insurance claims

Register claims with your insurer as soon as you can. Business insurance can cover everything from damage to premises, lost or damaged stock, equipment owned by others, vehicles and cover for not being able to operate.

Mental health and wellbeing

Available services:

- First Steps: **0800 178 783**
- Call or text **1737** for support from a trained counsellor
- Lifeline: **0800 543 354** or text **4357**
- Samaritans: **0800 726 666**

Finance and banking

Talk to your bank if your business has been affected. You may be able to get:

- a temporary business overdraft
- deferred payment for business credit cards
- relief options for business loans

Tenancy information for landlords

Follow National Emergency Management Agency and Civil Defence guidelines to meet your obligations on building assessments, health and safety requirements of the rental property, water supply and repairs. For more information:

0800 TENANCY (0800 836 262)

tenancy.govt.nz/maintenance-and-inspections/repairs-and-damages/what-to-do-after-a-natural-disaster

Rapid Building Assessments

Rapid Building Assessments are carried out by Rapid Building Assessors following an emergency weather event or natural disaster to identify whether your building is safe to use. They involve a quick visual inspection and are completed by a trained building assessor who looks for existing or potential hazards to the building or surrounding land that may impact safety.

For more information, get in touch with your local council or visit:

building.govt.nz/managing-buildings/managing-buildings-in-an-emergency/north-island-severe-weather-events-2023



Employer support - Cyclone Gabrielle

A range of business supports are available to help employers.

Ministry of Social Development

MSD can help affected businesses with financial support to help retrain or redeploy staff. A free recruitment service is also available.

Find out how we can help

- Call our Employer Redeployment Support team on **0800 772 002** or email: EmployerRedeploymentSupport@msd.govt.nz
- Contact the Work Brokers at your local MSD office or go to workandincome.govt.nz/employers for more information

Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Grants of up to \$40,000 are available to businesses with significant cashflow issues due to the cyclone. These are being administered by:

- Hawke's Bay Chamber of Commerce
hbchamber.nz/business-support/cyclone-and-flood-recovery
- Trust Tairāwhiti trusttairawhiti.nz/cyclone-gabrielle/
- Go to business.govt.nz

Ministry of Primary Industries

- Go to mpi.govt.nz for more details.

Inland Revenue

Affected businesses can access tax relief including alternative payment arrangements and removing penalties and interest.

- Go to ird.govt.nz/floods-2023 or call **0800 473 566**.

Mayoral Relief Fund

Apply online to your local authority for assistance from local Mayoral Relief Funds. Funding is available for help with rebuilding/recovery, for uninsured items and costs.

Helpful contacts and details

- Temporary Accommodation Service if you can't return to your home and need assistance finding temporary accommodation.
Go to tas.mbie.govt.nz/cyclone-flooding to register, or call **0508 754 163**.
- Work and Income may be able to help people, even when they're still in employment. To find out more information, call us on **0800 400 100** or go to workandincome.govt.nz/cyclone
- Employers and Manufacturers Association has a business helpline **0800 500 362**.

CENTRAL HAWKE'S BAY DISTRICT COUNCIL

www.chbdc.govt.nz • customerservice@chbdc.govt.nz • 06 857 8060

PO Box 127 • 28 - 32 Ruataniwha Street, Waipawa 4210



**CENTRAL
HAWKE'S BAY**
DISTRICT COUNCIL