

Approval for rural assistance under Special Needs Grants Programme

Under clauses 18.2 and 18.6 of the Special Needs Grants Programme¹, as established and approved on 18 December 1998 under section 124(1)(d) of the Social Security Act 1964 (**the programme**), and saved by clause 21 of Schedule 1 of the Social Security Act 2018, I give my approval for Part 6 of the programme to apply as follows:

Rural Assistance – Farmers

- 1 Farmers in the affected areas whose primary industries are directly affected by drought are eligible to be considered for financial assistance under Part 6 of the programme.
- 2 In relation to such farmers, Part 6 of the programme applies for the period beginning on 28 April 2025 and ending with the close of 28 October 2025.
- 3 In this approval, **affected areas** means the territories of the following local authorities:
 - (i) Far North District Council:
 - (ii) Whangarei District Council:
 - (iii) Thames-Coromandel District Council:
 - (iv) Kaipara District Council:
 - (v) Waikato District Council:
 - (vi) Hauraki District Council:
 - (vii) Matamata-Piako District Council:
 - (viii) Waipā District Council:
 - (ix) South Waikato District Council:
 - (x) Rotorua Lakes Council:
 - (xi) Taupō District Council:
 - (xii) Hamilton City Council:
 - (xiii) Ōtorohanga District Council:
 - (xiv) Waitomo District Council:
 - (xv) New Plymouth District Council:
 - (xvi) Stratford District Council:
 - (xvii) South Taranaki District Council:
 - (xviii) Whanganui District Council:
 - (xix) Ruapehu District Council:

¹ New Zealand Gazette, 28 January 1999, notice 563, page 202

- (xx) Rangitikei District Council:
- (xxi) Manawātū District Council:
- (xxii) Horowhenua District Council:
- (xxiii) Palmerston North City Council:
- (xxiv) Tararua District Council:
- (xxv) Marlborough District Council:
- (xxvi) Nelson City Council:
- (xxvii) Tasman District Council.

Dated at Wellington this 14th day of April 2025.



Hon Louise Upston
Minister for Social Development and Employment