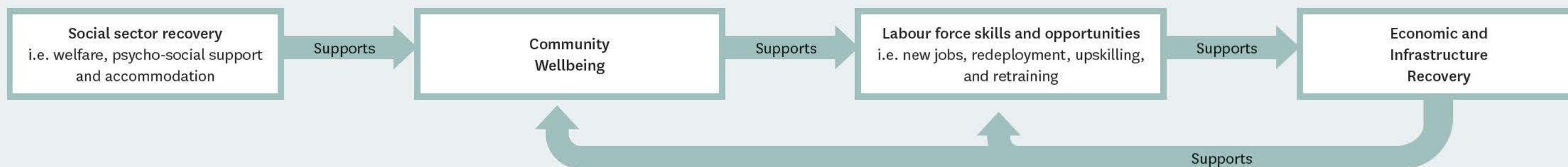


Social Sector extreme weather recovery approach | June 2023

A coordinated approach that is locally-led, regionally enabled, nationally supported

1 Social sector recovery supports the wider recovery

A continued focus on improving access to community and government supports is critical for community wellbeing and, in turn, the economic recovery.



2 Context

The 2023 North Island Weather Events have placed additional stresses on disadvantaged communities. Combined with the lingering impacts of COVID-19 and resulting inflationary pressures, there exists a risk that New Zealanders' wellbeing will struggle to recover without adequate and appropriate social sector support. A continued focus on improving access to these community and government supports is critical for community wellbeing and, in turn, the economic recovery.

Any recovery must focus on all dimensions of wellbeing for the affected communities, including cultural, psychological, social, economic and physical dimensions (including housing and infrastructure). We know disasters impact stress and exacerbate major determinants of family and sexual violence, such as loss of shelter, poor access to basic needs and healthcare, overcrowding and financial insecurity – disproportionately so to communities already experiencing intersecting inequalities on the basis of gender, ethnicity, sexuality, age and disability. We also know that supporting the leaders and natural lifters of communities means we can leave behind capacity for people to get on with their lives. To ensure sustainable recovery and future proofing, we know that investing in what works for communities is the long-term solution.

As decisions are taken in relation to how communities are physically rebuilt – such as land zoning changes, relocation, or rebuilding social or community infrastructure – there will be inevitable impacts on social wellbeing. The longer these decisions take, the longer communities will experience anxiety in relation to whether communities can rebuild in their current locations. Further, if whānau or communities are required to move because of the weather events, there will be long term social impacts arising from the dislocation, including further erosion of community networks and resilience.

This is a cross-agency social sector recovery approach for affected regions for the early 2023 North Island Weather Events – enabling a locally-led, regionally enabled and nationally supported approach to response and recovery. It references existing plans and work programmes from social sector agencies, recognises that different regions have different recovery pathways and community-led solutions, and considers that not all areas may be ready yet to move from response to recovery (Tairāwhiti and Hawke's Bay in particular). Regional and local plans, in development, will provide more detail.

3 Objectives

This plan aims to:

- > Minimise the negative psychosocial and socio-economic consequences of the early 2023 North Island extreme weather events on individuals, whānau and communities.
- > Preserve and enhance resilience of individuals, whānau and communities to respond to future adverse events.
- > Acknowledge treaty partnerships and support iwi-led recovery for whānau and hapū within their rohe.

4 Working principles and assumptions

Actions in this plan will be delivered in-line with the following principles:

- > Empower and support existing community, locally-led responses, plans, structures and leaders.
- > Use existing regional public service structures and channels.
- > Rapid, transparent and inclusive information-sharing, decision making and communication.
- > Coordinate, align and do not duplicate social sector support and funding approaches, in line with social sector commissioning principles, cross-sector Funders' Forum for funding allocation with input from Regional Public Service Commissioners, overseen by C4C Chief Executives.
- > Leverage existing activities and partnerships.
- > Incorporate and be transparent about exit and transition plans for providers once time limited funding ends.
- > Provide flexibility to meet the changing and ongoing recovery needs of affected communities.
- > Make sure we continue to prioritise the most vulnerable where resources are constrained (for example housing), so we don't make it worse for those who are more vulnerable but were not impacted by the weather events.
- > Build on community strengths and protective factors to enhance community resilience and preparedness.

5 Scope

This plan includes:

- > Social sector actions, noting that social dimensions of need are highly interconnected with environmental and economic recovery.
- > North Island Weather events that happened between January and February 2023, acknowledging that there may be subsequent events that while excluded from this plan could reflect the same principles.
- > Actions for the next two years, acknowledging that the recovery may take longer.
- > Actions that focus on need created or exacerbated by the events, but acknowledges that many needs and disparities were pre-existing. It does not cut across agencies existing responsibilities and investment in these areas.

6 Lessons carried forward from previous events

The response to COVID-19, the Christchurch earthquakes, and the initial response to the weather events themselves have given good evidence of what works. The lessons below are applicable to and will inform all social sector recovery actions in this plan.

- > Locally led – The impact and effectiveness of the Regional System Leadership Framework (RSLF) and Regional Public Service Commissioners (RPSCs) was demonstrated in the collective welfare response to COVID-19 (Caring for Communities). RPSCs lead the COVID-19 welfare response and were key in activating and co-ordinating resources across the system, and demonstrated the value of locally led, regionally enabled and nationally supported approaches. The Auckland Flood Response Review highlighted the need for strong local relationships, including with iwi and Māori.
- > Coordinated approaches – Working to join up and provide All of Government messaging supports communities and avoids duplication and confusion. Information sharing protocols support whānau-centred coordinated delivery.
- > Flexible and innovative approaches – In responding to the 2011 Christchurch earthquake, MSD found that flexible, innovative approaches to community-led recovery, including quickly mobilising NGO and civil society partners had significant long-term benefits on community and organisational resilience.¹
- > Trusted relationships – Research and the experience of Te Puni Kōkiri have also found that maximising social sector providers' role in recovery efforts requires more than simply providing resources. It includes developing relationships based on trust. Recognising the role each will be able to play in supporting the community recovery from the North Island Weather Events will ensure the government's response aligns with these learnings, and with best practice, such as the Social Sector Commissioning principles.²
- > Long term support is needed – Recognising the long-term enduring hardship faced by people enables a recovery that looks at long term supports and initiatives. Research suggests it can take between five and ten years for communities to fully recover from a disaster. Sometimes there can be an increase in sense of wellbeing as people come together to deal with immediate concerns, however there is a risk that wellbeing will decline as the full impact of the event is realised. Evidence shows that seeking support is often deferred until a clear deterioration in financial circumstances forces people to actively seek help. The North Island Weather Events are expected to compound the impact of rising debt levels, interest rates and increases in the cost of living, increasing demand for financial and mental health help. Predicted increases in sexual violence and family violence rates often do not surface until after the event.

¹ Kerren Hedlund, Learning from the Ministry of Social Development's contribution to the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Efforts. MSD, 2016.

² Social Sector Commissioning 2022–2028 Action Plan. www.msd.govt.nz/documents/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/planning-strategy/social-sector-commissioning/ssc-action-plan-2022.pdf. 2022

7

Dimensions of need specific to social wellbeing

Regional and individual needs vary across a range of intersecting dimensions which are inextricably linked; a decrease in one dimension can have significant impacts on other dimensions. Social sector responses often cross dimensions and all dimensions contribute to broader social-economic recovery, including both mental and social wellbeing. An understanding of these dimensions, and how they are accessed, should inform future investment and design of initiatives when responding to Extreme Weather events. These definitions are specific to this plan.

Dimensions	Includes
Financial support Lead: MSD	Income support, food, clothing, household items (furniture, appliances etc), hardship support.
Accommodation Lead: MBIE, HUD, Local Government, TPK	Temporary housing for displaced people, workers required for rebuild or for people who are rebuilding. Accommodation for communities that may have to relocate permanently. Papakainga, Housing repairs.
Mental wellbeing (psychological component of 'psychosocial') Lead: Ministry of Health, Te Whatu Ora, Te Aka Whai Ora	Mental wellbeing campaigns, telehealth, digital and targeted supports, psychological first aid training, wānanga, and initiatives. Stress and mental health impacts of subsequent weather events is significant.
Health and disability support Lead: Ministry of Health, Te Whatu Ora, Te Aka Whai Ora, Whaikaha	Access to health and disability services and treatment, and public health responses.
Iwi, Pacific and community infrastructure Lead: TPK, MPP, MSD	Marae, community halls, churches, volunteer and workforce wellbeing, resilience for winter and future events, and wider networks, coordination, intelligence, communication. The importance of whenua to waiora and wairua.
Employment Lead: MSD, MBIE	Displaced workers and unemployment.
Education Lead: Education	Buildings, access, education workforce, attendance, supporting training for recovery workforce, and support for lost learning.
Perceptions of safety Lead: Te Puna Aonui, Police	Safety and security of impacted persons and their property, particularly in rural and remote areas. Sexual and family violence. Note that there may be a delay in any increase in reports of family violence, it does not necessarily happen immediately, and cases may become more complex.
Provider/agency infrastructure Lead: All	Buildings, workforce (capability and wellbeing), funding, preparedness for winter and future events.
Communications Lead: MSD MEC, Whaikaha, MPP, DIA, TPK	Phones, internet connectivity, and accessibility.

8

Some population groups require additional consideration

Dimensions of need can be made more complex for some population groups, and disasters can exacerbate existing disparities. Not all people within each group will need extra assistance. Some people belong to more than one population group which may make their needs more complex, requiring more tailored responses.

Social sector agencies will consider these needs in the design, targeting and delivery of services – their understanding of these needs will be informed by appropriate use of data and engagement. While some agencies hold leadership roles, all agencies have a responsibility to consider these population groups.

Māori

The affected regions have a high population of people of Māori descent, including high numbers of Māori living and working in rural communities. Access to services, mental wellbeing support, adequate accommodation and employment opportunities will continue to be focuses for the recovery – particularly as these groups often already had poor quality housing and overcrowding, low rates of economic resilience, low levels of or no insurance, and as their employment could be impacted by these events. Further, building resilience for marae and supporting infrastructure in future events will be important.

Access to services tailored to the specific needs of Māori communities, particularly tāngata whaikaha Māori, including health, mental wellbeing support and accommodation will be critical as the impacts of the extreme weather events will compound existing challenges for these groups. Temporary housing is not always fit for purpose for whānau.

Much of the whenua / land that has been impacted with significant wellbeing, social, cultural, economic and environmental implications. Māori agribusinesses and landowners will need targeted support as land is often steep, prone to erosion and vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

There may be Māori people who whakapapa to impacted regions, but do not live there, that are also affected.

Women

If social sector barriers are not addressed, women have less chance of engaging with labour market opportunities. After the Christchurch earthquakes, women's labour market participation rates fell.

Disaggregated gender data should be the default where possible.

Areas where women, girls and marginalised groups may be disproportionately impacted include (but not limited to):

- > Lack of transport, as women are less likely to drive and more likely to be reliant on public transport.
- > A higher likelihood of job losses and more limited potential of feeling the employment benefits resulting from the infrastructure rebuild (as women do not typically work in these sectors).
- > Women's unpaid work increases post disaster, which may impact mental health.
- > Women may be less able to relocate to other areas for work due to family commitments.
- > Family and sexual violence rates may increase, although this may not be instantaneous. Needs of existing cases of family and sexual violence may become more complex.
- > Access to healthcare may be more difficult.

This is particularly significant for disabled women.

Children

In the month following the weather events there was an increase in Reports of Concern requiring follow up in affected regions.

Interruption to schooling and other disruption to normality may have long term consequences and impacts on mental wellbeing.

Some children, particularly in areas where there have been multiple events, are re-traumatised every time it rains ("rain anxiety"). This builds on concerns lingering from the pandemic. Having opportunities to tell their story can be therapeutic.

Children may be burdened by witnessing the parents or caregivers under pressure and they need to know where to get help.

Young people

Interruption to schooling, training or work and other disruption to normality may have long term consequences and impacts on mental wellbeing. This builds on concerns lingering from the pandemic. These may be more prominent in communities of socio-economic disadvantage.

Young people may be burdened by witnessing the parents or caregivers under pressure and they need to know where to get help.

Young people, particularly those with intersecting needs, need to be given the opportunity to speak for themselves.

Pacific peoples

Pacific families, businesses and communities in Northland, Auckland and Hawke's Bay were amongst those greatly affected by flood and cyclone Gabrielle. The diversity among Pacific communities, cultural protocol and values, and our experiences on working with Pacific communities suggested that applying a one-size-fits-all approach is not effectively working for Pacific. Some specific areas include:

- > Supporting ethnic specific initiatives.
- > Mobilising Pacific community groups to partner with Pacific service providers.
- > Supporting a holistic approach that supports a 'one door' model and has different referral points.
- > Lower level/lack of insurance of Pacific businesses/providers and family assets.
- > Long term impacts of around mental health and psychosocial.
- > Pacific communities/families are capable and agile enough to respond immediately but with empowerment and support.
- > Providing appropriate cultural supports for disabled Pacific people.

Some members of Pacific communities may not come forward for help due to concerns about visas and may need specific approaches. Temporary housing is not always fit for purpose for Pacific families.

A high number of RSE workers are Pacific peoples.

Seniors

Labour shortages may impact care services and increase demand for respite care.

Older people typically have less resilience to respond due to fixed incomes.

Issues relating to isolation may be exacerbated, particularly for those not confident online.

Risk of increased incidence of elder abuse.

Disabled people

Barriers to social dimensions will be exacerbated for disabled people, tāngata whaikaha Māori and whānau, such as where there are barriers to accessing supports or information, or issues relating to isolation.

The availability of suitable temporary accommodation and transport is often limited where people have physical access needs (lack of available properties that meet access criteria and have necessary in-home support).

Throughout the recovery, active steps need to be taken to ensure equitable access to essential goods, services, and spaces. Disabled people have higher representation amongst the population of people who need equipment to help in everyday life, equipment damage was an impact of the weather events. Ensuring disabled people have timely access to information and communications in accessible formats about recovery planning will lead to more equitable outcomes.

Uneven and inadequate provision of respite care is problematic, and unmet need increases in response to trauma.

Rural and isolated communities

An area of concern for Oranga Tamariki and Te Puni Kōkiri.

Largely reliant on affected primary industries for employment, economic and social wellbeing. Support will need to recognise the interconnectedness. Some rural/farming people have lost everything so require holistic support

Rural communities often live and work in the same place meaning damage may affect them in multiple ways and may have greater emotional, mental and social costs than those living in urban areas. Rural people may need specific accommodation support in order to continue to work on their land.

Accessibility of communications can be challenging in isolated areas where digital access is limited. This can contribute to physical and social isolation and limit access to services.

Uncoming winter conditions may hit impacted rural communities harder than others.

Ensure the visibility of and responsiveness to disabled people in these communities.

Ethnic communities

Diverse ethnic community members will require access to culturally and linguistically appropriate services, which will need additional investment and promotion. Ethnic communities are also likely to need ongoing culturally appropriate psychosocial support.

Temporary housing is not always fit for purpose for all types of families.

9 Current state will continue to evolve and change – We have identified areas of emerging need

Heat map based on emerging areas of need ■ Emerging areas of need ● Significant support needed
Areas of need are dynamic – e.g. groups of people may move between regions.

Regional needs are different and some pre-date the weather events and have been exacerbated by them. There are some common concerns including preparedness for winter and anxiety about further extreme weather events. Regional and local plans, in development, will provide more detail on the scale of these issues.

Tai Tokerau | low lying coastal areas

- > Region has pre-existing vulnerabilities including housing supply/quality and infrastructure issues such as water and wastewater systems.
- > Roothing access issues – isolation, supply chain, travel to work, training and whānau.
- > A number of Marae have been impacted.
- > Ongoing cost of satellite communications to maintain connectivity.
- > Workforce shortages for disability support.
- > Poor housing quality, many houses needing repairs.
- > Cost of living impacts.
- > High proportions of Māori (36%) (2018 census).

Tamaki Makaurau | West Coast beaches

- > Compounding issues from previous events, low resilience.
- > Psychosocial support – easy pathways for individual, whānau and community level support needed.
- > Cost of living issues.
- > Large number of displaced households and time-limited financial support for housing coming to an end (including insurance, mortgage holidays).
- > Some displaced people un-insured or under-insured with limited pathways to replace or repair.
- > Labour shortage/work opportunities in construction.
- > Muriwai is without public water supply.
- > Safety and security concerns for property and retail owners.
- > Five early learning centres and kohanga reo closed.
- > Many Marae have been impacted.
- > Significant budget cuts proposed by Auckland Council will have flow on impacts for community groups involved in recovery.
- > Some early indications of increase in demand for family violence prevention services in some areas.
- > Community Services and Marae support.
- > Neglect and isolation of older people.

Waikato | Hauraki, Thames Coromandel, Port Waikato, Waitomo Taupō

- > Compounding issues from previous events, low resilience.
- > Roothing access issues – isolation, supply chain, travel to work, training and whānau.
- > Healthcare – access for emergency vehicles, access to acute/planned healthcare, and residents missing hospital appointments.
- > Communication issues – lack of phone and internet.
- > Likely redundancies (35% businesses self-reporting).
- > Potential long term employment impacts in forestry sector.
- > Permanent Housing availability to retain workforce and attract skilled workers to the region.
- > Demand on local Social Services, Health, Community Services and Marae support.
- > Neglect and isolation of older people.
- > Many houses needing repairs (Hauraki).

Bay of Plenty | Te Kaha

- > Iwi leaders have raised concerns about whānau not accessing support.
- > Whānau from other affected areas are returning to region, putting additional pressure on services.
- > Ongoing rooding connectivity to East Coast / Tairāwhiti.
- > Cell phone and internet connectivity.

Tairāwhiti | Wairoa, Te Karaka, Tokomaru Bay

- > Region has pre-existing vulnerabilities including housing supply/quality and infrastructure issues (ongoing power instability).
- > Low levels of income, no or under-insurance.
- > Large number of displaced households and time-limited financial support for housing coming to an end (incl. insurance, mortgage holidays).
- > Psychosocial impacts in schools (children, teachers and principals).
- > Psychosocial support – easy pathways for individual, whānau and community level support needed.
- > Roothing access issues – isolation, supply chain, travel to work, training and whānau. Significant for Wairoa who still can't access the Hawke's Bay.
- > Safety and security concerns for property and retail owners.
- > Cost of living issues.
- > Workforce shortages for disability support.
- > Many Marae and urupā have been significantly impacted, loss of taonga.
- > Prediction of high employment impacts.
- > Neglect and isolation of older people.
- > Kohanga reo closed.
- > Some early indications of increase in demand for sexual and family violence services in some areas.
- > Over 50% of the population identifies as Māori (52%: 2018 census): 84% in Tokomaru Bay, 72% in Wairoa.

Hawke's Bay | Esk Valley, Puketapu, Omaha, Waiohiki, Tāngoio, Pōrangahau

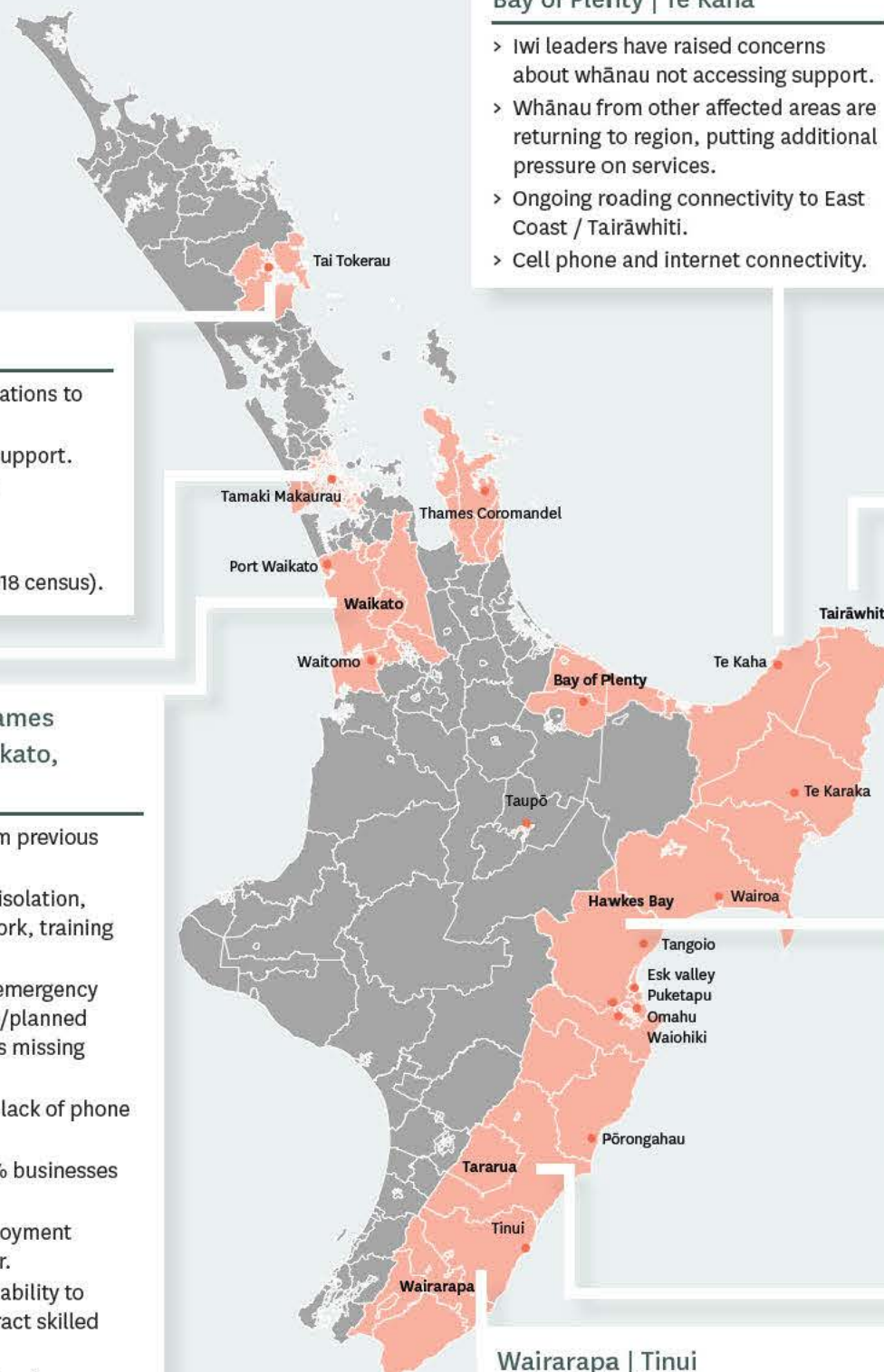
- > Roothing access issues – isolation, supply chain, travel to work, training and whānau.
- > Large number of displaced households and time-limited financial support for housing coming to an end (including insurance, mortgage holidays).
- > Many houses and some papakāinga impacted. Lack of housing supply and temporary housing is not always fit for purpose for whānau.
- > Psychosocial support – easy pathways for individual, whānau and community level support needed.
- > Residents reporting sense of hopelessness and anger which may have contributed to recent suicides.
- > Safety and security concerns for people, property and retail owners.
- > Cost of living issues.
- > Volunteer turnout and insufficient volunteers to meet demand.
- > Workforce impacts in horticulture, viticulture, tourism. Increasing unemployment of particular concern to ethnic communities including RSE workers.
- > Reduced construction workers available to repair damage to Whaikaha funded housing modifications.
- > Significant damage to Marae and urupā, loss of taonga.
- > Some schools, early learning centres and kohanga reo closed, or operating from alternative sites.
- > Neglect and isolation of older people.
- > Some early indications of increase in demand for family violence prevention services in some areas.

Wairarapa | Tinui

- > Psychosocial support – easy pathways for individual, whānau and community level support needed.
- > Roothing access issues – supply chain.
- > Cost of living issues.
- > Labour shortages.
- > One school operating from alternative site.

Tararua

- > Psychosocial support – easy pathways for individual, whānau and community level support needed.



9 Focus areas for ongoing response

Each area has some common and some unique challenges and is at a different point of their recovery. In some cases current service delivery is sufficient, in others more targeted support is needed. Social sector agencies will focus service delivery on each region's emerging needs. Regional and local plans, in development, will provide more detail on the scale of additional support needed. This is a 'moment in time' assessment as at June 2023 and needs will change over time.

Assessment of level of support required

Supports are in place
More support is required
Significant support needed in specific communities
Significant support needed across region

Definition

Existing supports likely to be sufficient to meet identified need, or to be able to be pivoted to meet identified need.

Some additional investment in existing supports is required to meet identified need, likely over the medium term (1-2 years).

Significant investment into existing supports or new support are required to meet identified need in a specific communities, and could be over a longer term (3+ years).

Significant investment into existing supports or new support are required to meet identified need across the region, and could be over a longer term (3+ years).

Regions

Dimensions	Te Tai Tokerau	Tamaki Makaurau	Waikato	Tairāwhiti	Bay of Plenty, Waitomo	Hawke's Bay	Tararua	Wairarapa
Welfare	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	More support is required	More support is required	Supports are in place	More support is required	Supports are in place	More support is required
Accommodation	Supports are in place	Significant support needed across region	Supports are in place	Significant support needed across region	Supports are in place	Significant support needed across region	Supports are in place	Supports are in place
Mental wellbeing Psychological component of 'psychosocial'.*	Supports are in place	More support is required	More support is required	Significant support needed across region	Supports are in place	Significant support needed across region	More support is required	More support is required
Employment Maintain current support	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	More support is required	More support is required	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	Supports are in place
Health	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	More support is required	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	Supports are in place
Iwi and community infrastructure	Supports are in place	More support is required	Supports are in place	Significant support needed for 1 or a small number of communities	Significant support needed for 1 or a small number of communities	Significant support needed for 1 or a small number of communities	Supports are in place	More support is required
Education	Supports are in place	More support is required	Supports are in place	More support is required	Supports are in place	More support is required	More support is required	More support is required
Perceptions of safety (incl. FVSV)*	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	Supports are in place
Communication	More support is required	Significant support needed for 1 or a small number of communities	More support is required	More support is required	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	Supports are in place
Provider/agency infrastructure	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	Supports are in place	Supports are in place

* Needs in this dimension may increase over time as the long-term stressors relating to the weather events (unemployment, displacement) become more apparent. Causes may become more complex.

10 What support is already being provided?

The following table outlines agency roles across the social sector, and the specific response and recovery work they are responsible for which is already underway. Responsibilities at a national, regional, and local level are also set out in the National Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan Order 2015.

This table summarises Government activity only but acknowledges that many other organisations such as iwi and local government and non-Government Organisations have mobilised rapidly to support and provide for communities in the impacted regions.

Ministry of Social Development

Is the National social recovery coordination lead (through chairing of C4C governance group), provides income support and immediate welfare needs (e.g. food) and supports businesses to optimise job matching for future employment needs, retraining, and support while in work (e.g. Flexi-wage), through both MSD directly and community providers.

Response includes: Civil Defence Payments, use of community connectors MSD Community Support Package, Virtual Employment Redeployment Service, Industry Partnerships and Skills for Industry Virtual Reality. As well as coordination of key messages from AOG, accessibility, translation and facilitation of interpreter support with MBIE, MEC, MPP, and DIA.

Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People

Works with other agencies, particularly MSD and Health to ensure disabled people receive the support they need and additionally the disability support services funded by Whaikaha. Champions accessible communications.

Response includes: Being the Contact Centre touchpoint for query triage and redirection/response. Establishing groups to represent the voice of disabled people in recovery planning at the local level. Utilising Disability networks for intelligence gathering.

Ministry of Health

Is responsible for overall health system leadership and oversight. Sets the strategic direction for the health response and health aspects of the psychosocial response, particularly mental wellbeing, and also public health.

Response includes: Strategy, policy, planning, monitoring, sharing evidence and research.

Te Whatu Ora, Te Aka Whai Ora

Leads and coordinates the operational health response, including mental wellbeing.

Current Health response includes: Transport, repairs to infrastructure, setting up and managing temporary facilities and support staff. The consideration of primary, community, aged residential care, hospital and specialist support services, ongoing immunisation and screening programmes.

Current mental wellbeing response includes: Continuation of population and targeted mental wellbeing promotion campaigns through a range of channels, including the All Sorts campaign. Promotion of national telehealth supports and digital mental wellbeing tools and supports. Psychological first aid training, mental health literacy training in the most affected areas. Promotion of te ao Māori mental wellbeing solutions (virtual and in person). Maintaining continuity of health services and treatment (including mental health, addiction and suicide prevention/postvention services) and workforce redeployment. Reprioritisation of \$3.25m mental health and addiction funding.

Department of Internal Affairs

Administers Lottery funding, which is used to channel funding towards emergency relief. Community advisors on the ground in affected communities. Main connector into Local Government.

Connecting with other funders to collaboratively fund recovery activities for communities and hapū (not individuals). Lottery Ministers Discretionary Fund and Emergency Natural Disaster Relief Fund provides quick-access support to communities as they respond to adverse events. Community Organisation Grants Scheme – 3000 grants per year to small grassroots organisations or Kaupapa Māori entities, many of which do not have government contracts. Community-led development programme partnerships (and new ones potentially) in affected communities (access to flexible Crown funding).

Te Puni Kōkiri

Assists marae and hapori Māori, focused on Māori development including capital and infrastructure support and cultural infrastructure support. Advises on culturally appropriate responses. Supporting communities, whānau and whenua owners to assess needs and access supports and funds.

Supporting Māori business with planning, building capacity and capability (progressive procurement) and applying for supports.

Enabling Whānau Ora Commissioning Agencies to pivot towards need.

Response includes: Cyclone Gabrielle Māori Communities Response Fund (\$15m) – this was distributed to: Te Puni Kōkiri (\$9m), Whānau Ora Commissioning Agencies (\$3m) and Te Arawhiti (\$3m). This funding provides for Māori-led responses, reducing pressure on hapori Māori. In combination with existing community supports it will help prevent vulnerable whānau falling through the cracks and support a faster transition to recovery.

Whānau Ora redeployed kaiārahi to affected areas and have supported many whānau, communities and marae.

Pasifika Futures supported over 800 RSE workers.

Sediment and Debris fund for whenua.

Te Arawhiti

Funds iwi organisations to build resilience and engage in recovery effort.

Response includes: Iwi Support Fund. Responsible for translation of information into Te Reo.

10 What support is already in place (continued)

Ministry of Education

Supports schools and education providers. Plans for restoration of damaged schools/property. Assists with resilience and wellbeing support to ākongā.

Response includes: Trauma incident teams. Additional staffing, leadership support and funding to impacted schools. Transport conveyance allowance temporarily expanded supporting 398 ākongā to attend school. Work programmes developed for impacted schools and kura and support to manage property projects available. Support with temporary locations to ensure education programmes continue. Increased counselling support through expansion of existing contracts. Support schools and early learning services to navigate and access support from other agencies.

Oranga Tamariki

Supports regional community needs, ensuring the needs of children and young people with the greatest needs are met.

Supporting community partners, including iwi, and working as part of local multi-agency teams to ensure that the needs of children and young people with the greatest need, their families, whānau and caregivers are being met. Providing additional resourcing and support to caregivers. Providing work force contingency to relieve over-worked or isolated kaimahi. Providing access to psychosocial support for children and young people and their caregivers who require it.

Ministry of Primary Industries

Role includes targeting funding for urgent primary sector needs.

Response included: \$4m Cyclone Gabrielle Rural sector funding. Targeted funding is to help with urgent primary sector needs not being met by other organisations, including aerial surveys, mental wellbeing, recovery advice, logistics and transport, and reimbursement of costs of urgent response activity. Funding is targeted at sector and regional groups. MPI are also supporting impacted communities through Farm Debt Mediation and the Rural Support Trust.

Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Provides Business Support and Access to emergency and temporary accommodation for displaced households.

Response includes: Cyclone Gabrielle business and primary sector support recovery package. Temporary Accommodation Service – provide support to transition people and whānau from emergency short term accommodation into more sustainable and appropriate accommodation.

ACC

Treatment and income support for new and existing injury claims.

Response includes: No specific ACC response or recovering work programmes.

Ministry for Ethnic Communities

Identifies the needs of ethnic communities and providing advice on how those needs can be met.

Response includes: coordination of translation of key messages into ethnic languages with DIA and accessibility of information to ethnic communities.

HUD

Housing and urban development system lead, working closely with MSD, Kāinga Ora, TPK, Community Housing Providers, iwi, TAS and agencies responsible for land use and urban development (MfE etc).

Response includes: Progressing a post-disaster housing recovery framework which will assist with the recovery from these recent weather events, but also assist with preparation for future events. Working through existing partnerships in affected regions to support the development of housing recovery plans. Existing Housing Assistance through provision of public and transitional housing and support services.

Ministry for Women

Identifies the needs of women and providing advice on how those needs can be met.

Response includes: Policy advice relating to the needs of women in the response.

Ministry for Pacific People

Coordinates support across government and Pacific Community groups. Identifies needs of Pacific Communities and provides advice accordingly.

Response includes: Supporting Pacific providers, and government to ensure delivery of appropriate service responses for Pacific. Coordination of Pacific community intel. Responsible for translation of key messages into Pacific languages and accessibility of information to Pacific communities.

Te Puna Aonui

Ensures the sector is considering the needs of FVSV communities over a longer time period.

Response includes: Supporting partner agencies (MSD, Police) as they provided an immediate response. Implementing the relational commissioning approach in response to recent severe weather events.

DPMC

The Cyclone Recovery Unit which holds overall recovery coordination function.

Response includes: Leadership and coordination of the Government's recovery work programme, alignment with wider policy decisions, reporting and assurance.

11 Social Sector plan for recovery

These actions are specific or bespoke responses to the extreme weather events, increasing support to impacted regions over and above business-as-usual service provision to respond to areas of need and build resilience and preparedness.

Specific targeting of actions may be locally led based on their intelligence about what works.

At this stage, funding is forecast over a two-year period, after which time needs will be reassessed.

Our Strategy

Target action towards specific populations, localities and gaps as outlined in this approach.

Funding for additional supports where needed and where there are gaps in regional plans.

Decisions made as locally as possible.

Funding allocated by cross-sector panels with oversight from C4C Chief Executives.

\$20.65m of tagged contingency drawn down immediately.

Review funding and allocated remainder of tagged contingency once all local plans have been developed.

Dimension	Action	Timeframe	Funding
Accommodation	Provide temporary accommodation supply tailored for different population groups (including considerations for bigger whānau and accessibility needs) and services to people displaced from their homes (MBIE Temporary Accommodation Service/ HUD/ iwi).	Immediate	\$84.5m operating \$87.5m capital NIWE
	Critical Repairs to Weather-Impacted homes that were significantly damaged and are owned by low income whānau in Northland, Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti (TPK).	Immediate	\$25m NIWE
Mental Wellbeing	Expand Mana Ake – Stronger for Tomorrow programme to primary and intermediate school-aged students in Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti (Health)	Medium term	\$3.747 NIWE
	Funding for locally led, community-based mental wellbeing initiatives to support communities to meet the psychosocial care need for populations affected, including Māori, Pacific peoples, ethnic communities, disabled people, Tāngata whaikaha rangatahi and youth (Health).	Short – Medium term	\$6.363m NIWE
	Direct and flexible funding for iwi and Māori health partners to provide urgent psychosocial response and recovery services that support whānau wellbeing and the community to recover (Health).	Immediate	\$8.2m NIWE
	Creation of centralised community hubs, improved access to critical recovery services and reliable telecommunications for under-serviced rural communities including primary industry operators and employees in affected regions. (MPI).	Short – Medium term	Proportion of \$35.4m NIWE
	Funding for community activities to support communities (particularly rural and isolated communities) to build optimism, increase their protective factors and build resilience through coming together (MSD).	Short – Medium term	\$3m from contingency
	Targeted and time-bound personalised support and referral pathways for people impacted by land zoning changes (FOSAL categories 2 and 3) in Hawke's Bay, Tairāwhiti and Auckland (MSD).	Immediate	\$1.5m from contingency
Education	School Property Immediate Response – immediate and high-need property works in Hawke's Bay, and Tairāwhiti, Auckland and Northland to enable schools to continue safely operating, including repairs to roofs, plumbing, carpentry, tree removal and emergency cleaning (Education).	Immediate	\$101. NIWE
	School Property Repair and Rebuild – further work to return schools in Hawke's Bay, and Tairāwhiti, Auckland and Northland to their pre-weather event state including where necessary, redevelopment or relocation of schools on extensively damaged sites (Education).	Medium term	\$85.47m NIWE
	Replace school library collections in Hawke's Bay, and Tairāwhiti, Auckland and Northland (Education/DIA).	Short	\$1m NIWE
	Support impacted staff and kura, Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti, by employing relief staff and additional teachers for schools with increased enrolment, providing teacher/principal release time, supporting akonga wellbeing and engagement with school (Education).	Immediate	\$0.7m NIWE
	Fund additional support for at risk akonga, in particular Māori and Pacific young people, to catch up on lost learning post weather events (Education).	Short – medium term	\$5m from contingency
Employment	Employment Recovery Response – funding for employment programmes and services that support New Zealanders into employment or training and reduce long-term impacts on economic resilience and income support. Focus on young and/or low skilled Māori and Pacific people in Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti, and considering opportunities under-utilised disabled people (MSD).	Immediate – Medium term	\$35.2m NIWE and existing MCA funding
	Supporting Pacific employment pathways and building economic resilience for Pacific businesses through the Pacific Business Village (MPP).	Immediate – Medium term	Existing
	NIWE Providing Recovery Support Fund provides recovery support to rural businesses, primary industry (fisheries, forestry, agriculture) employers and employees, and communities (MPI).	Immediate – Medium term	Existing

Dimension	Action	Timeframe	Funding
Health & Disability Support	Provide air and road transport enabling planned care, outreach and other hospital services for isolated communities, alternatives for acute healthcare and urgent repairs to hospitals (Hospital and Specialist Services) for isolated communities, disabled people, particularly on East Coast and rural areas in Hawke's Bay (Health).	Immediate – Medium term	\$8.85m NIWE
	Increased support for primary, community and residential care services to affected population to reduce hospital presentations, including virtual primary healthcare for isolated communities, disabled people, particularly on East Coast and rural areas in Hawke's Bay (Health).	Immediate – Medium term	\$6.11m NIWE
	Providing suitable vehicles for patient access while roads are compromised, and generators and diesel for continued operation of health services while repairs are undertaken. Will increase system resilience (Health).	Immediate – Medium term	\$1.74m NIWE
Iwi and Community Infrastructure	Iwi Support Fund which provides funding to iwi organisations to build resilience and engage in recovery effort (Te Arawhiti).	Immediate – Medium term	Existing
	Cyclone Gabrielle Māori Communities Response Fund which provides assistance to marae and hāpori Māori, focused on Māori development including capital and infrastructure support and cultural infrastructure support (TPK).	Immediate – Medium term	Existing
	Top up for Community Support Funds to help existing community groups (including Māori, Pacific people, tāngata whaikaha, youth, ethnic communities and volunteer groups) to continue to support communities (MSD).	Immediate	\$3m NIWE
	NIWE Isolated Rural Communities Recovery Fund supports under-serviced Rural Communities – includes the creation of marae-based and community hubs, iwi-led wellbeing initiatives and improved access to critical recovery services (MPI).	Short – medium term	Proportion of \$5.4m NIWE funding
	65 Community connectors extended for Cyclone Affected areas for 1 year (MSD).	Short term	\$13.067m NIWE
	Fund for support for building resilience for community and/or iwi organisations in Hawke's Bay, Auckland, Tarāwhiti*, linked to regional and local plans. The purpose of this fund is to build on identified strengths and protective factors to increase future resilience including preparedness for future events. Includes staff to administer (MSD).	Short – medium term	\$8.5m from contingency
	Additional support building resilience and capacity for volunteers and community workers suffering burnout in Te Tai Tokerau, Auckland, Tairāwhiti, Hawke's Bay (DIA).	Short- medium term	\$1.5m from contingency
Perceptions of Safety	Funding for groups outside of affected areas that have capacity or resource pressures from supporting people who have migrated from affected areas (MSD).	Immediate	\$0.5m from contingency
	Sharing insights and best practice across the sector such that each community is able to test, learn and improve based on the benefit of shared knowledge (TPA).	Immediate	
Financial Support/Welfare	Identifying and addressing system settings that hamper the effectiveness of current community responses in particular, supporting a shift to a relational approach to commissioning (TPA).	Short – medium term	\$1m reprioritisation and existing funding
	Funding to purchase bulk supplies of food to support community food providers to meet the increased demand on their services, and for the New Zealand Food Network (NZFN) to bulk purchase essential food stocks to distribute to key food hubs and to strengthen community food distribution infrastructure in the affected regions (MSD).	Immediate to medium	\$6m
Provider infrastructure	Top up Provider Support Funds – help providers in Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti (including family violence providers and disability support providers) (MSD).	Immediate	\$2m NIWE
	Education/training for providers in Auckland, Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti on how to support whānau, rangatahi and tamariki with rain anxiety and mental health concerns through upskilling, specific content and new resources for existing mental wellbeing programmes (MH101, Addiction101 and Rural MH101) (Te Whatu Ora).	Short term	\$0.15m from contingency
Communication	Ministry for Ethnic Communities increasing its on-the-ground presence during the recovery phase to assist communities to be engage in recovery (MEC).	Immediate	Existing
	Provide advice, translation, interpretation and other services to improve accessibility including culturally appropriate and accessible formats (MSD/MEC/Whaikaha/MPP).	Immediate – short term	\$0.5m from contingency
System Leadership	Retain existing Regional Public Service Commissioners' support staff to June 2024 to convene the public service in their regions, and resolve and escalate issues across the social, environmental, and economic sectors in cyclone-impacted regions (MSD).	Immediate – medium term	\$4.12m NIWE

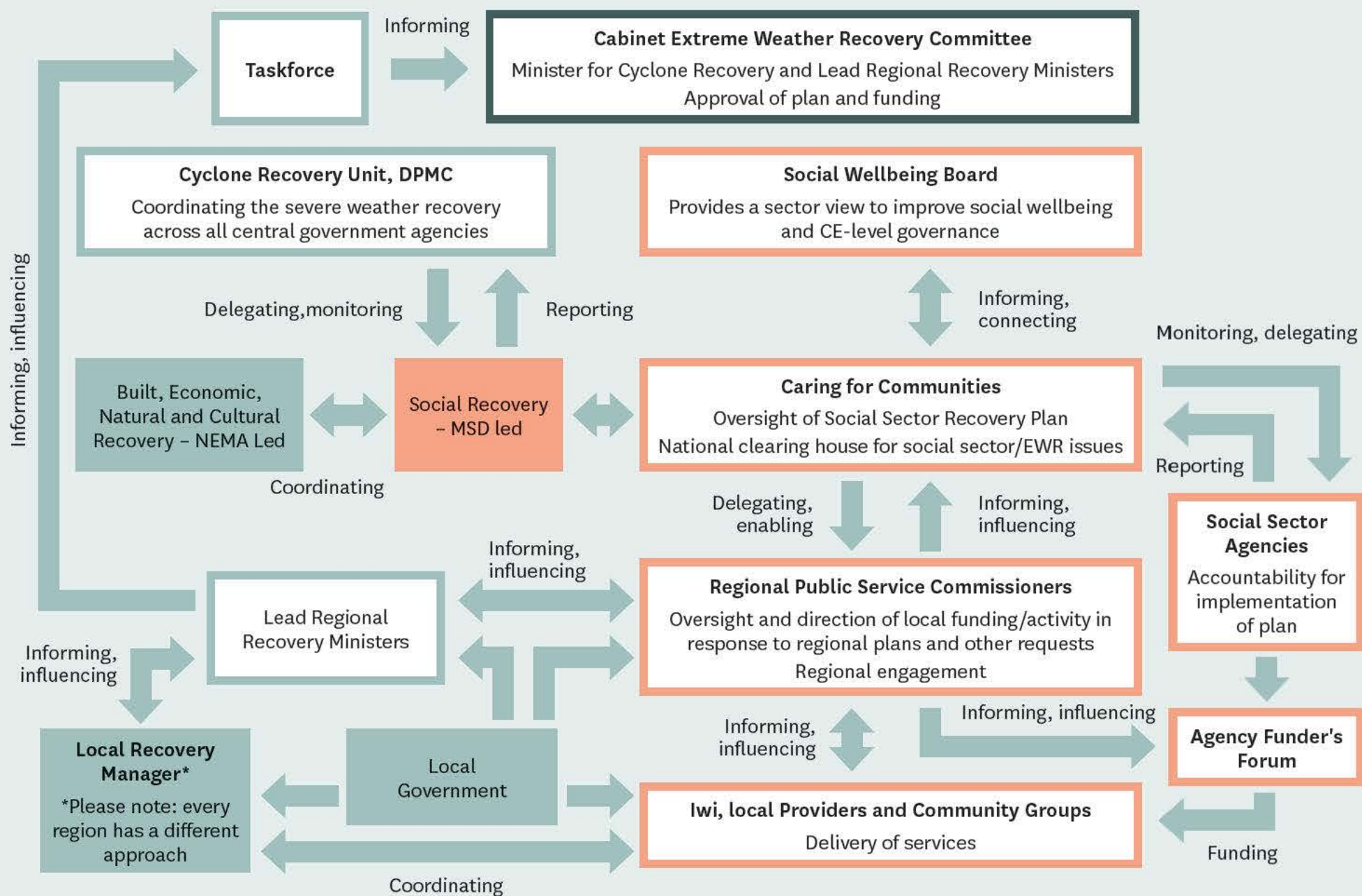
* the geographical coverage for this action has been extended to cover any region affected by the North Island extreme weather events following agreement by the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee on 2 August 2023

12 Overview of Social Sector response decision-making and delivery mechanisms [not for public-facing document]

Minister Sepuloni and Minister McAnulty have agreed that MSD be assigned responsibility for social recovery coordination at a national level following Cyclone Gabrielle. This formalises the role that the Caring for Communities (C4C) governance group have been playing in ensuring an effective system-wide response to issues from a social sector perspective. The C4C group brings together Chief Executives from across key agencies and is chaired by Debbie Power, Chief Executive MSD.

Decision making and governance

Social Sector Agencies will use existing mechanisms for oversight and problem solving. This plan will connect to the wider Government response via the Cyclone Recovery structures.



Interdependencies

Plan	Link	Managed via
Future of severely affected locations	Managed retreat may increase accommodation demand, and mental wellbeing concerns may be exacerbated by uncertainty.	Ministry for the Environment Treasury
Housing	Housing Recovery Framework links to Accommodation dimension of need. Actions will need to be coordinated.	MBIE, HUD
Employment	EET Workforce Plan links to employment dimension of need. Will take account of the broader social sector context in delivery of this plan.	MBIE, EET governance
Regional recovery plans	Regional Plans are in development and will be considered by the Funders Forum which agrees how funds will be allocated between regions.	Agency Funders Forum RPSCs to manage locally
Other sources of funding not referenced here	Non-government and other independent sources (Lotteries, Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery Trust) are also allocating funding to the same regions. There will need to be coordination to reduce duplication.	RPSCs to manage locally