



# Cabinet Extreme Weather Recovery Committee

## Minute of Decision

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### A Social Sector Recovery Plan to Ensure a Coordinated Approach to Social Sector Recovery Over the Medium Term

**Portfolio**                      **Social Development and Employment**

On 28 June 2023, the Cabinet Extreme Weather Recovery Committee, exercising its Power to Act in accordance with its terms of reference:

#### Background

- 1 **noted** the significant role that the social sector has played, and continues to play, in response to the North Island extreme weather events, supported by government investment;
- 2 **noted** that there is a need to continue to provide and facilitate access to community and government social sector supports to support communities' longer-term recovery across all dimensions of wellbeing;
- 3 **noted** that the Social Sector Recovery Plan, attached as Appendix B to the paper under EWR-23-SUB-0051, provides a framework to guide activity and longer-term investment for social recovery, and covers actions for the next two years;
- 4 **noted** that in April 2023, the Minister for Social Development and Employment and the Minister of Finance (Joint Ministers), with delegated authority from Cabinet [CAB-23-MIN-0140]:
  - 4.1 agreed to establish a tagged operating contingency for initiatives that will implement the Social Sector Recovery Plan to support communities, households and whānau in regions affected by the North Island extreme weather events of up to the following amounts:

	\$million – increase/(decrease)				
	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27 & Outyears
All-of-Government Response – Social Sector Recovery Plan – tagged operating contingency	-	30.000	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>30.000</b>	-	-	-

- 4.2 agreed that Joint Ministers will jointly draw down the tagged operating contingency, subject to:

- 4.2.1 Cabinet's endorsement of the Social Sector Recovery Plan;
- 4.2.2 Joint Ministers being satisfied that the initiatives to be funded from the tagged contingency established above do not duplicate existing support, and that any risks are managed appropriately;
- 4.2.3 Joint Ministers being satisfied that the initiatives funded from the tagged contingency have appropriate report-back conditions;
- 4.3 noted that the Ministry of Social Development will provide a report back to Joint Ministers on the use of funds allocated under the Social Sector Recovery Plan;

### Social Sector Recovery Plan

- 5 **noted** that the Social Sector Recovery Plan will facilitate a coordinated cross-agency response to social recovery;
- 6 **noted** that the working principles and assumptions that underpin the Social Sector Recovery Plan, as outlined in paragraph 34 of the paper under EWR-23-SUB-0051, have been developed taking into consideration the lessons learned from previous disaster responses;
- 7 **approved** the Social Sector Recovery Plan, noting that actions proposed under the Plan respond to areas of need that have been identified as requiring additional support for social recovery, and that this approval fulfils the requirement set out in paragraph 4.2.1 above in relation to draw down of the tagged operating contingency;
- 8 **authorised** the Minister for Social Development and Employment to approve any minor or editorial changes to the Social Sector Recovery Plan ahead of its publication;
- 9 **noted** the current funding, including through the North Island Weather Events Response and Recovery Package, that will support actions under the Social Sector Recovery Plan, and the actions for which gaps in funding have been identified, as set out in the Plan;
- 10 **agreed** to draw down the first tranche of funding of \$20.65 million under the tagged contingency to fund the following actions:
  - 10.1 community activities to support communities (particularly rural and isolated communities) to build optimism, increase their protective factors and build resilience through coming together (\$3 million);
  - 10.2 targeted and time-bound personalised support and referral services for people impacted by land zoning changes (\$1.5 million);
  - 10.3 additional support for akonga to catch up on lost learning post-weather events (\$5 million);
  - 10.4 support for building resilience for community and/or Iwi organisations in \*Hawke's Bay, Auckland and Tairāwhiti, 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, and including staff to administer (\$8.5 million);
  - 10.5 additional support to build resilience and capacity in volunteers and community workers suffering burnout in Te Tai Tokerau, Auckland, Tairāwhiti, Hawke's Bay (\$1.5 million);

Added note - \*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

- 10.6 funding for groups outside of affected areas that have capacity or resource pressures from supporting people who have migrated from affected areas (\$0.5 million);
- 10.7 education/training for providers 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, Addiction 101 and Rural MH101) (\$0.15 million);
- 10.8 the provision of translation, interpretation and other services to improve accessibility, including culturally appropriate and accessible formats (\$0.5 million);

**Financial implications**

11 **approved** the following changes to appropriations to give effect to the policy decisions in paragraphs 10.1, 10.2, 10.4, 10.6 and 10.8 above, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net debt:

Vote Social Development Minister for Social Development and Employment	\$million – increase/(decrease)				
	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27 & Outyears
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:					
Community Support Services MCA					
Departmental Output Expenses: Developing and Managing Community Services (funded by revenue Crown)	-	0.500	-	-	-
Non-Departmental Other Expenses: Community Response to Adverse or Emergency Events	-	13.500	-	-	-
<b>Total Operating</b>		<b>14.000</b>			

12 **approved** the following changes to appropriations to give effect to the policy decision in paragraph 10.3 above, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net debt:

Vote Education Minister of Education	\$million – increase/(decrease)				
	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27 & Outyears
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:					
Primary and Secondary Education MCA					
Non-Departmental Output Expenses: Primary Education	-	1.800	-	-	-
Secondary Education	-	3.200	-	-	-
<b>Total Operating</b>	-	<b>5.000</b>	-	-	-



13 **approved** the following changes to appropriations to give effect to the policy decision paragraph 10.5 above, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net debt:

Vote Internal Affairs Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector	\$million – increase/(decrease)				
	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27 & Outyears
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure:					
Community Development and Funding Schemes MCA					
Non-Departmental Other Expense:					
Community and Volunteering Capability Fund	-	1.000	0.500	-	-
<b>Total Operating</b>	-	<b>1.000</b>	<b>0.500</b>	-	-

14 **approved** the following changes to appropriations to give effect to the policy decision recommendation 10.7 above, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net debt:

Vote Health Minister of Health	\$million – increase/(decrease)				
	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27 & Outyears
Non-Departmental Output Expense:					
Delivering Primary, Community, Public and Population Health Services	-	0.150	-	-	-
<b>Total Operating</b>	-	<b>0.150</b>	-	-	-

15 **agreed** that the changes to appropriations for 2023/24 under paragraphs 11, 12, 13 and 14 above are included in the 2023/24 Supplementary Estimates and that, in the interim, the increases be met from Imprest Supply;

16 **agreed** that the expenses incurred under paragraphs 11, 12, 13 and 14 above be charged against the All-of-Government Response Social Sector Recovery Plan tagged operating contingency established as part of the North Island Weather Events Response and Recovery Package to support cyclone recovery described in paragraph 4.1 above;

17 **noted** that, following the adjustments detailed in paragraph 16 above, the All-of-Government Response Social Sector Recovery Plan tagged operating contingency will have a balance remaining of \$9.350 million;


**Further reports**

18 s 9(2)(f)(iv) 

19 **noted** that agencies will have responsibility for relevant actions proposed under the Social Sector Recovery Plan, with oversight provided through the Caring for Communities (C4C) group of Chief Executives;

20 **noted** that a cross-agency Funders' Forum, bringing together key agencies and Regional Public Service Commissioners, and with oversight from C4C, will support regional coordination on actions to be funded under the Social Sector Recovery Plan;

21 s 9(2)(f)(iv)



Janine Harvey  
Committee Secretary

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**Present:**

Hon Carmel Sepuloni  
Hon Kelvin Davis  
Hon Grant Robertson (Chair)  
Hon Kieran McAnulty  
Hon Barbara Edmonds

**Officials present from:**

Officials Committee for EWR  
Cyclone Recovery Unit, DPMC