



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Grant Robertson	Portfolio	Finance
Title of Cabinet paper	Interim Response Package for Cyclone Gabrielle and January Flooding – inclusion of the Wairarapa Cyclone Gabrielle – additional funding injection for interim response, and proposed future work Cyclone Gabrielle – further funding for business support grants	Date to be published	16 August 2023

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
March 2023	Interim Response Package for Cyclone Gabrielle and January Flooding – inclusion of the Wairarapa	Office of the Minister of Finance
7 March 2023	Cyclone Gabrielle: Wairarapa Business Support EWR-23-MIN-0007 Minute	Cabinet Office
March 2023	Cyclone Gabrielle – additional funding injection for interim response, and proposed future work	Office of the Minister of Finance
14 March 2023	Cyclone Gabrielle: Additional Business Support EWR-23-MIN-0018 Minute	Cabinet Office
April 2023	Cyclone Gabrielle – further funding for business support grants	Office of the Minister of Finance
11 April 2023	Cyclone Gabrielle: Business Support Further Funding Injection CAB-23-MIN-0133 Minute	Cabinet Office

Information redacted

NO

Any information redacted in this document is redacted in accordance with MBIE's policy on Proactive Release and is labelled with the reason for redaction. This may include information that would be redacted if this information was requested under Official Information Act 1982. Where this is the case, the reasons for withholding information are listed below. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.



Cabinet Extreme Weather Recovery Committee

Minute of Decision

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.

Cyclone Gabrielle: Wairarapa Business Support

Portfolio **Finance**

On 7 March 2023, the Cabinet Extreme Weather Recovery Committee, exercising its Power to Act in accordance with its terms of reference:

- 1 **noted** that in response to the damage caused by Cyclone Gabrielle, on 20 February 2023 Cabinet agreed to set aside \$50 million in contingency funding to enable the government, in collaboration with local communities, to deliver an interim business and primary sector recovery package [CAB-23-MIN-0044];
- 2 **noted** that delegated Joint Ministers subsequently agreed that \$25 million of the contingency was to be used for business support, with the bulk of that amount (\$24,150,000) for business support grants, being administered by seven Local Delivery Partners in regions where a local state of emergency was declared;
- 3 **noted** that the \$24,150,000 is being made available in two tranches, with the first tranche being paid out now accounting for 75 percent of that amount (\$18,112,500), and the second tranche for 25 percent (\$6,037,500) being held in reserve;
- 4 **noted** that while no local state of emergency has been declared in the Wairarapa to date, some significant damage did occur there, and as a result the Minister of Finance proposes to extend the interim business support package to include the Wairarapa region;
- 5 **agreed** that the same eligibility criteria apply for the Wairarapa as those in place for regions currently eligible for business support grants, with the exception that Wairarapa firms do not need to be primarily located where a regional State of Emergency was declared;
- 6 **agreed** to extend the interim support package for businesses most impacted by Cyclone Gabrielle and the January flooding to the Wairarapa region;
- 7 **noted** that \$0.250 million is considered to be an appropriate allocation to Wairarapa based on the relatively low number of businesses operating in the region and its location relative to the path of the most severe weather;
- 8 **agreed** to allocate \$0.250 million to the Wairarapa region for the interim business support package from the tranche two funding currently held in reserve;
- 9 **noted** that the Wairarapa allocation will mean \$5,787,500 remains in reserve for any tranche two funding disbursements;

- 10 **noted** that the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment will work as quickly as possible to identify and contract with a Local Delivery Partner for Wairarapa.

Janine Harvey
Committee Secretary

Present:

Rt Hon Chris Hipkins
Hon Kelvin Davis
Hon Grant Robertson (Chair)
Hon Dr Megan Woods
Hon Michael Wood
Hon Willie Jackson
Hon Kiri Allan
Hon Stuart Nash
Hon Nanaia Mahuta
Hon Kieran McAnulty
Hon Barbara Edmonds
Hon Meka Whaitiri

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Officials Committee for EWR
Chair of the Taskforce