

From: [Allie Dunn](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Response to Information Request re Spending on recovery and resilience building over 20 years
Date: Monday, 20 July 2026 8:44:00 am
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
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[image010.png](#)
[TIO Emergency Works Extract.xlsx](#)
[image001.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

Kia ora

Thank you for your request for information relating to:

1. Recovery costs associated with weather-related natural disasters during the period 2006–2025.
2. Details of any Government funding received in relation to these events.
3. Costs of resilience-building work undertaken during the period 2006–2025.
4. Any supporting information, including reports, briefings, or other documentation relating to these events.

Which was later clarified to request:

1. Reports or expenditure relating to extreme weather events during the period 2006–2025.
2. Resilience spending during that period on flood protection, slope stabilisation, fire breaks, bridge repair or strengthening.

Scope of request and availability of information

Your request covers a 20-year period and spans a wide range of activities, including emergency management, roading recovery, flood protection, water supply resilience, bridge infrastructure, stormwater management, recovery expenditure, Government funding, and supporting reports.

Council does not maintain a single register or database that records all resilience expenditure, recovery costs, weather-related events, Government funding, and associated reports across this period. Information is held across multiple systems, financial records, annual reports, planning documents, and archived records.

We have attached a copy of the NZTA Transport Investment Online claim export showing Emergency Works related claims from 2004 onwards. Please note this covers the larger events only. Our team advises that gathering the Minor event data would be quite time consuming.

To identify any other potentially relevant information, officers undertook searches of publicly available Council information, including Annual Reports, Long Term Plans, Council agendas, and information published on Council's website. Even with the assistance of artificial intelligence tools to help identify potentially relevant material, locating and reviewing the information provided below required approximately three hours of staff time. A comprehensive search of all records held by Council for the full 20-year period would require significant additional staff time.

In addition, Council's published Annual Reports generally include Emergency Management within broader activity groupings and do not provide a separate and consistent annual expenditure line for Emergency Management. While more detailed information may have been available from Council's financial systems for some years, the Tax Administration Act 1994 requires financial records to be retained for a minimum period of seven years. As a result, detailed financial information may no longer be available for the full period requested.

The information below represents the information Council was able to readily identify from publicly available sources.

Historic weather events and recovery expenditure

Council's publicly available Annual Reports and Long Term Plans refer to a number of significant natural hazard events, including flooding, storms, droughts and other emergencies that have affected the district over time.

As an example of more recent event-related expenditure, Council's 2022/23 Annual Report records that the Emergency Operations Centre was activated during Cyclone Gabrielle in February 2023. The report notes that roads and farmland were affected, communities became isolated, and welfare support was provided to residents impacted by the event.

Council's Long Term Plan 2024–2034 notes that Council received Government funding to support the initial response to Cyclone Gabrielle and sought further funding to assist with recovery works.

Council has not located a consolidated public record that attributes expenditure specifically to the individual weather events identified in your request, nor has it identified a single source that records all recovery costs associated with weather-related events over the period 2006–2025.

Resilience expenditure – roading, bridges, drainage and flood mitigation

Council's Long Term Plans and Annual Plans identify a range of investments intended to improve community and infrastructure resilience to natural hazards and climate-related events.

These include:

- ongoing investment in transport network resilience;
- drainage and stormwater improvements intended to reduce vulnerability to flooding and high-intensity rainfall events;
- culvert replacement and renewal programmes;
- bridge renewal and bridge resilience projects;
- transport network recovery and resilience initiatives following severe weather events; and
- emergency response and recovery capability.

Council's planning documents also note that many bridges within the district are approaching the end of their original design life and that staged renewal and replacement programmes are being undertaken to improve resilience while managing affordability.

Drought resilience and water supply security

Council's Long Term Plan identifies the Dannevirke and Woodville impounded reservoirs as infrastructure intended to improve the resilience of the district's water supply network during periods of low river flows, high turbidity events and drought conditions.

Publicly available information also identifies a number of projects and initiatives intended to improve long-term water supply security and drought resilience, including:

- water storage infrastructure;
- investigation of alternative water sources;
- water demand management initiatives;
- leakage reduction programmes;
- pressure management initiatives;
- emergency water supply infrastructure; and
- water network renewal and upgrade programmes.

Council's publicly available information regarding the Dannevirke Impounded Water Supply notes that work has been undertaken to improve the resilience of the facility and that options for additional treated-water storage have been investigated to improve security of supply.

Publicly available information

The following publicly available documents and webpages may be useful for your research:

- [Tararua District Council Annual Reports](#) – includes Annual Reports from recent years and information relating to Council activities, expenditure and significant events.
- [Tararua District Council Long Term Plans and Plans & Reports](#) – includes Long Term Plans and planning documents outlining infrastructure investment, resilience programmes and community outcomes.
- [Council Agendas, Minutes and Meeting Videos](#) – includes publicly available reports and discussions relating to infrastructure, emergency management, resilience planning and recovery activities.
- [Dannevirke Impounded Water Supply Information](#) (search "Dannevirke Impounded Water Supply") – provides information regarding water supply resilience initiatives and improvements to water storage infrastructure.

Closing comments

Council acknowledges that this response does not provide a complete record of all weather-related expenditure, resilience investment, recovery costs, or associated funding for the full period requested. Due to the breadth of the request, the wide range of Council activities that may be relevant, and the age of some records, identifying and compiling all potentially relevant information would require substantial research and collation across multiple systems, records, and archives.

You have advised that you are not in a position to pay any charge that may be imposed for the work required to locate, research, and collate the information sought. Accordingly, Council has not considered charging as an alternative under section 17A of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA).

Council has also considered whether an extension of the timeframe for responding to your request would enable the information to be provided. However, given the significant amount of work required and the impact that undertaking this work would have on Council's limited resources and its ability to carry out its day-to-day functions, an extension would not adequately address the issue.

Accordingly, Council refuses this part of your request pursuant to section 17(f) of LGOIMA, on the grounds that the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research. Notwithstanding this decision, Council has provided the information that has been able to be identified and compiled within a reasonable timeframe.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this decision by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available on the Ombudsman's website at Ombudsman New Zealand or by calling 0800 802 602.

We trust that the information we have been able to identify from publicly available sources is helpful to your research project and provides useful context regarding weather-related recovery activities, resilience investment, and infrastructure planning within the Tararua District. We wish you every success with your research and thank you for your interest in this important area of Council's work..

Ngā mihi



Allie Dunn | Manager Democracy Services | Deputy Electoral Officer

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If you have received it in error, please take no action based on it, copy it, or show it to anyone.

Please return to the sender and delete your copy. Thank you.

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, 26 June 2026 4:10 pm

To: Allie Dunn <Allie.Dunn@Tararua.govt.nz>

Subject: Re: Clarification of Information Request re Spending on recovery and resilience building over 20 years

EXTERNAL EMAIL ALERT: Caution advised. This message is from an external sender. Verify the sender's identity and use caution with attachments and links.

Sorry Allie, I forgot - the spend on your emergency management work will be great if you can source that too.

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, June 26, 2026 4:07 PM

To: Allie Dunn <Allie.Dunn@Tararua.govt.nz>

Subject: Re: Clarification of Information Request re Spending on recovery and resilience building over 20 years

Kia ora Allie,

Thanks for your email. My research covers the whole 20 years so I can't restrict that side of it, however, I totally understand it is difficult to find information and I'm only asking you do what you can in the time you have. I have no budget sadly as I would love to contribute if it if I did. So, just what you can manage of the two requests below to:

1. Any reports, or spending you can source on extreme weather events within that period. I have found these listed in the ICNZ data that could have affected the Tararua area:

14/11/2016 - 17/11/2016: Lower North Island flooding and wind Nov 16

05/05/2016: Flooding lower North Island May 16

18/06/2015 - 21/06/2015: Lower North Island flooding and storm Jun 15

04/30/2014 - 05/03/2014: Canterbury and Lower North Island storm Mar 14

3/31/05: Lower North Island floods Mar 05

2. Resilience spending during that period on flood protection, slope stabilisation, fire breaks, bridge repair or strengthening.

Ngā mihi nui,

Thanks for all you help and consideration

[REDACTED]

From: Allie Dunn <Allie.Dunn@Tararua.govt.nz>

Sent: Friday, June 19, 2026 4:31 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Clarification of Information Request re Spending on recovery and resilience building over 20 years

You don't often get email from allie.dunn@tararua.govt.nz. [Learn why this is important](#)

Kia ora

Thank you for your request received on 16 June 2026 under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

We have begun assessing your request. As it is currently framed, the scope is quite broad and would require significant collation and research to identify and prepare the information for release. This would involve reviewing a large volume of material. In these circumstances, we may need to consider refusing the request under section 17(f) of LGOIMA (where substantial collation or research is required) and/or fixing a charge for the supply of the information under section 13(4).

Our team is currently assessing the likely level of work involved, and we will provide you with an estimate of the time required to respond (although please note even this scoping work will require some time).

Under section 13 of LGOIMA, we also have a duty to provide reasonable assistance to requesters. With that in mind, we would welcome the opportunity to work with you to refine or clarify the scope of your request. For example, you might consider narrowing the time period covered, or focusing on particular types of documents, rather than all information on a topic.

Refining your request in this way may help us respond more efficiently and may reduce or remove the need to consider charging.

We would be happy to discuss this with you and assist in refining your request. Please let us know if you would like to do so.

We would appreciate your response by 3 July 2026 so we can continue processing your request.

If we do not hear from you, we will proceed to make a decision on your request based on its current scope.

Please note that any clarification or amendment of a request is treated as a new request for the purpose of calculating the statutory timeframe for response (see section 13(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987).

Ngā mihi



Allie Dunn | Manager Democracy Services | Deputy Electoral Officer

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From: Allie Dunn

Sent: Monday, 15 June 2026 12:00 pm

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: CM: Acknowledgement of Information Request re Spending on recovery and resilience building over 20 years

Kia ora

This email is to acknowledge receipt of your request for information, regarding spending on recovery and resilience building.

We will endeavour to respond to your request as soon as possible and in any event no later than 13 July 2026, being 20 working days after the day your request was received. If we are unable to respond to your request by then, we will notify you of an extension of that timeframe.

As part of our commitment to openness and accountability, we are now proactively publishing copies of requests for information and the responses provided to these requests, on our website. In doing so, we will ensure we comply with the provisions of the Privacy Act 2020 and redact any personal / identifying information from any response published.

If you have any questions about this, please don't hesitate to get in contact with me.

Ngā mihi



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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 12 June 2026 5:25 pm
To: Info - Tararua District Council <Info@TararuaDC.Govt.NZ>
Subject: LGOIA: Spending on recovery and resilience building over 20 years

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Tararua District Council
info@tararuadc.govt.nz

12 June 2026

Subject: Official Information Request – Actual spending on recovery and resilience regarding weather related natural disasters

Dear Tararua District Council,

I am writing to request the following official information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA):

1. Costs of recovery, in as much detail as available, from weather related natural disasters over the past 20 years – inclusive 2006 to 2025.
2. Please provide detail of any funds provided by Government so I can avoid double counting (I'm doing the same for Central Government).
3. Costs of resilience building work you have carried out over the past 20 years – inclusive 2006 to 2025.
4. Any supporting information such as briefings on these events or reports on these events.

To provide context, I am doing a PhD on the costs of weather related natural disasters over the past 20 years in New Zealand Aotearoa, including the costs of resilience building, and the benefits of resilience building.

I understand the constraints on local government spending after working in a Council myself on climate resilience, and any commentary will include the need to support Councils who are in the frontline of climate change.

I have included a list of events listed by Insurance Council New Zealand as natural disasters as a guide: <https://www.icnz.org.nz/industry/cost-of-natural-disasters/>

I'm aware that it misses a number of events so please feel free to include other events in your response.

If you need any clarification, please contact me as soon as possible via email.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

PS: Apologies for a repeat email - my first email lost all its formatting and a few clarifications.

Name	Phase Identifier	Status	Your	Total	Start	Final	Part of	Project ID	Phase ID
E/Works 04/05	Construction	Funding Approved		\$ 2,770,000.00	2004/05	2004/05		64625	146225
Feb 04 05/06 E/Ws	Construction	Funding Approved		\$ 3,992,000.00	2004/05	2005/06		64613	146224
Feb 04 E/Works	Construction	Funding Approved		\$ 4,194,380.00	2004/05	2004/05		64430	146218
E/Works 04/05 Carry Over	Construction	Funding Approved		\$ 2,523,000.00	2005/06	2005/06		64636	146226
E/Works 05/06 Carry Over	Construction	Funding Approved		\$ 605,000.00	2006/07	2006/07		71174	172747
E/Works 06/07	Construction	Funding Approved		\$ 4,600,000.00	2006/07	2006/07		71240	172807
E/Works 07/08	Construction	Funding Approved	7-Aug	\$ 1,130,000.00	2007/08	2007/08		73619	180601
E/Works 07/08	Construction	Funding Approved	7-Aug	\$ 120,000.00	2007/08	2007/08		73619	186431
E/Works 07/08	Construction	Funding Approved	7-Aug	\$ 30,000.00	2008/09	2008/09		73619	186432
E/Works 08/09	Construction	Funding Approved		\$ 1,242,299.00	2008/09	2008/09		75919	187422
Emergency Works 09-10	Construction	Funding Approved		\$ 549,707.00	2009/10	2009/10		84297	203562
E/Works 10/11	Construction	Funding Approved		\$ 1,985,634.00	2010/11	2010/11		89417	209736
Emergency Works 2011-12	Construction	Funding Approved		\$ 1,540,237.00	2011/12	2011/12		92836	215729
Emergency Works 2012-13	Construction	Funding Approved		\$ 2,568,308.00	2012/13	2012/13		97956	222509
Emergency Work -Route 52 -063 Landslide - Wimbledon	Construction - Emergency Response	Funding Approved		\$ 402,720.00	2013/14	2013/14		100311	226288
Emergency Works 2013-2014	Construction - July - Aug Request	Funding Approved	July-Aug 2013	\$ 2,224,960.00	2013/14	2013/14		100231	226208
Emererency Works August 2014	Construction - Reconstruction	Funding Approved		\$ 1,565,897.00	2014/15	2015/16		105411	232599
Emererency Works August 2014	Construction	Funding Approved		\$ 32,207.00	2015/16	2015/16		105411	244588
Emergency Works Event 23 September 2015	Construction - Recovery-Construction	Funding Approved		\$ 1,050,500.00	2015/16	2016/17		114513	244191
Emergency Works Event 23 September 2015	Construction - Recovery-Construction (2)	Funding Approved		\$ 66,940.00	2016/17	2016/17		114513	250596
Emergency Works July-August 2016	Construction - Emergency Works-July - August 2016	Funding Approved	Emergency Works July-August 2016	\$ 941,042.00	2016/17	2016/17		116773	248754
Emergency Works July-August 2016	Construction - Emergency Works-July - August 2016 (2)	Funding Approved	Emergency Works July-August 2016	\$ 527,683.00	2016/17	2017/18		116773	248897
Event March-April 2017	Construction - Construction	Funding Approved		\$ 1,538,050.00	2016/17	2018/19		118345	250461
Emergency Event March/April 2018	Construction - March-April 2018	Funding Approved	Emergency Event March/April 2018	\$ 1,800,000.00	2017/18	2018/19		128862	263980
Event July-August 2017	Construction	Funding Approved		\$ 3,234,205.00	2017/18	2018/19		120342	253316
Event March-April 2017	Construction - Construction (2)	Funding Approved		\$ 400,031.00	2017/18	2018/19		118345	252078
Event September 2018	Construction - Event Sep 2018	Funding Approved	Event Sep 2018	\$ 282,421.00	2018/19	2018/19		130403	266181
Event September 2018	Construction - Event Sep 2018 (2)	Funding Approved	Event Sep 2018	\$ 5,482,449.00	2018/19	2020/21		130403	266581

Event June 2019	Construction - June 2019	Funding Approved	Jun-19	\$	4,918,400.00	2019/20	2020/21	132309	268812
EW - November 2020	Construction - Event November 2020	Funding Approved		\$	28,700.00	2020/21	2020/21	134736	275408
EW - November 2020	Construction - Event November 2020 (2)	Funding Approved		\$	2,032,429.00	2020/21	2021/22	134736	275564
EW - November 2020	Construction - Event November 2020 - Cost Scope Adjustment	Funding Approved		\$	639,982.00	2021/22	2021/22	134736	279979
EW - November 2020	Construction - Event November 2020 - Cost Scope Adjustm	Funding Approved		\$	510,765.00	2021/22	2022/23	134736	280825
EW - Sep 21 - Mangaone Valley Rd (RP10.6) Dropout	Construction - Mangaone Valley Dropout	Funding Approved	EW - Sep 21 - Mangaone Valley Rd (RP10.6) Dropout	\$	533,808.00	2021/22	2022/23	156566	279978
EW - August 2022 Event (Initial response)	Construction - Initial Response	Funding Approved	EW August '22 - Storm Event	\$	365,240.00	2022/23	2023/24	160485	283435
EW - July 2022 Event (Initial Response)	Construction	Funding Approved	EW July '22 - Storm Event	\$	638,883.00	2022/23	2023/24	160383	283357
EW - June 2022 Event	Construction	Funding Approved	Event June 2022	\$	351,840.00	2022/23	2023/24	160354	283322
EW - September 2022 Event (Initial response)	Construction - Initial Response	Funding Approved		\$	148,100.00	2022/23	2023/24	160625	283475
EW Cyclone Gabrielle	Construction - Cyclone Gabrielle - Recovery Phase - Normal FAR - External funding - NIWE Recovery - Local Roads	Funding Approved		\$	44,967,368.00	2022/23	2023/24	161019	292699
EW Event March 2022	Construction - Event March 2022	Funding Approved	Event March 2022	\$	4,364,850.00	2022/23	2023/24	158808	281738
EW FD R52-109-4.38KM	Construction - Slip Clearance-Road Reconstruction	Funding Approved	FD R52-109-4.38KM	\$	540,000.00	2022/23	2023/24	159974	282975
EW Feb'22 Cyclone Dovi Weather Event	Construction - Feb'22 Cyclone Dovi Weather Event	Funding Approved	Feb'22 Cyclone Dovi Weather Event	\$	72,259.00	2022/23	2022/23	158382	281080
EW Feb'22 Cyclone Dovi Weather Event	Construction - Feb'22 Cyclone Dovi Weather Event (Norma	Funding Approved	Feb'22 Cyclone Dovi Weather Event	\$	2,194,741.00	2022/23	2023/24	158382	283195
Emergency Work Event September 2021	Construction - Event September 2021	Funding Approved		\$	712,000.00	2022/23	2022/23	156866	280275
EW Cyclone Gabrielle	Construction - Cyclone Gabrielle - Initial Response	Funding Approved		\$	1,898,108.00	2024/25	2024/25	161019	283832
EW - Tararua DC October '25	Construction - Delete/ Archive this phase please	Draft		\$	221,916.00	2025/26	2025/26	180242	294464

EW - 18th August '24	Construction - Initial Response & Recovery	Funding Approved	Tararua South (Pahiatua Flooding)	\$	650,423.00	2024/25	2024/25	178715	293313
EW - 1st August '24	Construction - Initial Response & Recovery	Funding Approved		\$	1,522,959.00	2024/25	2025/26	178714	293312
EW - Tararua DC October '25	Construction - Response and Recovery	Funding Approved		\$	398,190.00	2025/26	2025/26	180242	294463
EW - Tararua DC June 2023	Construction - Initial Response & Recovery	Funding Approved		\$	1,898,108.00	2024/25	2024/25	173063	290944
EW - Tararua DC June 2023	Construction - Initial Response & Recovery (Normal +20%)	Funding Approved		\$	125,001.00	2024/25	2024/25	173063	293376
EW - Tararua February 2026	Construction - Initial Response & prac solutions - External funding - 2026 Severe Weather Events Response - Local Roads	Funding Approved		\$	697,096.00	2025/26	2026/27	181237	295263
EW Cyclone Gabrielle	Construction - Cyclone Gabrielle- Recovery Phase (NIWE) FAR +20% - External funding - NIWE Recovery - Local Roads	Funding Approved		\$	25,604,381.00	2024/25	2025/26	161019	292679
EW Cyclone Gabrielle	Construction - Cyclone Gabrielle Recovery 2025-26 - Normal FAR - External funding - NIWE Recovery - Local Roads	Funding Approved		\$	1,687,088.00	2025/26	2025/26	161019	293862