

# Hon Kieran McAnulty

Minister for Emergency Management  
Minister of Local Government  
Minister for Racing  
Minister for Regional Development  
Minister for Rural Communities  
Deputy Leader of the House



25 SEP 2023

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Daran Ponter  
Chair, Greater Wellington Regional Council

Peter Scott  
Chair, Environment Canterbury

Doug Leeder  
Chair, Bay of Plenty Regional Council  
Doug.leeder@bopc.govt.nz

Dear Daran, Peter, and Doug

Thank you for your letter of 25 August 2023 expressing the regional sector's support for building New Zealand's flood risk resilience through co-investment.

I welcome the submission of these flood protection projects and acknowledge the sector's commitment to progressing them. It is crucial New Zealand builds its flood resilience in light of the increasing frequency and severity of climate-driven extreme weather events. The Government is committed to working with local government and communities to build greater flood resilience.

In our meeting on 19 July 2023, I sought assurance that the local government sector supports the proposals outlined in *Before the Deluge*. Thank you for providing this assurance. It is essential that councils work together and support each other when embarking on projects of this scale. While flood risk management remains a key responsibility for regional councils, supporting flood resilience efforts is a priority for the Government. As you will know, in 2020 the Government provided \$217 million towards a nationwide flood resilience programme of work as part of its shovel-ready regional economic stimulus package.

In Budget 2023, the Government also set aside \$100 million for areas affected by Cyclone Gabrielle which will go towards practical flood protection infrastructure, as well as other measures. In addition, as part of Budget 2023 the Government set aside \$6 billion in the National Resilience Plan. While some of the funding is allocated to extreme weather event recovery efforts, portions of funding are dedicated to building resilience in critical infrastructure across the country. This includes building flood resilience in residential areas.

Some of projects you have proposed may be within scope of the National Resilience Plan, and therefore eligible for consideration for funding. I understand the Treasury is assessing applications for projects identified in the *Before the Deluge* report and will provide advice on the next steps after some consideration.

Thank you again for writing.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Kieran McAnulty'.

Hon Kieran McAnulty  
Minister of Local Government