



24 November 2023

Chris Milne

[fyi-request-24557-c8f17b34@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-24557-c8f17b34@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Chris

**Request for Information – Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987**

We refer to your official information request dated 27 October 2023:

*I am advised by Te Tari Taiwhenua (The Department of Internal Affairs) that the Hutt City Council has entered into a funding agreement and secured the \$8.36m in Better Off funding. As of 24 August 2023, the council has been paid a total of \$899,500 in Better Off Funding. Of that amount paid, \$836k has been allocated to the Eastern Hutt Road Slip Resilience Project. Of the remaining \$63.5k, \$13.5k is allocated to Pito-one Resilience Projects, and \$50k to Climate Action Campaign.*

*My request:*

*Please provide all information held about the \$13,500 allocated to Pito-one Resilience Projects, and the \$50,000 to [a] Climate Action Campaign. What are the Pito-one Resilience Projects and the Climate Change Campaign who or what has been funded and how much has been spent? What were the outcomes sought from this expenditure?*

**Answer:**

The report on the application seeking approval for the three initiatives to be submitted to Te Tari Taiwhenua - Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) as part of a Three Waters Reform Tranche 1 Better Off Funding Proposal was first submitted to the Policy, Finance and Strategy (PFS) Committee on 16 June 2022. It was then submitted to Council and was approved by full Council on 22 November 2022.



You can access the reports to PFS Committee and Council here [Agenda of Hutt City Council – Tuesday, 22 November 2022](#)

Please see Appendix 1 of the response which is the application for the Better Off Support Package Funding submitted to DIA by Hutt City Council.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response to your information request may be published on Hutt City Council's website. Please refer to the following link: [www.huttcity.govt.nz/council/contactus/make-an-official-information-act-request/proactive-releases](http://www.huttcity.govt.nz/council/contactus/make-an-official-information-act-request/proactive-releases)

Yours sincerely

Lakna Siriwardena

Legal Operations Advisor

## THREE WATERS BETTER OFF GRANT FUNDING PROPOSAL: TRANCHE 1<sup>1</sup>

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### Instructions to complete the Funding Proposal:

- The Funding Proposal is to be submitted through the DIA online Grant Management System. **To apply you will need access to this system.** Guidelines on accessing this system are provided in Appendix C of the guidance document *“Guide to better off package funding for local authorities”* found here: <https://www.dia.govt.nz/three-waters-reform-programme-reform-support-package>
- One Funding Proposal per Local Authority can be submitted for the total Tranche 1 Programme of Expenditure.
- Local Authorities do not have to apply for the full Tranche 1 notional amount upfront, funds not applied for in Tranche 1 will be available in the Tranche 2 application round.
- A Programme may consist of more than one Project or Initiative, and Local Authorities may elect to provide appendices with further details and breakdowns if that would assist in the approval process.
- The Programme may relate to expenditure over a period of up to 5 years.
- All figures in this Funding Proposal should be GST exclusive.
- A relationship manager will be available to support councils and can provide advice if the Local Authority has additional questions.
- Refer to the document *“Guide to better off package funding for local authorities”* which sets out the information needed for Local Authorities to engage with the Funding Agreements and the Funding Proposal template below.

The draft Funding Proposal can be submitted by the Local Authority any time between 4 April 2022 and 30 September 2022. The Funding Proposal will be assessed by the Department of Internal Affairs, who may provide feedback and require further detail, additions or alterations. The Funding Proposal is to be finalised, and Councils notified of the outcome within six weeks of receipt of the draft submission.

Where the Department of Internal Affairs requires any additional assurance or conditions for a specific Funding Proposal, this will be included in Question 17 below following the Department of Internal Affairs review. Question 17 will form part of the Funding Proposal.

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<sup>1</sup> The \$2 billion ‘better off’ package is available in two tranches. The first \$500 million is available from 1 July 2022 and the remaining \$1.5 billion is available after 1 July 2024.



## SECTION 1: General Information

1. Programme Title Better off funding tranche 1 Hutt City Council
2. Local Authority Hutt City Council

### 3. Organisation Lead Contact:

Name:	Bruce Hodgins
Position:	Strategic Advisor
Email:	Bruce.hodgins@huttcity.govt.nz

## SECTION 2: Programme of Expenditure Overview

4. Provide a brief description of the Programme of expenditure the funding will be applied to.  
If the Programme comprises more than one Project, or Initiative that you will be reporting on separately, please list (add more rows if required):

*Hutt City Council initially considered a small number of initiatives for the Better Off Funding Packages. However, following significant and unprecedented rain events in late July 2022, large scale land slips occurred throughout the city, making Hutt City Council reconsider where funding would be best directed to realise optimal outcomes for the community. The most notable slips in 2022 occurred on the Eastern Hutt Road, near the entrance to Stokes Valley, resulting in the following outcomes:*

- *Communities became severed*
- *Vehicle traffic was restricted and the level of service of the road network was impacted significantly*
- *People's ability to access lifeline services within the city was significantly impacted*
- *Other regionally significant projects (such as Riverlink) were at threat of being put under pressure due to the resulting network impact from the weather events.*

*As a result, Council sought and received an extension to the application closing date of 30 September 2022 to enable the Council to assess and re-consider priority initiatives needed to address the City's resilience issues current and future.*

*Following this reprioritisation, Hutt City Council is now able to put forward its proposed programme consisting of three initiatives that were approved at a City Council meeting dated 22 November 2022. These initiatives address the changing climate conditions which result in higher frequency and more extreme weather events. The initiatives are also strongly aligned with the first part of the Better Off Funding criteria in that they will individually and in combination "support communities to transition to a sustainable and low-emissions economy, including by building resilience to climate change and natural hazards".*

*Initiative 1. The Eastern Hutt Road Slip Resilience project is a three-stage project to be implemented over four years to improve the resilience of this important transport link. The three stages of the project include:*

1. *Response – getting the road open and keeping communities safe*
2. *Recovery – developing final remedial solutions for slips that have already happened*
3. *Resilience – identifying future slip prone areas and developing mitigations before a slip occurs*

*This initiative is strategically aligned with local, regional, and national transport policy and ensures that current and future issues relating to resilience can be addressed, reducing the impact these events would otherwise have on local communities. This initiative will require round one and round two funding through the Better Off Funding allocation.*

*Initiative 2. The Climate Action Campaign is a collaborative approach with Wellington City Council to deliver a comprehensive climate communications campaign to drive behaviour change within the region. This initiative is being developed in support of local and nation goals that will see a transition from a carbon dependent economy to a low-carbon/carbon independent economy.*

*Initiative 3. Modelling undertaken has identified significant community assets and infrastructure in Petone will be impacted by flooding and coastal inundation as a result of climate change. This includes the Petone Wharf, Petone Settlers Museum and the Library and Heritage Centre, as well as sites of importance to mana whenua including the site of the original and substantial Pita-one pa and the offices of Hikoikoi Management (Wellington Tenth Trust and Palmerston North Māori Reserve Trust). Additionally significant micro-mobility projects are planned for Petone and the redevelopment of the waterfront Honiana Te Puni Reserve. The proposed Petone project brings these workstreams together in one co-ordinated project and programme of work to consider how their objectives can be achieved whilst building resilience for the community.*

*The initial phase of this project is seeking funding from round one of Better Off Funding to scope the overall Petone Project and be able to recommend future priority projects for approval.*

**List of Projects/Initiatives under this Programme**

Eastern Hutt Road Slip Resilience Project

Climate Action Campaign

Petone Resilience Project

5. Total Maximum Amount Payable as defined and stated in the Funding and Collaboration Agreement (NZD \$):

\$8,360,000

6. Total estimated cost of the Programme (NZD \$)?

\$61,517,000

7. Of the total estimated cost above, specify the amount (if any) that will be allocated to general management oversight and other administrative costs.

\$0

*We don't anticipate any general management oversight and other administrative costs to be incurred.*

8. If the total estimated cost exceeds the Total Maximum Amount Payable, please specify the additional funding source(s) and amount(s):

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount (NZ\$M)</b>
Eastern Hutt Road Slip Resilience Project – Waka Kotahi contribution of 51% of total cost	\$16,554,600
Eastern Hutt Road Slip Resilience Project – Hutt City Council	\$15,905,400
Petone resilience project - HCC Long-term Plan 2021 – 2031	\$29,057,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$61,517,000</b>

9. Please indicate below the expenditure programme funding status:

	Yes/No	Amounts in NZD \$	Year
Included in LTP	Yes	\$29,057,000	2021-2031
Included in Waka Kotahi emergency funding contribution	Yes	\$2,800,000	2022-2023
Included in Waka Kotahi emergency funding contribution	No	\$2,500,000	2022-2023
Included in the latest Annual Plan	-	\$0	-
Not funded in any plan (HCC)	No	\$15,905,400	2022 – 2025
Not funded in any plan (Waka Kotahi)	No	\$16,554,600	2022 – 2025
Was funded but COVID-19 deferred		\$	
Local Authority co-funding being contributed (Wellington City Council contribution for Climate Action Campaign)	Yes	\$1,500,000	2023/2024

10. Has the programme been submitted and reviewed through another contestable funding source? (such as the Infrastructure Acceleration Fund): Yes

If Yes, please state the funding source and the stage of the funding process you reached below.

Funding Source	Stage Reached
Waka Kotahi	We are currently in the process of completing the Point of Entry (PoE) for this programme of works. The PoE is a document developed by the client and issued to Waka Kotahi explaining the reasons the project is required, and the business case pathway, seeking Waka Kotahi funding to complete a business case – we are currently recommending that a single staged business case be developed. The PoE has not yet been submitted to Waka Kotahi.

11. Describe the risks you have identified in completing the programme on time and on budget (eg: availability of and access to specialist skills) and any steps/actions you have taken to mitigate these risks.

**Eastern Hutt Road Slip Resilience Project:**

The risks to completing the programme on time and on budget are:

- The full extent of the works required, and therefore the associated costs are not currently known. Further detailed investigation works are required to confirm the total extents
- The extent of any resource consent requirements is not known in detail at the time of writing
- The extent of any property acquisition that may be required is not known at the time of writing
- If climate change projections are realised, the slip events experienced in the winter of 2022 will become more frequent, and more severe. Therefore, if works are not progressed at pace to proactively mitigate against the slip risks currently being experienced and forecast, further and more severe impacts to Eastern Hutt Road, Stokes Valley and the Lower Hutt region will be realised.

**Climate Action Campaign:**

The risks to completing the programme on time and on budget are:

- If the momentum of the campaign requires more effort and budget to continue to embed the behaviour change and increase community reach and impact, further budget will be required. Currently future budget has not been secured post the 2023/2024 financial year. Mitigation is to review the approach that is getting the most campaign traction early and look to secure future budget.

**Petone Resilience Project:**

The risks to completing the programme on time and on budget are:

- Further investigation is required to determine the condition of the Petone Wharf and Petone Library building to determine what extent of rebuild is required.
- If more extensive development of the Library site is required, this will mean the project will take longer to complete and may cost more than currently anticipated.

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### SECTION 3: Programme of expenditure details

12. Please provide a high-level breakdown of the expenditure programme, including the programme commencement and completion dates, key delivery milestones, and for each milestone the planned completion date and estimated cost:<sup>2</sup>

*Milestones should reflect the progress of project delivery, and link to specific and measurable project outputs. Please refer to your relationship manager for guidance, and examples of output-based milestones.*

*If the funding package is to be used to fund multiple projects/initiatives, duplicate the table below for each project. The total of all projects must equal the Total Maximum Amount Payable per the Funding Agreement.*

#### Eastern Hutt Road Slip Resilience Project:

	Expenditure Programme/Project Milestone (including a description of how the milestone is identified)	Estimated Completion Date	Estimated costs (NZD \$)
1.	Commencement Date as per the Funding Agreement		
2.	Stage one – end to end development and delivery of the response phase: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stabilisation works</li> <li>Cordoning the site to ensure control of current and future debris ingress</li> <li>Remediation of any damaged infrastructure</li> <li>Begin planning for permanent remedial works (stage two)</li> </ul>	Time of writing to June 2023	Total – \$5,580,000:  Professional services – \$400,000 Abseil services – \$250,000 Construction and TTM - \$4,000,000 Contingency - \$930,000
3.	Stage two and three – end to end development and delivery of the recovery phases, as well as undertaking the single staged business case (Stage 3: resilience): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake physical permanent remediation works for existing slips</li> <li>Investigate other high risk locations in relation to future slips and develop an associated business case to realise more funding</li> <li>Develop designs and undertake proactive remediation works where required, in line with the outcomes outlined within the business case</li> </ul>	Time of writing to June 2023	Total – \$2,800,000:  Professional services – \$1,000,000 Construction – \$1,000,000 Contingency – \$800,000
4.	Stage two and three – continued <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake physical permanent remediation works for existing slips</li> </ul>	July 2023 to June 2025	Total – \$24,080,000:  Professional Services – \$2,200,000 Construction – \$15,000,000



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate other high risk locations in relation to future slips and develop an associated business case to realise more funding</li> <li>Develop designs and undertake proactive remediation works where required, in line with the outcomes outlined within the business case</li> </ul>		Contingency – \$6,880,000
<b>TOTAL</b>			\$32,460,000

Climate Action Campaign:

	<b>Expenditure Programme/Project Milestone</b> (including a description of how the milestone is identified)	<b>Estimated Completion Date</b>	<b>Estimated costs (NZD \$)</b>
1.	Commencement Date per the Funding Agreement		Nil
2.	Contribution to Wellington City Council fund for creative services and researchers	30 June 2023	\$50,000
3.	HCC specific photography/videography/design edits	30 June 2024	\$50,000
	Advertising spend – bus backs, billboards	30 June 2024	\$105,000
4.	Activation budget	30 June 2024	\$50,000
<b>TOTAL</b>			\$255,000

Petone Resilience Projects:

	<b>Expenditure Programme/Project Milestone</b> (including a description of how the milestone is identified)	<b>Estimated Completion Date</b>	<b>Estimated costs (NZD \$)</b>
1.	Draft Project Brief and scope developed for approval by Komiti Hapori Ahurea me ngā Rangapū - Communities, Culture and Partnerships Committee	Dec 2023	\$100,000
2.	Individual projects agreed will be put forward for stage 2 Better Off Funding		TBC
<b>TOTAL</b>			\$100,000

<sup>2</sup> All figures should be GST exclusive.



**CHECKS**

Total maximum funding instalment amount per the Milestone Table(s)<sup>3</sup> is **less than or equal to** Total Maximum Amount Payable per question 6

Choose an item.

<sup>3</sup> If the Milestone Table was duplicated to reflect multiple projects/initiatives, please add the total amounts across all tables when performing the checks above.

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**SECTION 4: Wellbeing Assessment**

*For this section, please refer to the document “Guide to better off package funding for local authorities” for guidance on conducting the wellbeing assessment.*

13. Please set out how the expenditure programme promotes one (or more) of the key criteria of the better off package and the well-being of communities (social, economic, environmental, and/or cultural) in the table below. Add lines where necessary.

*If the funding package is to be used on multiple project/initiatives, duplicate the table below in order to identify the wellbeing outcomes for each project.*

**Eastern Hutt Road Slip Resilience Project**

<b>Programme Title</b>	Better off funding tranche 1 Hutt City Council			
<b>Project/Initiative (if applicable)</b>	Eastern Hutt Road Slip Resilience Project			
<b>Better Off funding criteria (select as many that apply)</b>	Criteria 1: Supporting communities to transition to a sustainable and low-emissions economy, including by building resilience to climate change and natural hazards.	Criteria 2: Delivery of infrastructure and/or services that support local place-making and improvements in community wellbeing.		
<b>Wellbeing Area (select as many that apply)</b>	Social wellbeing	Economic wellbeing	Environmental wellbeing	Cultural wellbeing
<b>Wellbeing Outcomes</b>				
<b>Outcome</b>	<b>How Outcome will be Measured</b>		<b>How Outcome will be Monitored/Reported</b>	
The overall resilience of Lower Hutt’s transport network is less vulnerable to delays from unplanned events	The number of slips that occur through Hutt City will reduce on an annual basis		The number of annual slips being reported will be tracked and reviewed on an annual basis and benchmarked against the number of substantial weather events that have also occurred in the year.	
Improved connectivity of the regional transport network to support the movement of goods and services	The average travel time for vehicles will remain consistent through the year (based on pre 2022 times, before the slips impacted the network and subsequently travel times)		A review of travel time data will be undertaken as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Before the 2022 slips occurred (baseline)</li> <li>• During 2022 (worst case scenario)</li> <li>• Post resilience works (new baseline)</li> </ul>	

Climate Action Campaign:

<b>Programme Title</b>	Better off funding tranche 1 Hutt City Council			
<b>Project/Initiative (if applicable)</b>	Climate Action Campaign			
<b>Better Off funding criteria (select as many that apply)</b>	Criteria 1: Supporting communities to transition to a sustainable and low-emissions economy, including by building resilience to climate change and natural hazards.	Criteria 3: Delivery of infrastructure and / or services that Support local place-making and improvements in community well-being.		
<b>Wellbeing Area (select as many that apply)</b>	Social wellbeing	Economic wellbeing	Environmental wellbeing	Cultural wellbeing
<b>Wellbeing Outcomes</b>				
<b>Outcome</b>	<b>How Outcome will be Measured</b>		<b>How Outcome will be Monitored/Reported</b>	
Our communities are more knowledgeable and have the tools they need to start taking action on climate change.	Survey results of community as well as activation event feedback		Survey responses either through this project directly or via existing surveys about attitudes towards climate change, likelihood of taking action etc. Event feedback forms.	
There are more people choosing public transport over using private vehicles	Percentage increase of mode share of public and active transport.		Public transport passenger data and active transport counts.	
Increased interest in local government decision making about climate change	Public interest in Council's climate change committee		Number of 'watches' on Facebook live. Number and diversity of speakers, particularly those who have not spoken at committees previously	

Petone Resilience Project:

<b>Programme Title</b>	Better off funding tranche 1 Hutt City Council			
<b>Project/Initiative (if applicable)</b>	Petone Resilience Project			
<b>Better Off funding criteria (select as many that apply)</b>	Criteria 1: Supporting communities to transition to a sustainable and low-emissions economy, including by building resilience to climate change and natural hazards.	Criteria 2: Delivery of infrastructure and/or services that enable housing development and growth.	Criteria 3: Delivery of infrastructure and / or services that Support local place-making and improvements in community well-being.	
<b>Wellbeing Area (select as many that apply)</b>	Social wellbeing	Economic wellbeing	Environmental wellbeing	Cultural wellbeing
<b>Wellbeing Outcomes</b>				
<b>Outcome</b>	<b>How Outcome will be Measured</b>		<b>How Outcome will be Monitored/Reported</b>	
Maximise the potential of Petone and Lower Hutt as a place to live, visit, work and do business	Measuring spending in Petone and Lower Hutt Measuring spending at hospitality/tourism businesses in Petone and Lower Hutt		Marketview economic data	
Build resilience to future-proof key community assets and services	Ability to continue to provide community spaces and deliver services to Petone		Number of days services are interrupted due to extreme weather or flooding/coastal inundation	
Better reflect Petone's European and Māori history in urban design	Increased visibility of European and Māori history		Would be a requirement of projects where opportunities exist and reported on in project briefs	
Increased housing stock	Number of new dwellings developed in Petone through urban design changes		Building consents issued by HCC	
Uplift in transport mode shift through integrated urban design to reduce congestion and emissions.	TBC		TBC	



## SECTION 5: Iwi/Māori Engagement

*For this section, please refer to the document "Guide to better off package funding for local authorities" for guidance on the Iwi/Māori engagement required to answer the following questions.*

14. Describe the process you used to identify relevant iwi/Māori parties in your region and specify which Māori groups / entities / organisations (eg, iwi, hapū, post-settlement governance entities, etc) you engaged with.

Hutt City Council has formal agreements with four Iwi partners with which it engages on a wide range of matters of interest to both parties. This has been in place for some time. We meet with each partner separately every 8 weeks with a formal agenda to which both parties contribute.

The four iwi partners are as follows:

- Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika Trust (Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust)
- Te Rūnanganui o Te Āti Awa ki Te Upoko o Te Ika a Māui Inc.
- Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira
- Ngahuru Charitable Trust (Wellington Tenths Trust & Palmerston North Māori Reserve Trust)

15. Provide details of the engagement you undertook with iwi/Māori in determining the use of the funding allocation. Include details regarding the methods of engagement (e.g. hui, wānanga, consultation on material, subsequent feedback).

The Better Off Funding application proposals were on the agenda for scheduled hui with iwi partners from late June 2022. Discussions evolved as Council priorities changed with the need to focus on recovery and resilience of the Eastern Hutt Road following the heavy rain event and subsequent slips in July 2022, which adversely impacted on access to Stokes Valley. Iwi partners were generally understanding of the Council desire to utilise the bulk of the first tranche of funding for this work.

16. Provide details of the ideas, suggestions, issues or concerns raised by iwi/Māori during your engagement process, along with the steps taken to address these.

Iwi partners have expressed a desire to be involved with the planning and delivery of both the Climate Action Campaign and the Petone Resilience projects. (I will provide some detail here once I have the minutes of the various hui).

## SECTION 6: DIA USE ONLY

17. Additional requirements in respect of the Funding Agreement (such as specific conditions):