



## BRF-1178 – National Adaptation Plan – initial advice following consultation and draft CRMG papers for feedback

Date Submitted:	14 June 2022	Tracking #: BRF-1178	
Security Level:	In Confidence	MfE Priority:	Urgent

	Action sought:	Response by:
To Hon. James Shaw, Minister of Climate Change	<b>Provide</b> feedback on the attached draft CRMG paper and <b>discuss</b> with the Prime Minister	15 June 2022

Actions for Minister's Office Staff:	<b>Return</b> the signed report to MfE <b>Forward</b> attached draft CRMG paper to the Prime Minister's Office for feedback by 15 June 2022
Number of appendices: # 2	<b>Appendix 1:</b> Paper 1 - Finalising New Zealand's National Adaptation Plan <b>Appendix 2:</b> Paper 2 - Draft Summary Booklet for the National Adaptation Plan

### Minister's comments

### Ministry for the Environment contacts

Position	Name	Cell phone	1st contact
Principal Author	Amberley Gibson		
Responsible Manager	Emma Corbett	s 9(2)(a)	
Director	Katherine Wilson	s 9(2)(a)	✓

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## Key messages

1. This briefing seeks your feedback on draft papers for the meeting of the Climate Response Ministers Group (CRMG) to consider on Monday 20 June.
2. These papers are to support the item you are leading on the National Adaptation Plan (the Plan). The two papers set out:
  - a. a summary of key themes from public consultation on the draft Plan, advice on areas where the Government could be more ambitious and several recommended in-principle decisions on actions in the final Plan
  - b. the updated draft summary booklet designed to sit alongside the final Plan.
3. We propose you forward these papers to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) for feedback, prior to finalisation of the papers and circulation to Ministers.
4. Key themes from engagement have helped officials identify where there are opportunities to sharpen actions or make stronger commitments to the intention of proposed future actions in the National Adaptation Plan. Additional actions are proposed that will go some way to addressing what we have heard through consultation.
5. These actions cover different parts of the plan and Ministerial portfolios. The majority sit within the system-wide and economy and financial system chapters.

6. s 9(2)(f)(iv)



7. s 9(2)(g)(i)



8. s 9(2)(n)(i)



## Recommendations

We recommend that you:

- a. **note** the attached draft CRMG papers set out:
  - i. a summary of key themes from public consultation on the draft Plan, s 9(2)(g)(i) [REDACTED]
  - ii. the updated draft summary booklet designed to sit alongside the final Plan.
- b. **forward** the draft CRMG papers to the Prime Minister for feedback
 

Yes/No
- c. **provide** consolidated feedback on these papers by Thursday 16 June, so papers can be updated and returned to you for circulation in weekend bags
 

Yes/No
- d. s 9(2)(g)(i) [REDACTED]
- e. **note** that the scope and remit of the climate change interdepartmental executive board will need to be expanded in order for it to have a role in respect of the National Adaptation Plan.

## Signature

Katherine Wilson Director – Climate Adaptation and Evidence Climate Directorate	Electronically approved by Katherine Wilson
Date	14 June 2022

Hon. James Shaw Minister of Climate Change	
Date	

## BRF-1178 – National Adaptation Plan – initial advice following consultation and draft CRMG papers for feedback

### Purpose

1. This briefing seeks your feedback on draft papers for the next meeting of the Climate Response Ministers Group (CRMG) on Monday 20 June.
2. The attached papers seek CRMG's direction on additional actions for inclusion in the final National Adaptation Plan. We are providing these draft papers now for feedback from you and from the Prime Minister's Office prior to circulation to CRMG.

### Context

3. Public consultation on the draft National Adaptation Plan (the Plan) closed on Friday 3 June 2020.
4. To meet the statutory deadline for publication of the Plan by 3 August 2022, Cabinet are due to consider the final National Adaptation Plan on 1 August 2020. The final National Adaptation Plan and associated Cabinet paper are currently due to be circulated for ministerial consultation from 1 – 14 July.
5. s 9(2)(g)(i) [Redacted]
6. s 9(2)(g)(i) [Redacted]
7. A summary of key themes from public consultation on the draft Plan, advice on areas where the Government could be more ambitious and several recommended in-principle decisions on actions in the final Plan are outlined in Paper 1 (attached).
8. Paper 2 provides an indication of what the designed version of the summary booklet will look like. We are sharing the narrative now for any early feedback. We are continuing to work through this with agencies. This will also be updated following direction from CRMG.

### Analysis and advice

#### **Key themes from public consultation on the draft National Adaptation Plan**

*Targeted engagement with local government, iwi/Māori, business and Pasifika groups was held to support these groups make submissions on the National Adaptation Plan*

9. Public consultation took place between 27 April and 3 June. Several targeted engagement sessions took place during this period, including:
  - two local government workshops
  - five workshops with iwi/Māori, facilitated by Ihirangi
  - four workshops with Pacific communities, facilitated by the Pacific Advisory Group
  - one business community workshop, facilitated by the Sustainable Business Council
  - two public webinars
  - Treasury-led workshop on flood insurance with ICNZ flood working group.

10. Engagement was also supported by a social media campaign, website information videos, and supporting summary resources, including:

- a pre-recorded video presentation providing a high-level overview of the draft Plan and managed retreat content
- a summary document to support the technical draft
- fact sheets targeted at local government and disproportionately impacted groups (Māori, Pacific people, disabled people, rural communities, younger New Zealanders, and older New Zealanders). These explained how climate change might impact these groups and highlighted relevant sections and actions in the draft Plan.

11. A key theme that emerged from engagement is the need for more detail on actions that will unlock investment in climate resilience. Participants raised the importance of:

- ensuring that equity is considered in funding for adaptation
- the need for resources and financial support to effectively develop and implement local adaptation plans
- the development of a strategic policy framework that would outline where funding will come from.

12. There are several other themes arising from these workshops. These themes are outlined in the table below.

*Table 1: Themes from planned engagement with local government, iwi/Māori, Pacific communities, and businesses.*

Group	Key themes
Local Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central government funding for local government adaptation action.</li> <li>• Strong support for central government led tools and guidance.</li> <li>• Uncertainty about how the multitude of system reforms would be implemented and integrate/align.</li> <li>• The need for consistent public messaging from central and local government on adaptation.</li> <li>• Managed retreat proposals.</li> </ul>
Iwi/Māori	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong interest in involvement in policy on managed retreat: costs, equity, processes.</li> <li>• The language used within the national adaptation plan needs to better reflect te ao Māori.</li> <li>• The need for stronger partnership with Māori on the development and decision-making processes of climate actions specific for iwi, hapū, and Māori.</li> <li>• There is a need for greater clarification on how funding will be equitable.</li> </ul>
Pacific communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater alignment with Ministry for Pacific People (MPP) to assist with the delivery of key messages to Pacific communities. This will help to make language used in the national adaptation plan more accessible.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognition of indigenous Pasifika voices and solutions as many have been living with climate change for years and have learnt to adapt and build resilience.</li> <li>• The national adaptation plan should not be 'fixed' but flexible to reflect current adaptative measures.</li> <li>• Support for Pasifika households to adapt.</li> </ul>
Businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for a partnership approach between businesses and Government.</li> <li>• Further clarity is needed on roles and responsibilities for businesses and who will pay for costs of implementation.</li> <li>• The need for a long-term framework (30-100 years) on climate action to support business planning. More data is needed to support this.</li> <li>• Interaction between the national adaptation plan and other areas of work.</li> </ul>

*The themes we heard through engagement are broadly consistent with initial themes we are seeing in submissions*

13. In total, we received 294 submissions on the draft national adaptation plan. Many submissions are from organisations, rather than individuals. Some themes we heard through engagement have been reaffirmed within the submissions analysed so far.

14. You will receive a more detailed draft report on submissions analysis on Thursday (16 June).

*Submitters called for a greater sense of urgency for action as New Zealanders are experiencing the impacts of climate change now.*

15. In response to the call for a greater sense of urgency for action we've identified several potential new actions for consideration. Attached is a draft CRMG paper to seek Ministerial direction on which to progress further.

16. Many themes raised through submissions can be addressed through providing greater detail about the planned work programme for actions already included in the Plan.

17. s 9(2)(g)(i) [Redacted]

18. s 9(2)(g)(i) [Redacted]

*More action to unlock investment in climate resilience was considered essential for disproportionately impacted communities.*

19. In response to the call for more action to unlock investment in climate resilience we have proposed two new actions for consideration.

20. s 9(2)(f)(iv) [Redacted]

[Redacted]

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

22. s 9(2)(f)(iv)

23. s 9(2)(f)(iv)

*Greater clarity was also requested on how and when government would evolve cost sharing frameworks*

24. In response to calls for more clarity regarding the division of responsibilities and costs between businesses and government we have proposed the following new action for consideration.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

28. s 9(2)(g)(i)

*There were also specific calls to stop development in risky places*

29. Submitters wanted more detail on how the Plan will address this in both the short and long term. In particular, they sought clarity on what more can be done during the transition to a new resource management (RM) system and alongside the implementation of the National Disaster Resilience Strategy.

30. s 9(2)(g)(i)

31. The RM Reform Ministerial Oversight Group has agreed that under the new RM system, the National Planning Framework (NPF) will contain direction on natural hazard risk reduction and climate change adaptation.

32. In time, this will mean that the combination of NPF, Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS) and Natural and Built Environments Plans will be better at directing development to occur in areas that will be climate resilient, and preventing it from occurring in inappropriately risky locations.

33. While there are existing RMA provisions<sup>1</sup> that could enable councils to restrict development in inappropriately risky locations, practice on the ground and submissions on the draft Plan indicate that greater regulatory direction is needed during the period of transition to the new RM system.

34. In-principle decisions 2-5 all respond to the call for urgency to stop development in inappropriately risky places. s 9(2)(f)(iv) & s 9(2)(g)(i)

36. s 9(2)(h)

37. This action will help to restrict new development in places of high risk from natural hazards and climate change in the short-term.

38. These actions all sit with Minister Parker under the Environment portfolio. We are also providing advice to the Minister for the Environment on these proposed actions.

*There was wide support for climate hazard and risk information to be publicly accessible*

39. Submitters were resoundingly positive about the intention to develop an adaptation information portal. They recognised the importance of centrally collating data and information for climate decision making for all types of users.

40. Submitters told us specific information needs, scenarios, and types of tools they want included in the portal. Suggestions were also made about involving end users in data collection and portal development. Other uses of the portal were suggested, such as for peer-to-peer sharing of best practices and building new networks.

41. The development of an information portal is a critical action in the Plan and in-principle decision 1. Bringing together data and information for climate decision making is crucial to helping New Zealanders understand the risks facing their communities and strategies they can use to adapt.

42. There is urgency in delivering this action because of the high need for data and information for climate decisions emerging through the system. The Climate Related Disclosures legislation, the need for local and regional risk assessments, and the increase in acute and non-acute climate events that need planning for and responding to all create demand for authoritative and accessible climate hazard data. This is a necessary pre-requisite for informed adaptation decisions.

*To give confidence the actions in the Plan are effective you asked for some initial advice on potential leading indicators*

43. This job of this first Plan is to deliver the building blocks of long-term resilience. This means having actions that turn high level strategy and objectives into meaningful and sustained action on the ground.

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<sup>1</sup> Resource Management Act sections 6(h), 7(i), 30(1)(c), 31(1)(b), 62(1)(i), 65(3)(c) 74(1)(a), 106 and 220 all confer various powers and obligations on local authorities in respect of natural hazards and the effects of climate change.

44. We have undertaken an initial assessment of tangible lead indicators to measure the Plan's three strategic goals. The aim was to identify possible lead indicators to allow us to assess the effectiveness of the Plan over the long term.

45. The three Plan goals are based on the Paris Agreement Global Goal on Adaptation. There are examples of indicators that can be drawn from at the international level, particularly those used to track progress on the Sustainable Development Goals.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

*Overseeing the implementation of the National Adaptation Plan*

50. The draft NAP set out that successful implementation of the Plan will require action across government, and that strong governance and accountability mechanisms are needed to make continuous progress.

51. An Interdepartmental Executive Board (IEB) is being established to oversee the emissions reduction plan. Cabinet decisions formally establishing the IEB and setting out its role in respect of the Emissions Reduction Plan are anticipated shortly. This CRMG session is a chance to test the intention to expand the scope and remit of the IEB to cover the NAP, which could then be formalised alongside final decisions on the NAP.

52. s 9(2)(g)(i)

53. Many of the actions we are seeking agreement to at CRMG will require ongoing ministerial coordination throughout implementation phases of this first Plan.

**Next steps**

54. Following your and the Prime Minister's feedback on the draft papers, we will finalise the papers for circulation to CRMG, ahead of the meeting on 20 June.

55. On Thursday 16 June, we will provide you with a detailed summary of submissions and early draft Cabinet paper seeking agreement to finalisation of the Plan for publication.