



MP for Tāmaki Makaurau

Minister of Civil Defence

Minister for Whānau Ora

Minister for Youth

Associate Minister of Health (Māori Health)

Associate Minister of Tourism

24 SEP 2019

Mr Greg Brownless
Chair, Joint Committee
Bay of Plenty Civil Defence Emergency Management Group
PO Box 364
Whakatane

Ref: PH 2019/20 - 006

Tēnā koe Mayor Brownless

Thank you for your email of 2 September 2019 requesting clarification on where disaster relief funds will fit into the new National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

Establishing a disaster relief fund is a decision for city and district councils to make. Having a relief fund pre-established, however, with terms of reference and governance set out in advance of an emergency is something I'd strongly encourage.

Central government can contribute to disaster relief funds and the policy for this is set out in the National Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan 2015 and Guide to the Plan. The basis and amount of any contribution varies depending on the circumstances of the emergency.

In determining what support the Government might give a disaster relief fund, advice is currently taken from the Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management. I anticipate the NEMA will perform a similar function as per the existing policy in the Plan and Guide once the Agency is established and replaces the Ministry.

Thank you for taking the time to write to me.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peeni Henare'.

Hon Peeni Henare

Minister of Civil Defence