

MINISTERIAL BRIEFING NOTE

Subject	East Coast Recovery Alliance Signing event
Date	10 July 2023
Briefing number	BRI-2813

Contact(s) for telephone discussion (if required)				
Name	Position	Direct line	Cell phone	1 st contact
Neil Walker	National Recovery Manager	s 9(2)(a)		✓
Robyn Elston	Acting Group General Manager, Transport Services			

Action taken by Office of the Minister

- ☐ Noted
- ☐ Seen by Minister
- ☐ Agreed
- ☐ Feedback provided
- ☐ Forwarded to
- ☐ Needs change [please specify]
- ☐ Withdrawn
- ☐ Overtaken by events

10 July 2023

Hon Kiri Allan, Associate Minister of Transport

East Coast Recovery Alliance Signing

Purpose

1. This briefing provides you with information about the East Coast Recovery Alliance, prior to the Alliance announcement on 11 July 2023, from 11am to 12pm.

Project funding and costs

2. The full cost of the recovery across Tairāwhiti and Te Matau a Māui is unknown at this stage.

Project features

3. Key features of the East Coast Recovery Alliance include:
 - Maintenance and operations of the existing state highway network across the Tairāwhiti and Hawke's Bay regions, as well as the Bay of Plenty East network, east of Ōpōtiki (both State Highway 2 and State Highway 35).
 - Recovery work to reinstate the existing state highway network back to the original level of service.
 - Rebuild work to improve the resilience of the state highway network.

Project benefits

4. Key benefits of the East Coast Recovery Alliance include:
 - Due to the cost/productivity focus and transparent risk allocation to those best placed to manage it, an alliance model, similar to what has been used for large scale recovery projects (such as the Christchurch and Kaikōura earthquake recoveries), is well suited to projects with high levels of uncertainty and where there is a need for pace and flexibility.
 - The Alliance will be delivery focused (design and construction) but will also add wider value including:
 - Enhancement of the industry recovery capability (asset owners and suppliers).
 - Development of local relationships.

- Delivery efficiency through a co-ordinated work programme across maintenance & operations, recovery, and rebuild.
- Economic, environmental, social, and cultural benefits through using locally owned business' (including civil contractors and suppliers), increased employment opportunities for local residents, and the flow-on effect through the regional economy.
- Prioritisation of local contractors and suppliers, which will grow capability in the region.

Project context

5. The East Coast Alliance is the design and delivery model for the physical works recovery across Tairāwhiti and Te Matau a Māui and is a key part of the wider, weather recovery across the upper North Island.

Key messages

6. Key messages for the East Coast Recovery Alliance include:
 - An alliance model is being used to drive the recovery across the East Coast.
 - Waka Kotahi has experience using this model for recovery work in areas such as Christchurch (Stronger Christchurch Infrastructure Rebuild Team) and Kaikōura (North Canterbury Transport Infrastructure Recovery).
 - The alliance model works well because it is agile and flexible, and can be scaled up or down over time, depending on the scope of work it is required to deliver.
 - The Alliance will be the delivery machine for Waka Kotahi, KiwiRail and any other asset owners that wish to utilise the model.
 - The first stage was to set up an interim alliance agreement, which has been in place for approximately three months.
 - The interim stage allowed Waka Kotahi to work together with KiwiRail and the Tier 1 contractors to agree on the commercial and procurement framework that everyone will operate under for the full Alliance.
 - Some emergency works have been undertaken on the KiwiRail network during the interim phase.
 - For the remaining winter months, work on the ground will continue to focus on restoring access to communities, while also confirming scope of works and planning how these will be undertaken.
 - When warmer, drier weather is experienced towards the end of the year, work to repair roads will start to take place.
 - The Alliance is expected to be in place for several years, depending on the full scope of works and funding availability.

- Local contractors and consultants will have their role to play in the Alliance model and wider rebuild. Engagement with these groups has been taking place through the interim phase.
- The Alliance is expected to have a positive social and economic impact on the East Coast.

Ministerial – Media Announcement

7. The event will be held at the Downer Gisborne Depot, 187 Awapuni Rod, Awapuni, Gisborne 4010
8. Speeches, a photo opportunity, and a meet and greet with local contractor staff will take place.

Key attendees to acknowledge

9. The key attendees invited for the alliance signing ceremony include the following:
 - Mark Kinvig, National Manager Infrastructure Delivery, Waka Kotahi
 - Neil Walker, National Manager Recovery, Waka Kotahi
 - Jaclyn Hankin, Regional Manager Maintenance & Operations, Waka Kotahi
 - s 9(2)(a), General Manager – Transport, Central Region, Downer
 - s 9(2)(a), CEO, Fletcher Construction
 - s 9(2)(a), CEO, Fulton Hogan
 - s9(2)(a) Executive General Manager – Construction, KiwiRail

Media

10. We expect national media interest.
11. Recent media activity has largely been focused on our response to the recent weather event in late June 2023 or has highlighted achievements such as the opening of the Hikuwai Bailey bridge. There was significant media coverage of the interim agreement in mid-April, which was announced by press release.

Possible concerns

12. s 9(2)(g)(i) [Redacted]
13. s 9(2)(g)(i) [Redacted]
14. Orders in Council have been developed by Te Manatū Waka – Ministry of Transport recently (as allowed for under the Severe Weather Emergency Recovery Legislation

Act) in order to update laws so that rebuild work may be able to proceed faster than usual, without the usual consents required. Consultation on these Orders has moved at pace and in some cases online, s 9(2)(g)(i)

It is recommended that you:

15. Note the contents of this briefing.
16. Forward this briefing to Hon Grant Robertson, Minister for Cyclone Recovery.



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Neil Walker

National Manager Recovery

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Hon Kiritapu Allan Associate Minister of Transport

Date: July 2023