



**27 July
2023**



Community update

Titirangi Laingholm cyclone recovery

The Tāmaki Makaurau Recovery Office will be sending out this update when new information related to the Titirangi / Laingholm recovery is available.

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Have we got your details?

If you've received this newsletter via email, then we're all good – we have your correct contact details.

If it has been passed on to you by someone else or you're reading it via a website or social media channel, you can sign-up to receive this newsletter directly to your inbox.

Privacy and spam regulations don't allow us to use your contact details from existing council information for general communications, so if you would like to receive updates, we need you to [sign up via this online form](#).

We hope that the information in the updates will be relevant for most community members, so please also help us spread the word on this update to your neighbours and friends in Titirangi / Laingholm.

Rates relief approved

This afternoon, Auckland Council's Governing Body approved full rates relief for uninhabitable properties affected in the extreme weather events in the first half of 2023. This will be for the full rating year – July 2023 to June 2024 and applies to properties uninhabitable as at 30 June 2023.

Red placard properties will be automatically eligible, other uninhabitable properties will need to apply.

We know you will have questions about how this will work. We're preparing more information which will be available online shortly. We will also send you an email update when this is available.

Temporary accommodation assistance

Last week the Government [announced](#) from 4 September, people who were displaced from their homes by the extreme weather events earlier this year will be able to receive interim financial support when their insurance payments for temporary accommodation run out.

How will it work?

Direct weekly payments will match your actual weekly rent, with different caps for different household situations:

Household situation	Maximum weekly payment
A couple with two or more children / a single parent with three or more children	\$610
A couple with one child / a single parent with two children	\$560
A couple with no children or a single parent with one child	\$480
Single person	\$330

Displaced families eligible for this payment can receive a lump sum payment covering them from as early as 1 June 2023.

Applications can be submitted through [MyMSD](#) from 21 August.

Am I eligible?

- You must have a tenancy agreement from before 19 July 2023, and have been displaced from the home you own following the extreme weather earlier this year.
- If you are still receiving temporary accommodation assistance from your insurer, you will only be eligible for the package once this cover runs out. Payments will not be means-tested, but you will be asked to declare that you have taken reasonable steps to limit the cost of your temporary accommodation and MSD will be able to take into account your wider financial circumstances.

- Payments can only be used for private rentals, not commercial accommodation such as hotels and motels.
- You will not be eligible if you are already receiving the Accommodation Supplement or the Student Allowance Accommodation Benefit.

More information about eligibility criteria and how to access the payments are available in the Government FAQs here: <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2023-07/NIWE-TAA-QA.pdf>.

Categorisation update

We understand that affected property owners in your community are seeking certainty about your future as soon as possible. We acknowledge that many people are in stressful situations and are financially stretched, but please be assured we are working as fast as we can to provide certainty on next steps.

We hope that the Government's new temporary accommodation financial support will ease some of the financial burden for many households whose insurance support is running out.

Government proposed buyout programme for Category 3 homes

We are currently in the final stages of discussion and negotiations with central government on funding arrangements for Category 2 and 3 homes. This will be a buyout programme of unprecedented scale and cost to Auckland ratepayers, and we ask for patience as we work through these complex details. We may need to consult with Aucklanders around the funding arrangements and remediation works (e.g. house removal and new infrastructure).

We hope to be able to share details soon – the Cyclone Recovery Minister indicated the Government wishes to complete this process by the end of July, and we will make announcements as soon as possible. We will also be able to set expected timeframes for buyouts in the coming weeks.

We acknowledge that the process has been delayed from the original timeframe set by the Government in May, however there are many significant decisions to be made on extremely complicated issues, and we're balancing the need for certainty quickly with the need to get the process right.

Support for processing home insurance claims

If you would like support and advice on your residential home insurance claim, the New Zealand Claims Resolutions Service (NZCRS) can help: <https://www.nzcrs.govt.nz/about-us/>

The NZCRS is a **free service** that provides residential homeowners with advice, case management support where appropriate and access to legal, technical and wellbeing services to help them achieve timely, fair and enduring resolution of their residential insurance claims resulting from natural disasters.

They are there to help whether you are unsure by what your insurer is telling you or have specific questions about either your insurance policy or the process that will be followed to settle your claim.

You can contact NZCRS on 0508 624 327, email contact@nzcrs.govt.nz or visit nzcrs.govt.nz

Auckland Transport (AT) update

Titirangi Road: Repair work at the pedestrian crossing outside 418 Titirangi Road has temporarily paused to finalise the consent process regarding the mature native trees at this location. There will be an update from AT once the consent process is completed.

Takahe Road: Geotechnical drilling and designs are complete at the slip location. This area is being controlled with traffic lights and remains open to all residents and services.

Paturoa Road: Geotechnical investigations are now complete, and designs are in progress. The section of road outside number 15 is closed, however residents and services have full access from either side of the slip.

Otitori Bay Road remains closed for construction, with safety procedures in place. Work is programmed to begin in two weeks.

Scenic Drive: The section between Huia Road and Woodlands Park Road is open with traffic lights at the sites of the two underslips.

For the latest information on open roads and lane closures you can keep updated via the AT website [here](#).

Rapid Building Assessments update

Updated placard status numbers in Titirangi/Laingholm as of 8am Tuesday 25th July:

- Red 1 9
- Red 2 8
- Yellow 1 63
- Yellow 2 4
- White 0

There are different reasons why these numbers may differ each week, including:

- If remedial action has been confirmed and approved by the council's compliance team, then the placard can be noted as closed and removed off the list.
- It is identified as a duplicate and removed.
- A building with multiple units was allocated a single placard when it should have had a placard allocated for each address.

Visit the [Auckland Council website](#) to learn more about what the placard colours mean.

Stickered Titirangi Area Residents (STAR) Group

Any residents with yellow or red placards in the Green Bay, Titirangi, Laingholm and Huia area who wish to join the Stickered Titirangi Area Residents (Star) Group, please contact Michael on stickeredtitirangiresidentsgrp@gmail.com

Need mental health support?

If you need mental health support, such as help with anxiety, financial help, support for young people, or you'd like to know how you can help others, please visit the [Auckland Council website for a list of available services](#).

Previous newsletters

If you're new to the Titirangi/Laingholm Newsletter, please visit our website to read [previous editions](#).



Need help?



Visit: <http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/titirangiandlaingholm-community-newsletters>
Enquire: recoveryoffice@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or rbacomms@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



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