

By email

19 June 2025

Hon Shane Jones
Minister for Regional Infrastructure
shane.jones@parliament.govt.nz

Tēnā koe Minister,

Building flood resilience in New Zealand – next steps

On behalf of Te Uru Kahika I would like to thank you for taking the time to meet with us on the afternoon of Tuesday 17 June and your leadership in this critical area. We greatly appreciated the opportunity to discuss our proposals for improving flood protection infrastructure and regional resilience with urgency.

We acknowledge your continued support for regional infrastructure investment and welcome the constructive dialogue shared during our meeting. As discussed, we are committed to progressing the following action points:

1. Preparation of a Business Case for the Next Tranche of Investment

We will develop a business case for a further round of investment in flood protection infrastructure – tentatively titled Before the Deluge 3.0 – with the aim of submitting this to you by the end of September 2025.

2. Development of a Long-Term Investment Pipeline

In parallel, we will continue to prepare a comprehensive business case outlining a case for a longer-term pipeline of investment in flood protection infrastructure. This will sustain business confidence to invest in supporting and growing safety and productivity in the regions.

3. Collaboration with Kānoa Officials

We will work closely with officials from Kānoa – Regional Economic Development & Investment Unit – to ensure the information is robust, well-presented, and aligned with government expectations.

4. Work Programme Refinement

We will work across the sector to de-prioritise any flood initiatives where implementation has not met commencement deadlines. These will be replaced by initiatives which are ready to go. Laggards will be sent to the “back of the bus”.





Regional and
Unitary Councils
Aotearoa

We look forward to maintaining a strong partnership with you and your officials as we advance these initiatives. Please do not hesitate to reach out if there are any further details or support we can provide.

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daran Ponter".

Daran Ponter
on behalf of the Chairs and Mayors of Regional and Unitary Councils of NZ

CC:
Chairs and Mayors of Regional and Unitary Councils
Fiona McTavish, Convenor, Regional Chief Executives Group
Iain Maxwell, Executive Director, Te Uru Kahika

