

Report **04.189**
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Committee **CDEM Group**
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Representation on the Co-ordinating Executive Group

1. Purpose

To inform the CDEM Group about expressions of interest received from other organisations about representation on the Co-ordinating Executive Group (CEG).

2. Background

Section 20 (1) of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 (the Act) states:

A Civil Defence Emergency Management Group must establish and maintain a Civil Defence Emergency Management Co-ordinating Executive Group consisting of:

the chief executive officer of each member local authority or a person acting on the chief executive officer's behalf; and

a senior member of the police who is assigned for the purpose by the Commissioner of Police; and

a senior member of the Fire Service who is assigned for the purpose by the National Commander; and

the chief executive officer of the hospital and health services operating in the area or a person acting on the chief executive officer's behalf; and

any other persons that may be co-opted by the Civil Defence Emergency Management Group.

Civil Defence Emergency Management Groups (CDEM Groups) in other regions have co-opted additional members to their CEGs. In some cases CEGs have more than twenty members.

3. Expressions of interest to join CEG

Expressions of interest to participate in the Wellington Region's CEG have been received by email from the New Zealand Coast Guard, while Wellington Free Ambulance and the Public Health Service have made their requests at Emergency Services Co-ordinating Committee (ESCC) meetings.

It is likely that other emergency management role-players, such as Regional Rural Fire, Wellington Engineering Lifelines, Wairarapa Lifelines Association, Red Cross, Salvation Army etc, will also show an interest to join because they are already participating in other CEGs.

4. Existing civil defence emergency management

There are a number of emergency management related committees currently operating in this region that co-ordinate the activities of the organisations mentioned above. These are:

- Emergency Services Co-ordinating Committees (Kapiti, Porirua, Wellington, Hutt Valley, and the Wairarapa)
- The Wellington Engineering Lifelines Group
- The Wairarapa Lifelines Association
- The Hazardous Substances Technical Liaison Committee

These committees offer an opportunity for a wide range of organisations to participate effectively in civil defence emergency management.

5. Discussion

At the present time, there are structures in place for a wide range of organisations with roles and responsibilities in emergency management to participate. It could be unwieldy for the CEG to expand to incorporate other interested organisations. A larger membership could hamper the effectiveness of the CEG.

The entire committee structure will be reviewed as part of the CDEM Group Plan preparation process, and it may be that some changes will be made.

At this time it is suggested that the organisations that have requested membership of the CEG remain within the current committee structure of the Region where they are already adequately represented.

This issue was discussed at the last CEG meeting on 22 March 2004 and it was resolved that the CDEM Group be advised to maintain the current composition of the CEG and that organisations be advised of any decision made.

6. Recommendation

- 1. That the report be received and the contents noted.*
- 2. That the current composition of the Co-ordinating Executive Group be maintained.*
- 3. That the Chairperson of the CEG advise those organisations that have expressed an interest in joining the CEG of the above decision.*

Report prepared by:

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