

Report 10.548
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Committee CEG
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CDEM Support for Canterbury Earthquake

1. Purpose

To inform the Co-ordinating Executive Group (CEG) about the Wellington Region CDEM Group support provided to the Canterbury CDEM Group.

2. Background

At 04:35am on Saturday, 4 September 2010, a magnitude 7.1 earthquake rocked Christchurch and rural Canterbury. The earthquake was centred 40 km west from Christchurch and was only 10 km deep.

The earthquake left widespread damage to approximately 100,000 homes, more than a hundred CBD buildings and infrastructure such as water supply networks, sewage systems, electricity, storm water, and roads.

3. Wellington CDEM Group Support

The National Crisis Management Centre (NCMC) was activated shortly after the earthquake and the Wellington Region CDEM Group was formally notified within an hour of the earthquake happening.

At about 10:30am on Saturday the NCMC sent out a request to the CDEM Groups around New Zealand requesting staff support to the NCMC. The Wellington Region CDEM Group office notified all its emergency management officers in the region and a quick list was compiled of the available staff. All the emergency management staff in the region made themselves available immediately. A number of staff were rostered to assist at the NCMC during the Saturday and Sunday.

On Monday 6 September several requests for staff and other resources started to come in from Canterbury. A formal process has been followed where requests from Canterbury were sent to the NCMC and the NCMC in turn sent out the request to CDEM Groups to action. The Wellington Region CDEM Group office co-ordinated all the local requests. However, informal

arrangements between Christchurch City Council and Wellington City Council resulted in many resources deployed to Christchurch without going through the formal process.

4. Conclusion

Greater Wellington Regional Council and all the territorial authorities in the region made their resources available in support to Canterbury.

As at 17 September 2010 eighteen emergency management officers, four public information managers, forty welfare staff, ten building inspectors and several water and waste water repair teams had been deployed

The co-ordination of resources (equipment, material and staff) for Canterbury is ongoing. **Attachment 1** shows the type of requests received from Canterbury and the NCMC and the Group's response to those requests.

5. Recommendations

That CEG:

1. *Notes the contents of the report*
2. *Endorses the providing of resources to the Canterbury Group in support of their earthquake response and recovery processes.*

Report prepared by:

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Attachment 1: Official requests to Wellington Region CDEM Group Emergency Co-ordination Centre (GECC) – Canterbury earthquake September 2010