

**Report**            **03.427**  
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**Committee**      **Civil Defence Emergency Management Group**  
**Author**          **Roger Blakeley, Chairperson, Interim Co-ordinating  
Executive Group**

## **Report on the progress of Group work programmes**

### **1. Purpose**

To update the CDEM Group on progress with the Group work programmes.

### **2. Background**

Report 03.237 to the 15 May 2003 meeting of the Group outlined a number of collective work programmes that were planned or underway to improve our resilience to emergency events. The programmes were developed following lessons learned during “Exercise Phoenix”, the major earthquake exercise held in July 2002. The programmes will all feed into the development of the CDEM Group Plan.

### **3. Progress**

The twelve regional projects are listed below, together with an update on progress.

#### **1. Emergency Water Supply**

##### *Aim*

To ensure that we have an adequate supply of water following a major emergency event, especially a major earthquake.

##### *Progress*

The issues and possible solutions associated with post-earthquake water supply to the metropolitan areas have been identified. The project has now moved into an implementation phase and requires input from all Council asset managers and emergency managers. A Communications Group formed from the Wellington Metropolitan Emergency Water Supply Planning Group met in June and has agreed on strategies. They are:

- to investigate the feasibility of providing plastic containers to the public

- to identify and work through technical and regulatory issues associated with encouraging the installation of storage tanks in houses and apartments
- to prepare a summary of commercially available storage tanks
- to review existing post-event communications messages.

## **2. Road Access Restoration Plan**

### *Aim*

To prioritise the roads in the region as to which will be restored first following a major emergency event to enable effective resource and commuter movements. It also aims to identify and reduce resource constraints on how roads will be cleared. This project has strong links to the regional reconnaissance project.

### *Progress*

Engaged with Transit NZ, councils carried out weak-link analysis. Further work is necessary on utilities access analysis, linkage to the regional reconnaissance plan and a linkage to roading contractors.

## **3. Regional Reconnaissance Plan**

### *Aim*

To develop a plan for regional reconnaissance during a catastrophic emergency event.

### *Progress*

Emergency responders and lifeline utilities have provided information about their most critical facilities in the region that will need to be operational immediately following a major emergency. Communication has been made with a range of regional utilities, health providers, lifelines groups and emergency service agencies seeking the identification of specific significant sites and any existing plans. To date approximately two thirds have responded.

Further work is now necessary on building regional reconnaissance planning from city/district level, linkages with search and rescue, linkages with roading plans and the movement of key personnel and key agencies.

## **4. Emergency Communications**

### *Aim*

To ensure that we have robust communications systems in place for major emergency events.

### *Progress*

A project brief has been developed for a communications consultant to assess the current alternative systems, or system enhancements, that would make an operational system for the CDEM Group. Funding has been allocated for this research and Greater Wellington has allocated funding in 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 for implementation of the recommended system. Proposals were received for the emergency communications system project. These proposals will be evaluated on 28 July, a consultant appointed by 1 August and the contract finalised by 8 August. The consultant will provide a progress report on 15 September, and the final report will be received by GWRC on 30 November 2003.

Following approval by the CDEM Group regarding the recommendations from this report, implementation will commence during the 2004/5 financial year.

## **5. Commuter Management**

### *Aim*

To ensure that plans are in place to look after commuters and return them home following an emergency in which access between our cities and districts is restricted. Later movements of commuters for work access will be part of recovery management planning.

### *Progress*

A workshop programmed for the end of July has the objective of preparing an action plan. The action plan will include a region wide strategy, publicity on risk advice and a linkage with city/district assembly area plans.

## **6. External Logistics Supply**

### *Aim*

To establish and maintain arrangements for external supply of critical resources and personnel into the Wellington region, and to support and sustain the emergency response immediately following a region wide impact hazard event.

### *Progress*

A project plan has been put together, organisations that need to be involved have been contacted and from September 2003 several tasks are planned to obtain the desired outcomes. The tasks include verifying external resources and personnel supply lists with regional emergency services, verifying impact damage with transportation owners, developing a worst case external supply strategy and verifying external supply chain and movement control needs. The latter will include linkages with other CDEMG's, Defence Force, local, national, and international agencies.

## **7. Urban Search and Rescue capability enhancement**

### *Aim*

To develop a regional Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) management framework to enable competent location of casualties, extraction and ongoing medical care.

### *Progress*

A comprehensive regional search and rescue strategy incorporating recommended actions across readiness and response is being developed. In addition, work is underway to significantly raise the capability of local resources and arrangements and to integrate local and regional response levels with local and external teams and national management where required.

## **8. CDEM Group Public Education Strategy**

### *Aim*

To develop a CDEM Group public education strategy in line with the National Public Education Strategy.

### *Progress*

This project is underway and there is no specific progress to report.

## **9. Emergency Fuel Supply**

### *Aim*

To develop arrangements for supply of petroleum fuel for emergency response vehicles (and aircraft) during a catastrophic emergency event.

### *Progress*

A framework for regional emergency fuel supply arrangements was put into place in March 2003. The framework covers vehicle fuel, aviation fuel, sources, extraction, petroleum companies, fuel tankers, conservation of fuel, fuel safety, fuel stocks and distribution methods.

Further work is in progress covering contractors, emergency services, councils' capabilities and responsibilities and linking with the roading access strategy.

## **10. CDEM Group Response Capability Development**

### *Aim*

To review the functioning of the Emergency Operations Centres of the CDEM Group with particular regard to the hazardscape of the region.

### *Progress*

There is no progress to report.

## **11. Hazard Analysis and Management**

### *Aim*

To provide a comprehensive assessment of hazards in the Region.

### *Progress*

An earthquake fault trace survey was completed for Kapiti Coast District Council with support from Greater Wellington.

Two new hazard fact sheets have been developed that cover the general effects of flooding, and the flooding hazard in the Wairarapa. Work has begun on hazard fact sheets for flooding in the Hutt Valley and Kapiti. General audiences and schools use these sheets.

The annual projects arising from the Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan have led to new flood maps for emergency managers being developed. Planning has also begun on specific contingency arrangements for high risk areas.

Hazard summary sheets are being prepared to form the basis of the hazard analysis for the CDEM Group Plan.

## **12. Medical Logistics**

### *Aim*

To ensure plans are in place to provide critical supplies to give continuing care to mass casualties where movement within the region is limited in an emergency.

### *Progress*

Supply lists have been prepared, the Ministry of Health has restarted national co-ordination, the District Health Boards in Wellington and Auckland are in liaison and a policy to support the injured within the region is in the process of being prepared. Further work is required regarding staff support and medical emergency communications with the Ministry of Health and to organisations external to the Wellington region.

## **4. Recommendation**

1. *That the Group receives the report and notes its contents.*

Report prepared by:

**Roger Blakeley**  
Chairperson  
Interim Co-ordinating Executive Group