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Committee       CDEM Group  
Author           Dr Roger Blakeley, Chair Co-ordinating Executive  
                         Group

## **Spontaneous Volunteer Management System**

### **1. Purpose**

To provide the CDEM Group with and update on the management of Spontaneous Volunteers within the region

### **2. Background**

The Wellington Region Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan recorded a number of work programme activities proposed for the 2005 – 2009 period.

This particular proposal was raised as one aspect where all the Local Authorities could bring together their expertise in dealing with spontaneous volunteers.

Spontaneous volunteers were identified as being of great benefit to the sector however they could not be confused or fused into the activities of the professional emergency management services.

### **3. Current situation**

Each Local Authority has developed independent systems over the years based on operational experience. That experience has developed particular to the environment and community where incidents have taken place.

A working group of Emergency Managers considered each others' processes and found that there was value in each of the practices that had evolved, however one particular management style for all would not work for each area.

In 2008 the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management produced a best practice guide that encapsulated the discussions of the working group.

## 4. Conclusion

It was the view of the Emergency Managers that the Ministry's Best Practice Guide (BPG3/09) should form the basis for individual Local Authorities within the Group to prepare for and manage their spontaneous volunteers. This decision also took into consideration the findings the working group had come to regarding the differences in environment and communities that each Local Authority faced.

## 5. Recommendations

*That the CDEM Group:*

1. ***Receives the report.***
2. ***Notes the content of the report.***
3. ***Approves the Ministry's Best Practice Guide (BPG3/09) to be the basis for individual Local Authorities within the Group to prepare for and manage their spontaneous volunteers.***
3. ***Notes that copies of the Ministry's Best Practice Guide (BPG3/09) are available at each Emergency Management office and at the Ministry's website <http://www.civildefence.govt.nz>***

Report prepared by:

**Dr Roger Blakeley**  
Chair, Co-ordinating  
Executive Group