



Unconfirmed

Minutes of a meeting of the HB Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Joint Committee

Date: 28 August 2023

Time: 1.30pm

Venue: Council Chamber
Hawke's Bay Regional Council
159 Dalton Street
NAPIER

Present: H Ormsby, Chair – HBRC
Mayor A Walker - CHBDC
Mayor S Hazlehurst – HDC
Mayor C Little – WDC
Mayor K Wise – NCC
B Barber – Ngati Kahungunu Iwi (*online*)
L Symes - Tātau Tātau o te Wairoa

In Attendance: I Macdonald – HB CDEM Group Controller
N Peet – HBRC Chief Executive
A Allan – HBRC Senior Business Partner
M McGrath – HBRC Legal Counsel
S Young – HBRC – Recovery Manager
B Allan – HDC Deputy Chief Executive
A Siddles – HBRC Acting Group Manager Corporate Services
D Tate – CHBDC Chief Executive
L Miller – NCC Chief Executive
K Tipuna – WDC Chief Executive
A Tolua – HB CDEM Team Leader Community Engagement (*online*)
A Childs – HB CDEM Team Leader Risk Reduction
P Martin – HBRC Senior Governance Advisor

1. Welcome/Karakia /Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and led an opening karakia.

2. Conflict of interest declarations

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

3. Confirmation of Minutes of the HB Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Joint Committee meeting held on 26 June 2023.

CDE18/23 Resolution

Minutes of the HB Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Joint Committee held on Monday, 26 June 2023, a copy having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read and confirmed as a true and correct record.

**Hazlehurst/Walker
CARRIED**

4. Requests for inclusion in the HBRC Long Term Plan 2024-2034

Ian Macdonald introduced the item and discussions covered:

- Workforce challenges are evident across the whole emergency management sector. There is a shortage of experienced people and high staff turnover.
- Current staff are experiencing wellbeing issues including response fatigue.
- Rising workload demands on leadership to train and support incoming staff.
- Level of service expectations from the community continue to rise as does the complexity (particularly technology and communications) and expense of managing events.
- NEMA staff levels have grown from 50 to nearly 200. As NEMA activity levels rise, there is an increasing expectation that CDEM Groups will be more involved in NEMA events, projects, consultation etc.
- When the Emergency Management Bill comes into force there are likely to be additional requirements and responsibilities placed at the regional level.
- Relationships with Iwi/mana whenua continue to be built and strengthened.
- Natural hazards – knowledge and understanding of risks has risen considerably over the past decade. Consequently Group is involved in educating communities about these. There is also a need to work strategically with councils as they develop spatial plans and land use policies.
- The Group has a need for staff in the operational readiness, administration and planning roles as well as in community engagement and long term risk reduction areas. The need for a senior operational manager role has also be identified – to provide cover for the Group Manager, be an alternative Controller and to lead Group staff including Team Leaders.
- Cyclone Gabrielle has highlighted the need for greater community support, particularly in rural areas. Councils (who are giving such support) also need assistance from Group staff to coordinate and bolster their work.
- Group has a deficit in its reserves of close to \$3m resulting from recent emergency events. Repayment of this needs to be included in the HBRC funding recommendation.
- Financial options for repayment of the deficit (incl. Cyclone Gabrielle review costs) over a five year period were discussed. Likewise, details of how to fund the increase in staff levels and to improve resources and better inform communities were discussed.
- The impact of these funding requirements is that in the first year (2024/25) costs rise by \$215,000, in year two (2025/26) by \$106,077, and in year three (2026/27) by \$119,896. All of these costs are cumulative (\$440,973) and ongoing.

- Currently the HBRC rates paid by the community to fund the Group are \$43.97p.a. (incl. GST) per rateable property. The projected rate level for 2024/25 year is \$66.84, 2024/25 year \$67.63 and 2026/27 year \$69.83.
- The Joint Committee’s input into the HBRC LTP process is to consider and confirm that the operational changes being proposed are fit for purpose. HBRC will then consider the funding recommendation/request from this meeting and make its own decisions on the financial aspects involved including what the repayment period for the deficit should be.
- Concerns were raised about the support received from NEMA during emergency events and for general preparedness. There are several Cyclone reviews underway which will enable councils to raise such issues with the relevant authorities.
- Building future resilience –past Group operational capacity has not been sufficient. There is now a need to ensure that the changes and budgets being presented at this meeting are truly sufficient for future needs.
- Looking ahead - it may be helpful to set out what the roles and responsibilities are for the HB CDEM Group, all local Councils, tāngata whenua and NEMA. These roles and responsibilities should then be correlated to each of the civil defence ‘four Rs’ (Reduction, Readiness, Response, Recovery).
- Group is looking to build its relationship with mana whenua and is increasing its capacity to do so. Mana whenua groups often do not have sufficient resources themselves to engage with CDEM Group.
- There is a history of councils being left to meet the costs of policies and regulations introduced by central government - civil defence is looking like being another example. Cyclone Gabrielle was a National Emergency, with local councils acting on behalf of the government during the response and recovery phases. Why should councils be burdened with the costs involved? The various Cyclone Gabrielle reviews now underway will be considering this aspect.
- Group should be empowering communities to act and use resources that they have available to them, particularly in the first days of an event. There should not be a ‘command and control’ structure in place; this would signal to communities that resources will be provided from a central point during an emergency which is not the case.

CDE19/23

Resolutions

That the Hawke’s Bay CDEM Group Joint Committee:

1. Receives and considers the *Requests for inclusion in the HBRC Long Term Plan 2024-2034* staff report.
2. Agrees that the decisions to be made are not significant under the criteria contained in HBRC’s adopted Significance and Engagement Policy, and that the Joint Committee can exercise its discretion and make decisions on this issue without conferring directly with the community or persons likely to have an interest in the decision.
3. Endorses the following options as outlined in this report:
 - 3.1. That CDEM Group Reserve deficit is recovered by an increase in the CDEM targeted rate over a period of five years commencing in 2024-2025.
 - 3.2. Increased resourcing and capability of the CDEM Group as outlined in the following table.

	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027
Staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational capability at a senior level • Community resilience (focused on rural communities) 	Local TLA Readiness and Response Support	Long term risk reduction
Other Operational Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common operating IT tools • Signage • Group Plan review (one off) 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training (non CDEM staff) • Alternative communications • Storage costs • Community resilience planning 		
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4. Recommends to the Hawke's Bay Regional Council that the options endorsed (above) are considered as part of the HBRC Long Term Plan 2024-2034 process.
5. The HB CDEM Group Joint Committee notes that there are a number of Cyclone Gabrielle reviews presently underway. The outcome of these may affect the future resourcing of and capability requirements for the HB CDEM Group.
6. The recommendations made are part of HB CDEM Group's transition to a future operating model, which is an ongoing process. There may be further recommendations from the Joint Committee to HBRC in this regard.

Walker/Hazlehurst
CARRIED

5. **GNS Science 2022 Level 3 Tsunami Modelling in Hawke's Bay**

Adam Childs introduced this item with discussions and comments including:

- The report covers the Clifton to Tangoio coastline only - it was originally presented to the Joint Committee in November 2022. At that time the Joint Committee requested that the education opportunities be provided to the public explaining the report's content; similarly for stakeholders. This engagement has been completed.
- In 2011 a similar report was commissioned and received. In the interim period there has been a significant improvement in computer modelling and more data sources are now available, notably level 3 LiDAR (laser imaging, detection and ranging).
- Like the previous report, the 2022 version models a tsunami occurring after a magnitude 9.0 earthquake along the Hikurangi subduction zone, off the HB coast. It shows that whilst a 14m+ high tsunami occurs, there would be less inundation than the 2011 report predicted.
- Climate change and the resulting sea level rise has now been factored in as well. By 2100 (75 years ahead) the inundation levels predicted would be similar to the higher levels shown in the 2011 report, due solely to sea level rise.
- By 2150, sea levels are predicted to be 2m higher than 2022. Using this assumption the report shows that 'distant source' tsunamis (emanating from Japan, Chile etc.) could lead to a 3m+ tsunami affecting the area. This would see a similar inundation to that caused by a magnitude 9.0 Hikurangi zone earthquake/tsunami.
- The likelihood of a distant source tsunami is 1.0% p.a., whereas the likelihood of a Hikurangi zone tsunami is 0.04% p.a. The HB coastline is 25 times more likely to be affected by a distant source tsunami.
- Over time, with sea level rise, the impact of a distant source tsunami becomes as devastating as a Hikurangi zone wave; however there is a much longer warning/lead time for distant events – 10/12 hours versus 20/30 minutes.
- The 2022 report findings are already being used by councils for spatial planning with other agencies such as NEMA and GNS Science also using it for their own purposes.
- The original report is still being referenced in CDEM Hazards website – it will be updated using the 2022 report information by the end of the year.
- The National Tsunami Steering Group is looking at resetting tsunami evacuation zones across the country – these are expected to be published by year end.
- Mataranga Māori is being incorporated into community engagement about natural hazards and risk.
- Each local Council is responsible for setting its own spatial planning and identifying natural hazards. Group is working with each council to ensure that they are aware of the information in the 2022 report.

CDE20/23

Resolution

That the Hawke's Bay Civil Defence Emergency Management Joint Committee receives and notes the *GNS Science 2022 - Level 3 Tsunami Modelling in Hawke's Bay* staff report.

**Ormsby/Little
CARRIED**

6. Community engagement and resilience work update

Audrey Tolua introduced the item with discussions and comments including:

- Since May 2023, community engagement activities have recommenced. There is high community demand for emergency preparedness workshops and these are being co-ordinated with a number of agencies to avoid duplication.
- A cross-agency Resilience Working Group (RWG = 16 agencies) has been established to support council locality plans, deliver CIMS training for council staff, iwi and hapū groups. RWG is working on a combined action plan to prioritise the communities seeking assistance.
- Identified/prioritised communities include 33 in coastal and rural locations, 9 in urban areas and there are 12 marae as well. Communities of particular concern are older people (in retirement villages) and Pasifika.
- Civil Defence Centres – the concepts for and the location of community led centres is being discussed.
- Group works closely with TPK and other entities to strengthen its relationship with Māori across all levels of the community.
- Wairoa update – Group is providing training to the community and for WDC staff
- Napier update – working with NCC about the location of Civil Defence centres. Finalising the Westshore resilience plan and working with the Maraenui community as they start their plan.
- Hastings update – working alongside HDC at community events and workshops.
- CHB update – nine community planning meetings have been held recently and an alternative location for the Emergency Operation Centre is being investigated. A training exercise is being planned toward the end of the year based in Takapau.
- Councils, FENZ and Group will continue to ascertain which communities have emergency equipment/assets available and where these are; this will assist co-ordination during an event.

CDE21/23

Resolution

That the Hawke's Bay Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Joint Committee receives and notes the *Community engagement and resilience work update*.

**Wise/Hazlehurst
CARRIED**

7. Group Operational capability and preparedness update

Ian Macdonald introduced this item which was taken as read. Discussions and comments including:

- CIMS staff training – trainers must be NZQA accredited. There are a limited number of trainers nationwide, leading to delays in providing training. Joint Committee will ask NEMA to assist CDEM Groups in this regard.
- WDC – isolated communities still need support.
- HDC – staff are still feeling the effects of Cyclone Gabrielle.

CDE22/23

Resolution

That the Hawke's Bay Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Joint Committee receives and notes the *Operational capability and preparedness update*.

**Hazlehurst/Wise
CARRIED**

8. NEMA update

Item was not considered

9. Amendments to the Hawke's Bay CDEM Group Plan: Controller appointments

Resolution

That the Hawke's Bay Civil Defence Emergency Group Joint Committee excludes the public from this section of the meeting, being Agenda Item 9 Amendments to the Hawke's Bay CDEM Group Plan: Controller appointments with the general subject of the item to be considered while the public is excluded. The reasons for passing the resolution and the specific grounds under Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are:

CDE23/23

General subject of the item to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution	Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of the resolution
Amendments to the Hawke's Bay CDEM Group Plan: Controller appointments	7(2)(f)(ii) The withholding of the information is necessary to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of such members, officers, employees, and persons from improper pressure or harassment. s7(2)(a) That the public conduct of this agenda item would be likely to result in the disclosure of information where the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons.	The Council is specified, in the First Schedule to this Act, as a body to which the Act applies.

**Little/Wise
CARRIED**

The meeting went into public excluded session at 3.12pm and out of public excluded session at 3.23pm

Mayor Little closed the meeting with a karakia.

Closure:

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 3.25pm on Monday 28 August 2023.

Signed as a true and correct record.

Date:

Chair: