
Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management Joint Committee OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management Joint Committee held in Council Chamber, 401 Grey Street, Hamilton East on Monday 6 March 2017 at 1.02 pm.

Present:

Hamilton City Council	Cr L Tooman
Hauraki District Council	Cr P Buckthought
Matamata Piako District	Cr B Hunter
Otorohanga District Council	Cr A Williams
South Waikato District Council	Cr T Lee
Taupo District Council	Cr A Park
Thames Coromandel District Council	Cr R Simpson
Waikato District Council	Cr N Smith
Waikato Regional Council	Cr H Vercoe
Waipa District Council	Cr J Bannon
Waitomo District Council	Cr A Goddard

In Attendance:

Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management	G Talbot
---	----------

Staff

L Cavers – CEG Chair
L Hazelwood – Group Controller
J Snowball – Team Leader Operations
V McDonald – Team Leader GEMO
J Douglas – Emergency Management Coordinator, HCC
M Taito – Emergency Management Coordinator,
Training
J Cox – Democracy Advisor

SECTION A: (UNDER DELEGATION FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL)**Apologies**

There were no apologies for the meeting.

Confirmation of Agenda

(Agenda Item 3)

The agenda of the Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management Joint Committee of 6 March 2017 was accepted by the members.

Disclosures of Interest

(Agenda Item 3)

There were no disclosures of interest.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

File: 03 04 18 (Agenda Item #5) Doc #9572017

Cr Simpson moved/Cr Smith seconded.

CD17/01

THAT the Minutes of the Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management Joint Committee meeting of 28 November 2016 be received and approved as a true and correct record.

The motion was put and carried (CD17/01)

Welcome and Introductions

The Chair introduced to members Gary Talbot of MCDEM who attended the meeting in place of Suzanne Vowles.

Members were further introduced to two new team members of the GEMO:
Justin Douglas – Emergency Management Coordinator, Hamilton City Council.
Mere Taito – Emergency Management Coordinator – Training.

Sendai Framework

File: 35 00 05 (Agenda Item #6) Doc #10020638, 10018242, 10021409

The report provided the Joint Committee with an overview of the Sendai Framework and the implications of it for Civil Defence Emergency Management in the Waikato. GEMO Team Leader (V McDonald) provided the presentation and responded to questions from the Joint Committee.

During questions, answers and related discussion the following points were noted:

- In response to a question around the work that was done to inform councils of the risks it was noted there were a number of projects including work with the Regional Council on tsunami considerations and fault line research. Work was being undertaken to identify safe areas for tsunami evacuation on the East coast and how to simply communicate these messages. A summary of this work would be brought to the June 2017 meeting for the Joint Committee.

- It was noted that Civil Defence did not work in silos and there were regular lifeline group meetings where communication occurred with all organisations involved. Welfare agencies were also in receipt of updates from Civil Defence on a regular basis.
- The bigger picture for all councils was the recent National Policy Statement on dealing with risk. It was already clear within the Resource Management Act that hazard planning must be undertaken. Members were reminded that they were the champions for Civil Defence for their councils and that as champions should be asking the relevant questions of their organisations particularly when reviewing district plans.
- The National Disaster Resilience Strategy was also discussed. Informal consultation was being undertaken with key stakeholders over the next couple of months. Formal consultation with the public would occur over July-September 2017. MCDEM planned to present the strategy to Cabinet in November/December 2017.

Cr Hunter moved/Cr Tooman seconded.

CD17/02

THAT the report Sendai Framework (Doc #10020638 dated 23 February 2017) be received for information only.

The motion was put and carried (CD17/02)

MCDEM

File: 35 00 05 (Agenda Item #7) Doc #10015203, 10022799

The verbal report by G Talbot, of MCDEM provided the Joint Committee with an update on the legislative changes from the Ministry.

During questions, answers and related discussion the following points were noted:

- There was no one Act that took precedent over another Act. The frustration shown following the Christchurch and Kaikoura emergencies highlighted the concern over the fact that each agency's incident controller was working under their own Act and there was not one central controller or act to provide guidance where it was needed (unified command). The Minister was wanting a stronger command and control model for CDEM.
- Need to be able to stand up the welfare function as quickly as possible.
- Good situational awareness and communications during an event was essential to ensure the Ministry are kept informed throughout the event.
- A lot of grey areas in the current legislation that needed to be addressed in regards to control and command.
- It was noted that some communities had voiced to Councillors their willingness to pay more for CDEM services if it was required.
- With respect to a public alerting system members were advised that there was likely a direction the minister may wish to go, work had been done in workshops and with GNS science to consider what was reasonable to spend and these discussions were continuing. It was noted that there was likely to be a suite of tools as it was recognised there was not a "one size fits all" for public alerting.

Cr Bannon moved/Cr Park seconded.

CD17/03

THAT the verbal report of G Talbot of MCDEM be received.

The motion was put and carried (CD17/03)

New CDEM Legislation and Implications for Recovery

File: 35 00 05 (Agenda Item #8) Doc #10044322

The report provided the Joint Committee with information regarding the need for an additional resource within the GEMO to meet the new requirements surrounding Recovery legislation and the transition from response. Acting Group Manager (J Snowball) spoke to the report and responded to questions.

During questions, answers and related discussion the following points were noted:

- The proposal to reconfirm the appointment of Greg Ryan as the Group Recovery Manager would be appropriate even though he was no longer a staff member of the GEMO. The proposal had been discussed with him and he was happy to continue in the role until the matter had been sorted properly with respect to the new legislation.
- The change in legislation meant that more staff would be required to work within the Civil Defence Group and the group would advise the Regional Council that additional funding was required to meet with legislative requirements. This would occur within the Annual Plan deliberation and adoption meeting in June 2017.

Cr Simpson moved/Cr Buckthought seconded.

CD17/04

1. **THAT the report “New CDEM Legislation and Group Recovery Manager Position Request” (Doc # 10044322 dated 1 March 2017) be received.**
2. **THAT the Joint Committee note that additional resources within the GEMO and Group will be required as a result of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Amendment Act 2016**
3. **THAT the Joint Committee approve the development of a business case to support the provision of this additional resource**
4. **THAT a sub-committee of the Chair, Cr Tooman, Cr Park and Cr Smith be appointed to approve the business case, for submission to the Waikato Regional Council annual plan.**
5. **THAT Greg Ryan be appointed (re-confirmed) as the Group Recovery Manager**
6. **THAT Kurt Abbott be appointed the alternate Recovery Manager position (, pending confirmation of appointment at Waikato District Council)**

The motion was put and carried (CD17/04)

Further to the recommendations it was noted that within the Waikato Group Plan the Joint Committee had identified members appropriate for making a declaration in an emergency. With the change in legislation it was considered appropriate to make a similar determination under Section 25 of the CDEM Act, to allow for members to declare a transition period. The transition period gave powers to the Recovery manager to continue within their role.

It was noted to be sensible that the same person who could make the declaration as provided for in the Group Plan could also declare a transition period.

It was noted as important that where the members present at the meeting were the alternates, but were to be the primary member attending for their council, that they sought a council resolution to alter the membership arrangement. This would then ensure that they met the requirements under legislation and within the Group Plan.

Cr Smith moved/Cr Goddard seconded.

CD17/05

1. **THAT in accordance with Section 25 of the CDEM Act 2002, the following persons are appointed by the Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management Joint Committee to make local declarations of transition for all or part of the Waikato Group area:**
 - **The Chairperson of the Joint Committee.**
2. **THAT in the absence of the Chairperson, the following person is authorised, in order, to undertake this function:**
 - **The Deputy Chairperson of the Joint Committee.**
3. **THAT in the absence of the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, the following persons are authorised to undertake this function:**
 - **Any other Member's representative on the Joint Committee.**

The motion was put and carried (CD17/05)

Joint Committee CEG Minutes

File: 35 00 05 (Agenda Item #9) Doc # 10017590

The report provided the Joint Committee with a summary of the matters raised and discussed at the last Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) meeting (17 February 2017).

During questions, answers and related discussion the following points were noted:

- Members sought to be advised on the Waikato Lifelines group meetings in order to be able to attend where possible. It was noted that the quarterly meeting had occurred in February and the next would be in May with a workshop at the end of August.

Cr Lee moved/Cr Park seconded.

CD17/06

THAT the report Joint Committee CEG minutes (Doc #10017590 dated 17 February 2017) be received for information only.

The motion was put and carried (CD17/06)

Public Information Management Update

File: 35 00 05 (Agenda Item #10) Doc #10018177

The report informed the Joint Committee of strategic issues related to:

- Public Information Management (PIM) developments and arrangements
- Public education developments and arrangements

The Waikato CDEM Group Public Information Manager (S Ward) and Emergency Management Co-ordinator – Community Resilience (D Mehtens) presented the report and responded to questions.

During questions, answers and related discussion the following points were noted:

- GEMO support was provided to the Territorial Authority Communications departments with access to centralised training.

- It was noted that within the PIM sector there was already a tight network with the Group Public Information Manager and Emergency Management Co-ordinator.
- Additional training was being developed in response to the needs and requests from Council Communications/PIM staff throughout the Waikato region requiring further training and support for dealing with emergency events.

Cr Williams moved/Cr Bannon seconded.

CD17/07

That the report Public Information Management (PIM) Update (Doc #10018177 dated 23 February 2017) be received for information only.

The motion was put and carried (CD17/07)

Kaikōura Earthquake

File: 35 00 05 (Agenda Item #11) Doc #10018866

The report informed the Joint Committee of the Waikato CDEM group contribution to the Kaikōura Earthquake response as well as the related impact on the Waikato region.

During questions, answers and related discussion the following points were noted:

- The Kaikōura earthquake had an impact on the water supplies at Raglan whereby the mountain spring was impacted with sediment. This highlighted an issue for Waikato District Council where if a filter had been installed between the spring and water treatment plant there would not have been an issue. The exercise with Waikato District Council had provided very useful training for local staff.
- Certificates of appreciation had been provided to all staff deployed to Kaikōura.
- The East Coast tsunami evacuation went reasonably well considering the alerting infrastructure available. It was noted that in at least one area there was confusion over where to go and many did not have an appreciation of what they should take with them when evacuating. It was noted that lessons had been learned from the evacuation and work was ongoing to ensure those lessons turned into action and education for the community.
- The focus had primarily been on the east coast of the Coromandel peninsula and it was noted from recent expos in Whitianga the promotion "Long and Strong, Get Gone" was good however the most relevant question still was "Where do I go?".
- Further work needed to be undertaken to ensure the community have the right information and are prepared. As a matter of some urgency easy to use evacuation maps were generated by the GEMO and WRC in support of key east coast communities. Additional resources would be provided to Local Councils by the GEMO to be delivered directly to the community ie through the Community Response Plans. The challenge of avoiding complacency by the community due to repeated evacuations was also discussed.
- There was further work to be done with the evacuation plans for the West Coast of the peninsula.

Cr Lee moved/Cr Goddard seconded.

CD17/08

THAT the report Kaikōura Earthquake (Doc #10018866 dated 23 February 2017) be received for information only.

The motion was put and carried (CD17/08)

Central Government Policy Direction

File: 35 00 05 (Agenda Item #12) Doc #10021954

The report provided the Joint Committee with an overview of Central Government's policy direction as recently indicated by various Ministers and Executive Management.

During questions, answers and related discussion the following points were noted:

- The Joint Committee would be advised of any review of powers
- Discussion occurred around tsunami warning systems, the National Policy on Natural Hazards and the interest in CDEM shown by WorkSafe.

Cr Bannon moved/Cr Tooman seconded.

CD17/09

That the report Central Government Policy Development (Doc #10021954 dated 23 February 2017) be received for information only.

The motion was put and carried (CD17/09)

2017 Meeting Dates

File: 35 00 05 (Agenda Item #13) Doc #10021375

The report provided the Joint Committee with relevant meeting dates for 2017.

Items for the Next Meeting

File: 35 00 05 (Agenda Item #14)

The item provided for discussion with the Joint Committee over proposed reports and items for the next meeting scheduled for 26 June 2017.

Meeting closed at 3.06.

Doc #10061620