

Confirmed Public minutes of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Group meeting on Friday 20 August 2021

All members participating remotely via Microsoft Teams at 9am.

Members Present

Mayor Baker (Chair)	Porirua City Council
Mayor Patterson (Deputy Chair)	Masterton District Council
Mayor Barry (from 9.02am)	Hutt City Council
Mayor Beijen	South Wairarapa District Council
Mayor Foster (from 9.02am)	Wellington City Council
Mayor Guppy	Upper Hutt City Council
Mayor Gurunathan (from 9.44am)	Kāpiti Coast District Council
Mayor Lang	Carterton District Council
Council Chair, Councillor Ponter (from 9.05am)	Greater Wellington Regional Council

All members participated at this meeting remotely via Microsoft Teams and counted for the purpose of quorum as per clause 25B of Schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2002.

Public Business

1 Apologies

Moved: Mayor Baker / Mayor Patterson

That the Joint Committee accepts the apology for lateness from Mayors Barry, Foster, Gurunathan and Councillor Ponter.

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

There was no public participation.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Joint Committee meeting on 25 June 2021 - Report 21.303

Moved: Mayor Baker / Mayor Patterson

That the Joint Committee confirms the Public minutes of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Joint Committee meeting on 25 June 2021 - Report 21.303.

The motion was **carried**.

The Committee Chair advised the Joint Committee that agenda items 9 – Project Portfolio Management Office update, and 10 – Adverse Weather Events and Living with Risk, were withdrawn from the agenda. The Committee Chair further advised that agenda item 5 – COVID-19 update: Boundaries and Checkpoints, Viking Bay and Vaccination Rollout would be expanded to include an update on the unfolding COVID-19 situation.

5 Update on progress of action items from previous Wellington Region Civil Defence Emergency Management Group meetings – Report 21.323

Jeremy Holmes, Regional Manager, spoke to the report.

Mayors Barry and Foster joined the meeting at 9.02am, during the above item.

6 COVID-19 update: Boundaries and Checkpoints, Viking Bay and Vaccination Rollout – Oral Report

Jeremy Holmes, Regional Manager, provided an update on the COVID-19 response and tabled a presentation.

Mr Holmes updated the Joint Committee on regional boundaries and checkpoints, and on an exercise held with Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi). This exercise found an issue with the siting of the West Coast checkpoint at Manakau. There were no issues with the East Coast checkpoint (Mount Bruce) or the Southern Boundary (ferries and airport). The result from the exercise was a recommendation to revisit the siting of the Manakau checkpoint.

However, on 23 June 2021 a positive COVID-19 case was identified in Wellington. The Region moved to Alert Level 2 at 11.59pm for six days. The boundaries used were as per the previous Regional Plan (before any changes could be made) and there were issues with the checkpoint at Manakau.

The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) included Waikawa Beach and Manakau within the Regional boundary. The Public Health Response Order (No 7) 2021 was published on that basis. For any future outbreaks it is likely that this regional boundary will be used if a regional boundary is required.

The Viking Bay ship arrived into New Zealand waters with COVID-19 cases. The ship's agent, Customs and Ministry of Health explored options to provide a health response. Wellington City Council (WCC) was asked to provide refuge. The Wellington Emergency Management Office (WREMO) worked with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), WCC and others to receive the vessel. The ship arrived and 13 crew were moved to Managed Isolation and Quarantine (MIQ). The Joint Committee discussed why the ship

could not have berthed at Taranaki, with possible reasons being the proximity to hospitals, and appropriate facilities to use for MIQ. Mr Holmes advised the Joint Committee that all agencies needed to be involved from the beginning when dealing with similar situations in future as there were useful contributions from the relevant councils.

Mr Holmes advised the Joint Committee that WREMO is now sending out weekly updates on vaccination progress using DHB data. Mr Holmes also advised that the vaccination provides no guarantee against the Delta variant. It merely reduces the risk of hospitalisation and death.

Mr Holmes provided the Joint Committee with an update on the current outbreak situation. The Government was closely watching the New South Wales situation and learned that our response needed to be “faster, harder, longer and wider.”

National agencies advised that there are sufficient mechanisms in place at the national level to support any welfare requirements during this outbreak. NEMA is working to get the national welfare system from 2020 (Āwhina) available again if it should be required.

Councillor Ponter joined the meeting at 9.05am, during the above item.

7 Emergency Management Sector Strategy Workshop Update – Oral Report

Jeremy Holmes, Regional Manager, updated the Joint Committee on the Emergency Management Sector and tabled a presentation.

The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), which previously had 50 staff, has now grown to 100+ and is expected to grow to 150+ this financial year. This increase in staff is generating significantly more work as staff are now able to continue BAU work even during an emergency response.

Mr Holmes updated the Joint Committee on the Regulatory Framework (Trifecta) Review. The Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 (the CDEM Act) and the National CDEM Plan Order and Guide will be reviewed this year. The CDEM Act is expected to be a repeal and replace process, rather than an amendment to the current Act. There will be a period of consultation, expected to be October/November 2021. The review is expected to align the framework with other legislation and place a stronger focus on iwi/Māori and a commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

8 Wellington Region Emergency Management Office Annual Report 2020/21 – Report 21.375

Jeremy Holmes, Regional Manager, spoke to the report.

Moved: Mayor Baker / Mayor Guppy

That the Joint Committee approves the contents of the Wellington Region Emergency Management Office Annual Report (1 July 2020 - 30 June 2021).

The motion was **carried**.

Mayor Gurunathan joined the meeting at 9.44am, during the above item.

9 Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Appointments – Report 21.374

Jeremy Holmes, Regional Manager, spoke to the report.

Moved: Mayor Baker / Mayor Lang

That the Joint Committee:

- 1 Approves the removal of the following statutory appointees:
 - a Ken Bailey as Alternate Controller (Porirua City Council)
 - b Olivia Dovey as Alternate Controller (Porirua City Council)
 - c Steve Perdia as Recovery Manager (Porirua City Council)
 - d Geoff Stuart as Alternate Controller (Hutt City Council)
 - e Damon Simmons as Alternate Controller (Hutt City Council)
 - f Tom Williams as Alternate Controller (Wellington City Council)
 - g Carolyn McKenzie as Alternate Controller (Combined areas of the district councils in the Wairarapa)
 - h Kate Conroy as Recovery Manager (Combined areas of the district councils in the Wairarapa)
 - i Glenn O'Connor as supplementary controller (Kapiti Coast District Council)
- 2 Approves the addition of the following statutory appointees:
 - a Anthony Robinson as Alternate Controller (Hutt City Council)
 - b Solitaire Robertson as Alternate Controller (Combined areas of the district councils in the Wairarapa)
 - c David Wilson as Recovery Manager (Combined areas of the district councils in the Wairarapa)

The motion was **carried**.

The public meeting closed at 9.47am.

Mayor A Baker

Chair



Date: 25 February 2022