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Committee **CDEM Group**
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CDEM Group work programme progress

1. Purpose

To update the Civil Defence Emergency Management Group on the progress of the CDEM Group work programmes.

2. Background

The regional exercise “Phoenix” that was carried out in July 2002 identified several issues and gaps that needed urgent addressing. In an effort to address these, the CEG established 12 CDEM Group work programmes on 3 July 2003.

Some of these work programmes are completed, and others are in draft form. The findings from all these have been incorporated into the CDEM Group Plan. The remaining three programmes are specified in the CDEM Group Plan work programme and either have not been started, or are only in the early stages.

3. Progress to date

3.1 Programmes that have been completed

- ***Emergency fuel supply.*** Emergency fuel pumps have been purchased by local authorities and emergency services.
- ***Emergency communications.*** A study was done in 2003 for Greater Wellington Regional Council by communications consultancy Consultel. Consultel recommended the purchase of a VSAT system for the Region to enhance the regional radio communications capability. Greater Wellington has made provision in its budget for a ‘phased’ purchase of the system over the next couple of years. Negotiations with the suppliers are currently underway, but delays with the launch of the satellite mean that we’ll only be able to proceed with phase one early in 2005.
- ***Emergency water supply.*** This programme is being led by Greater Wellington Regional Council’s Water Group and is ongoing.

Since the completion of the Mitigation and Preparedness Strategy and Action Plan in September last year, various initiatives have been progressed. These include:

- Review of appropriate methods of treating water from local water sources, including preparation of a discussion paper
- Consideration of options for making larger personal storage containers (e.g. 10 litre plastic containers) more readily available to the public
- Public display of the issues and solutions for emergency water storage and distribution at the earthquake awareness weekend held at Te Papa over Easter.
- A survey of the level of emergency water supply held by residential care facilities in Wellington City (undertaken by Wellington Emergency Management Office).

A draft Public Communications Strategy was prepared. It has now been decided that this should be integrated with the CDEM Group Public Education Strategy. There is a need to raise the awareness of both the public and operators of key facilities about the need to be better prepared for emergency water supply following a major earthquake.

Efforts will now be focused on developing integrated impact assessment and repair strategies, and reviewing the emergency response plans of individual councils. This work has been deferred pending the establishment of new service level agreements by the new organisation responsible for managing the assets and delivery of water for Wellington and Hutt cities.

The Water Project Team is also actively pursuing the finalisation of the national mutual aid agreement amongst water supply managers.

A presentation on this issue will be made at the conclusion of this meeting.

3.2 Programmes for which draft documents have been completed

The following five programmes have been progressed to the stage of draft documents having been prepared:

- road access restoration
- commuter management
- urban search and rescue
- external supply of resources
- regional reconnaissance

These documents are draft ‘issues and information management guides for planning’. The information in these will be used to prepare specific strategies by June 2005.

The findings, to date, have been used in the operational part of the CDEM Group Plan.

A sixth programme – CDEM Group response capability development – has been completed and the structures have been included in the operational part of the Plan.

3.3 Programmes contained in the CDEM Group Plan

The following three programmes form part of the Work Programme set out in Appendix 1 of the CDEM Group Plan:

- CDEM Group public education strategy - to be completed by June 2007
- Hazard analyses
 - Local hazard analysis – ongoing
 - Hazard information review – to be completed by June 2006
 - Regional and local research strategies – to be completed by June 2007
- Medical logistics – in progress

The Capital and Coast District Health Board is responsible for carrying out the medical logistics programme. The programme forms part of a national project, sponsored by the Ministry of Health, which addresses personnel, training, supplies, and equipment issues, and the inter-regional and national co-ordination of the health sector response to a wide range of major incidents.

4. Co-ordinating Executive Group

At its meeting on 23 August 2004, the Co-ordinating Executive Group (CEG) resolved that “sewage disposal be included in the CDEM Group work programme”.

5. Conclusion

Progress on these programmes is mixed. A change in personnel in some local authorities has meant that the progress report has fallen behind schedule. Other authorities have taken over, where possible, but it has resulted in an impossible workload. Consequently, timeframes have been revised and it is hoped that a whole group effort in the future will see these projects completed.

Sewage disposal will now be added to the Group work programme.

6. Recommendation

That the report be received and the contents noted.

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