

Confirmed Public minutes of the Wellington Region Civil Defence Emergency Management Group meeting on Friday 26 March 2021

Council Chamber, Upper Hutt City Council
828 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt, at 9am.

Members Present

Mayor Baker (Chair)	Porirua City Council
Mayor Patterson (Deputy Chair)	Masterton District Council
Mayor Beijen	South Wairarapa District Council
Mayor Foster (from 9.15am)	Wellington City Council
Mayor Guppy	Upper Hutt City Council
Mayor Gurunathan	Kāpiti Coast District Council
Councillor Ponter (from 9.07am)	Greater Wellington Regional Council

Public Business

1 Apologies

Moved: Mayor Guppy/ Mayor Beijen

That the Joint Committee accepts the apologies for Mayors Barry and Lang.

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 Wellington Region Civil Defence Emergency Management Group meeting on 27 November 2020 – Report 20.442

Moved: Mayor Baker / Mayor Patterson

That the Joint Committee confirms the Public minutes of the Wellington Region Civil Defence Emergency Management Group meeting on 27 November 2020 – Report 20.442

The motion was **carried**.

5 COVID-19 response update – oral report

Jeremy Holmes, Regional Manager, Wellington Region Emergency Management Office (WREMO), tabled a presentation and updated the Joint Committee on the WREMO's COVID-19 response.

Mr Holmes advised the Joint Committee that WREMO is focusing on public messaging, with help and advice now available in 26 languages.

Mr Holmes described the resurgence contingency planning on movement restrictions, should the Wellington Region but put into Alert Level 3 or 4 restrictions.

Moved: Mayor Guppy / Mayor Beijen

That the Joint Committee:

- 1 Notes the content of this briefing.
- 2 Notes the West 4 (Manakau) and East 7 (Mt Bruce) are the preferred locations for regional checkpoints to manage movement in and out of the region if regional COVID movement restrictions are required.
- 3 Notes that this endorsement has been send to the All of Government (AoG) COVID-19 Response Group to incorporate into future national planning.

The motion was **carried**.

Mr Holmes presented the COVID-19 vaccination rollout programme. The programme consists of four groups:

- Group 1 – border and MIQ workers, and the people they live with (February – March 2021)
- Group 2 – frontline workers and people living in high-risk settings (February – May 2021)
- Group 3 – Priority populations (people over 65 years or people with underlying health conditions or disabilities who are at higher risk of severe outcomes if they catch COVID-19 (May 2021 onwards)
- Group 4 – the remainder of the population – everyone over 16 years old (second half of 2021)

The district health boards are responsible for the vaccination programme. The Capital and Coast and Hutt Valley District Health Boards are currently working with Public Health Offices and local councils to identify suitable facilities for vaccination of Group 2.

Moved: Mayor Baker / Mayor Patterson

That the Joint Committee:

- 1 Notes the contents of the presentation.

- 2 Notes that DHBs are currently working with PHOs, councils and other partners to identify suitable facilities, processes and messaging for vaccination rollout in accordance with the national plan.

The motion was **carried**.

Councillor Ponter arrived at the meeting at 9.07am, during the above item.

6 Community resilience and recovery update – oral report

Dan Neely, Manager Community Resilience, WREMO, tabled the February 2021 recovery dashboard. The dashboard depicted the impacts of COVID-19 on the regional community, with a focus on housing, employment, mental health and food security.

Mr Neely advised that a new tsunami awareness campaign has started, with the recent magnitude 8.1 earthquake centred in the Kermadec Islands and resulting tsunami evacuation serving as a good prompt.

A new mobile app has been developed by Alphero. The app shows where the quickest evacuation route is from a specific location. This work was carried out pro bono by Alphero with WREMO providing technical advice. Future versions of the app will show augmented reality.

Noted: The Joint Committee requested that letters be sent to the organisations providing information for the recovery dashboard thanking them for their contribution.

Mayor Foster arrived at the meeting at 9.15am, during the above item.

7 Civil Defence Emergency Management Group appointments – Report 21.115

Jeremy Holmes, Regional Manager, WREMO, spoke to the report.

Moved: Mayor Patterson / Mayor Guppy

That the Joint Committee:

- 1 Approves the removal of the following statutory appointees:
 - a Scott Martin as Alternate Controller (CDEM Group)
 - b Stephen McArthur as the Alternate Controller (Wellington City Council)
 - c Scott Martin as Alternate Controller (Porirua City Council)
 - d Janice McDougall as Alternate Controller (Kāpiti Coast District Council)
 - e Rick Newton as Alternate Controller (Hutt City Council)
 - f Jonnette Adams as Alternate Controller (Upper Hutt City Council)
 - g Vibhuti Chopra as Alternate Controller (Upper Hutt City Council)
 - h Dirk Botha as Alternate Controller (Upper Hutt City Council)
 - i Jonnette Adams as Alternate Recovery Manager (Upper Hutt City Council).
- 2 Approves the addition of the following statutory appointees:

- a Tom Williams as Alternate Controller (Wellington City Council)
- b Paul Busing as Alternate Controller (Kāpiti Coast District Council)
- c Angela Bell as Alternate Recovery Manager (Kāpiti Coast District Council).

The motion was **carried**.

8 Wellington Region Emergency Management Office Quarter Two Quarterly Report – 31 December 2020 – Report 21.116

Jeremy Holmes, Regional Manager, WREMO, spoke to the report.

Moved: Mayor Foster / Cr Ponter

That the Joint Committee approves the Wellington Region Emergency Management Office's Quarter Two Quarterly Report – 31 December 2020 (Attachment 1) against the outputs identified in the draft WREMO Annual Business Plan 2020/21.

The motion was **carried**.

9 Reporting change proposal – Oral report

Jessica Hare, Manager Business and Development, advised the Joint Committee of the proposed changes to quarterly reporting. The proposal is to provide the Joint Committee with summary quarterly reports for Quarters 1 and 3, and provide a more detailed Quarter 2/6 month report, and no change to the Quarter 4/Annual Report.

Moved: Mayor Baker / Mayor Patterson

That the Joint Committee:

- 1 Notes the content of the presentation.
- 2 Approves the change in reporting.

The motion was **carried**.

10 Accommodation and budget update – Oral report

Jeremy Holmes, Regional Manager, WREMO, updated the Joint Committee on accommodation planning and the proposal to co-locate WREMO and a new Emergency Co-ordination Centre (ECC) at Massey University. Mr Holmes advised that due to the financial impacts of COVID-19 on both Massey University and councils, this is no longer an option. Wellington City Council has agreed for WREMO to continue to use the Turnbull Street office for the next three years under similar terms and conditions as previously agreed. The Royal Society has also agreed for its premises be used as the ECC when required.

11 Radio network upgrade – Oral report

Jessica Hare, Manager Business and Development, advised the Joint Committee that WREMO is looking into upgrading the region's communication network. The radio network is currently operating on VHF, with six repeaters digital capable.

The Whole of Government critical communications project, being run by NZ Police, has had its business case approved. NZ Police has received funding to progress the project. It is unclear what impact this project will have on CDEM Groups. Until NZ Police can provide more information (indicative 2023), CDEM Groups will need to maintain their existing networks for 5-10 years.

Moved: Mayor Baker / Mayor Patterson

That the Joint Committee:

- 1 Notes the contents of the presentation.
- 2 Approves the decision to maintain the current network until further notice.

The motion was **carried**.

The meeting closed at 9.34am.

Mayor A Baker

Chair



Date: 25 February 2022