

Wellington Region COVID-19 Resurgence Plan

Situation

In February 2020, the first case of COVID-19 was confirmed in New Zealand. Since then, New Zealand has been working towards a national strategy of eliminating the virus. This strategy has seen a range of unprecedented actions and control measures put in place to minimize the negative consequences caused by COVID-19 across virtually every aspect of everyday life in New Zealand.

The first wave of infection peaked in April, with 89 new cases recorded per day and 929 active cases. Following significant effort across all levels of society, from households to cities, New Zealand became one of few countries to successfully eliminate COVID-19. This lasted for 102 days.

However, on 11 August 2020 the Prime Minister and Director General of Health announced that community transmission of COVID-19 had occurred in Auckland. In response, the Auckland region was raised to Alert Level 3 and the rest of the country was raised to Alert Level 2. Testing was increased around the country and planning is now underway to prepare for any potential resurgence of COVID-19 around New Zealand.

As of 25 August 2020, the country had 129 active cases primarily linked to either overseas travel or a single community cluster in Auckland. While it appears that the Auckland cluster may now be being brought under control, the way in which the virus is impacting the rest of the world and can slip past border controls highlights both the fragility of the current situation and the fact that we can expect to be dealing with the impacts of the virus for some time to come (current estimates are for the next 2-3 years).

Not only do we need to be able to respond quickly to any outbreaks that occur, but we also need to be able to respond effectively and in a coordinated manner. Indeed, the latest outbreak has shown that a timely and effective response is required from a wide range of agencies, organisations and community partners to successfully achieve the COVID-19 All-of-Government (AoG) Response Unit's high-level objectives:

1. Minimise the number of people infected with and potentially exposed to COVID- 19
2. Minimise the negative health outcomes for those infected with COVID 19
3. Minimise the economic and social impacts of any control measures

Whilst the structures and processes set up in the first response created an effective overall response, the after-action review process identified opportunities to improve the region's response to COVID-19. These improvements include clearer roles, responsibilities, and coordination arrangements. This plan has been written to help make those improvements.

Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to:

1. set out the region's strategic approach to COVID-19 resurgence in both readiness and response.
2. clarify the high-level roles and responsibilities across the Wellington CDEM Group.

3. outline the intended coordination arrangements required to facilitate a timely and effective response to any resurgence of COVID-19 either within the Wellington Region or elsewhere in the country; and
4. serve as a touchstone for response partner readiness, and for coordinating long-term strategies in the region.

National direction and alignment

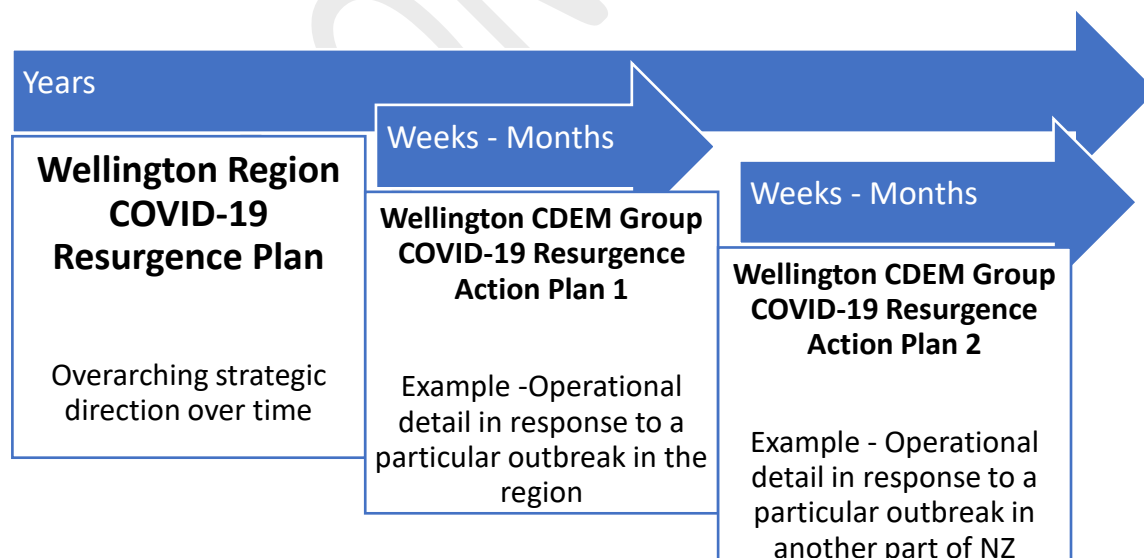
This plan is aligned with:

1. the National Guide to the Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Plan 2015.
2. the All-of-Government 'Stamp it Out' Plan 2020.
3. the Ministry of Health's Aotearoa/New Zealand's COVID-19 elimination strategy 2020.
4. the National Emergency Management Agencies (NEMA) Regional Coordination and Leadership COVID-19 Resurgence Plan Version 1; and
5. Planning for the Provision of CDEM Emergency Welfare Services for COVID-19 Resurgence.

Scope

This plan provides the overarching mechanisms used to coordinate the region's response to and recovery from COVID-19. This plan provides the strategic intent, execution of tasks, and roles and responsibilities to guide the region to prepare for and respond to further COVID-19 re-emergence events.

This plan does not include detailed operational direction or specific tasks. This level of detail will continue to be developed in readiness by all members of the Wellington CDEM Group. The relevant objectives, tasks and coordination measures will then be confirmed as part of the Action Planning process in response to any resurgence of COVID-19 over time, which could occur within the region or outside it.



This plan recognises that recovery efforts from the first outbreak are already underway at all levels of society. The requirements to respond to a resurgence will likely have an impact on staff and communities. Every effort should therefore be made to balance the demands of response to each outbreak and recovery from previous outbreaks. This evaluation should occur during the development of each new Action Plan.

Legislative Framework and Mandates

There are two primary legislative frameworks for COVID-19 response which define the mandates and ways to access legal powers:

- **CDEM Act 2002 (CDEM Act):** Provides the legislative basis for CDEM Groups to coordinate the multi-agency response to an emergency (whether declared or undeclared).
- **COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020 (COVID-19 Act):** This legislation supports the Government's alert level system and other control measures to manage COVID-19 in New Zealand.

For COVID-19 resurgence activities, the COVID-19 Public Health Response Act should be used first wherever possible as it already contains the necessary legislative tools to manage the direct impact of COVID-19. (For more information on how the COVID-19 Public Health Response Act and the CDEM Act apply to the resurgence of COVID-19, see **Annex 1: Key Legislative Frameworks**).

The Wellington CDEM Group COVID-19 Resurgence Mission:

To work together in a collaborative and coordinated manner to minimise the negative impacts of COVID-19 resurgence on community health, society and the economy.

Intent

The intent of this plan, is to carry out appropriate readiness and response activities in accordance with the following AoG principles:

1. Continue to pursue an elimination strategy for COVID-19.
2. The core of our response will be personal hygiene, staying home when sick, testing, contact tracing and isolation.
3. Where this is insufficient, we will seek to control COVID-19 with the least intrusive measures, including tailored local responses, that give us confidence that we will continue to deliver on our strategy of elimination.
4. We will seek to avoid going to Alert Levels 3 or 4 if possible, although we will do so if necessary.
5. There will be strong national oversight over any response, regardless of whether the response is local or national in scale.

The following regional principle will underpin any regional or local level readiness, response or recovery actions or activities:

That planning, preparedness and response actions will be carried out in a cohesive, inclusive, collaborative and coordinated way that is responsive to community needs¹

Regional objectives and contributing outcomes

The following regional objectives have been identified from National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) guidance to CDEM Groups. The objectives have been used to help inform actions for the CDEM Group in both readiness and response:

¹ Coordinated Incident Management System (CIMS) 3rd Edition, 2019

1. **Establish and sustain timely, effective and appropriate multi-agency coordination, decision making and governance arrangements:**
 - a. *Coordination mechanisms are clearly established*
 - b. *Strategic direction is provided by governance in accordance with relevant legislative frameworks*
 - c. *Operational decision making is aligned with national, regional, and local intent*
 - d. *Appropriate information sharing is championed between all response agencies*
2. **Rapidly identify, control, and eliminate any outbreaks of COVID-19 in our region:**
 - a. *Widespread regional COVID-19 testing capabilities and capacities are in place*
 - b. *Control measures are rapidly put in place in accordance with national direction*
 - c. *Isolation and quarantine facilities are available, fit for purpose and secure*
3. **Minimise the negative consequences of COVID-19 on community health, safety, and wellbeing:**
 - a. *Social service capability and capacity is in place to support the community*
 - b. *Community impacts are identified, communicated, and addressed*
 - c. *Any actions taken will be responsive to community needs*
4. **Ensure the community and key partners are informed with timely and accurate information:**
 - a. *Information is collected, analysed, and shared amongst partner agencies*
 - b. *Data and intelligence are used to inform decision making*
 - c. *Widespread public messaging is used to inform, educate, and reassure the community*

End State

The characteristics of a successful end state of any response to COVID-19 in our region or another part of New Zealand are:

- A coordinated response is delivered in a timely and effective way in accordance with pre-existing plans, arrangements, and learnings from the Group's response to the first outbreak.
- Regional and local actions are rapidly implemented to control any outbreaks and minimise all health, safety, and wellbeing impacts on the region's communities.
- Responders and the community are kept well informed with timely and accurate information to support decision making, educate and reassure people.
- Sharing of information is undertaken in an enabler, collaborative and collegial manner to help inform decisions and create a regional common operating picture.
- The Wellington CDEM Group completes an After-Action Review (AAR) process to identify any opportunities for improvement and puts plans in place to be better prepared for any future resurgence of COVID-19 in the Wellington region or elsewhere in New Zealand.

Execution

Readiness and Response Phases

To facilitate an efficient transition into and out of response, and align with the AoG Resurgence Plan, there are four high-level phases to support readiness activities:

Preliminary Phase: Readiness

- Understand current response capabilities and capacities of key regional partners.
- Strengthen relationships and coordination arrangements between the CDEM Group, health agencies, social service providers, lifelines, Territorial Authorities (TA), the community and other partners.
- Identify gaps between current COVID-19 recovery arrangements and future response requirements.
- Review any after-action reviews and learnings collected from previous COVID-19 responses.
- Put in place appropriate plans and arrangements to deliver a timely and effective response to COVID-19 resurgence.

Phase 1: Immediate Response

- Establish appropriate unified coordination structures and facilities as required, with appropriate public-health mitigation measures in place.
- Support the regional and/or local implementation of the Health Resurgence Action Plan.
- Ensure community impacts are identified, communicated, and addressed leveraging community capability where appropriate.
- Implement and maintain appropriate communication flows to enable shared situational awareness, coordinated planning and inter-agency support mechanisms.
- Work with neighbouring regions to ensure cross border issues are managed, particularly those related to implications of roadblocks (if relevant).
- Understand the potential impacts of decision-making on recovery initiatives.

Phase 2: Sustained response

- Maintain response levels (escalate capacity/capability if required) in line with the required capacity and capability.
- Proactively engage and coordinate with all key partners and communities involved or required to be involved.
- Pro-actively provide guidance and support where the need is most likely or most required.
- Establish and maintain a common operating picture by bringing all key parties together to enable sharing of information and joint approaches to the response.
- Manage and mitigate the impact of the event on recovery programmes.

Phase 3: De-mobilisation

- Transition from a response focus to a recovery focus, ensuring continuity of programs and actions noting that a transition into a new Business as Usual (BAU) or back into response may be possible as well.
- Maintain coordination of transition activities to ensure continued alignment and awareness of these in BAU and/or Recovery.
- Implement wellbeing initiatives for response staff to enable them to integrate back into BAU or recovery.
- Carry out after-action review and act on potential improvements, to be ready for future responses.

Scenarios for escalation

While the above phases show the escalation of response activities, this plan applies three scenarios to show why that escalation may be needed². Outbreaks of COVID-19 are the primary reason for scaling up the response, but the exact nature of the re-emergence of COVID cannot be predicted. Three high-level scenarios are therefore used to give some possible options:

Minor Outbreak	Moderate Outbreak	Major Outbreak
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited cases detected amongst close contacts, linked to international travel. - Likely Alert Level: 1 or 2 nationally. - Community Impact: Low. - ECC/EOC/IMTs: Inactive. - Level of Coordination: Low. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Single cluster in the region, with no widespread community transmission. - Likely Alert Level: 3 regionally, 2 nationally. - Community Impact: Moderate. - ECC/EOC/IMTs: ECC and 1 – 2 EOCs active. IMTs active. - Level of Coordination: Medium – High. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uncontrolled community transmission. - Likely Alert Level: 4 nationally. - Community Impact: High. - ECC/EOC/IMTs: ECC and EOCs active. IMTs active. - Level of Coordination: High.

Regional Roles and Responsibilities

The following roles and responsibilities apply to the members of the Wellington CDEM Group in readiness and response to COVID-19 resurgence. These roles and responsibilities are not exhaustive and should be exercised in accordance with existing legislative frameworks, plans, procedures, and processes. Each agency or organisation is responsible for developing more detailed plans to be able to deliver on their responsibilities either as the lead or in a supporting capacity. Where lead or support roles have been identified, this is because the agency or organisation has a statutory role under an Act, a role defined within a National Level Plan such as the New Zealand Influenza Pandemic Plan (NZIPAP), through national directives or agreement at the national or regional level.

² The national resurgence plan contains two sets of scenarios (one of five and one of four). The three scenarios included in this plan are a synthesis of both sets of scenarios listed in the national plan. The synthesis has been done to make the response more flexible and easier to understand.

Regional Leadership Group (RLG) – Annex 2: RLG Membership and Structure refers

- **Convene** regional leadership to ensure the existence of a regional strategy/plan that caters to different communities.
- **Connect** local government, iwi, pasifika, ethnic communities and key central government personnel.
- **Provide strategic leadership** to guide and support community resurgence planning and response activity.
- **Support** social and economic recovery.
- **Support** the distribution of key messages and aid to community networks.

District Health Boards (DHBs)

- **Lead** the identification, control, and elimination of any COVID-19 outbreaks in the Wellington Region³.
- **Coordinate** the health sector's response to COVID-19 and ensure the Director-General of Health, appropriate Government Ministers and regional/local response partners are kept informed and updated on existing and emerging issues.
- **Lead** regional testing efforts by establishing and maintaining Community Based Assessment Centres (CBACs) through Primary Health Organisations (PHO) and/or private health providers as appropriate⁴.
- **Lead** the provision of psychosocial support for the region⁵.
- **Provide** health support to the region's Managed Isolation Facilities (MIFs).
- **Provide** input into the identification and establishment of Managed Isolation and Quarantine (MIQ) facilities to meet Ministry of Health requirements.
- **Provide** inspection and assessment of potential MIQ facilities against Ministry of Health requirements.

Regional Public Health (RPH)

- **Establish** a coordinated response for RPH staff and resources, with the ability to modify our response to match the needs of all communities including our priority populations.
- **Provide** health protection services at the aviation and maritime borders.
- **Ensure** compliance with requirements under Health Act 1956 and COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020 e.g. quarantine and testing requirements, and any amended legislation.
- **Ensure** appropriate use of regulatory tools to limit transmission of COVID-19 in our community.
- **Lead** case investigation.

³ The tasks undertaken by Health are undertaken in a joint capacity between the DHB and RPH (i.e. DHB's manage CBAC's/testing centres whereas RPH undertake contact tracing and reporting of cases).

⁴ New Zealand Influenza Pandemic Plan (NZIPAP) 2017

- **Lead** contact tracing.
- **Lead** cluster management.
- **Provide** public health support to the identification, establishment and ongoing management of Managed Isolation and Quarantine Facilities.
- **Provide** an advisory role in the coordination with DHBs on surveillance testing activities.
- **Provide** situational awareness of border, case, contact and cluster intelligence.
- **Support** clear, consistent, and timely public health messaging for communities across our region.

Ministry for Social Development (MSD)

- **Lead** the delivery of financial assistance to people affected by COVID-19 in the Wellington Region⁵.
- **Lead** the region's food security workstream to support the provision of food via food banks or other social service providers.
- **Maintain** regular communications and work in close collaboration with Wellington Region CDEM Group through the RLG, Welfare Coordination group (WCG) and other relevant connections.
- **Lead** planning to identify potential threshold(s) to request CDEM support to supplement urgent (>24 hours) household goods and services or shelter and emergency accommodation support.

Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE)

- **Lead** the provision of temporary accommodation services (TAS)⁵.
- **Maintain** regular communications and work in close collaboration with Wellington Region CDEM Group through the WCG and other relevant connections to inform and plan for the provision of shelter and accommodation.
- **Lead** planning to identify for potential threshold(s) to request CDEM support to supplement urgent (>24 hours) emergency accommodation support.
- **Lead** the identification of MIQ facilities

Wellington CDEM Group

- **Lead** the overall regional coordination of readiness, response and recovery for the Wellington CDEM Group⁵.
- **Lead** the provision of emergency welfare support when all other options are exhausted⁵.
- **Support** situational awareness by collecting, analysing, and sharing information as appropriate.
- **Support** local-level CDEM actions and activities.

⁵ National CDEM Plan Order 2015

- **Support** local-level coordination of community led responses

Territorial Authorities

- **Lead** local level operational coordination and response actions and activities⁵.
- **Lead** the provision of emergency welfare support when all other options are exhausted⁵.
- **Support** situational awareness by collecting, analysing and sharing information as appropriate.
- **Support** community groups and non-government organisation to minimise the negative consequences of COVID-19 on the community.

Police

- **Maintain** law and order and carry out enforcement of restrictions⁶.
- **Lead** and coordinate movement control into and out of the region⁶.
- **Provide** a Police presence at the region's borders, and at managed isolation and quarantine facilities.
- **Support** regional and local level coordination efforts by sharing information, providing liaisons and contributing to planning as appropriate.

New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF)

- **Support** the coordination of managed isolation and quarantine facilities⁶. **Provide** staff in support to NZ Police for regional cordons and checkpoints as required.

Other social service providers and Non-government Organisations (NGOs)

- **Maintain** connections with existing welfare agency forums, and the arrangements made with MSD.
- **Include** additional agencies and organisations in these forums as the need arises.

Other emergency services partners

- **Maintain** connections through Emergency Services Coordinating Group, CEG Sub Committee and CEG.
- **Provide** liaison officers into the Wellington CDEM Group ECC when activated.

Iwi/ Māori

- **Maintain** connection with the RLG and provide connectivity between governance and Iwi/ Māori communities.

Pasifika

- **Maintain** connection with the RLG and provide connectivity between governance and Pasifika communities.

⁶ COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020

Lifelines utilities⁷

- **Maintain** connection with the Lifelines Utility Coordinator (LUC) and provide ongoing lifelines services.

Further detail on outcomes and roles

The roles identified in the previous section provide a high-level overview of how the region will achieve its mission. More detailed information on how each agency or organisation will contribute to each of the region’s four desired outcomes can be found in **Annex 3: Roles and Responsibilities Matrix**.

Once distributed, it is intended that this matrix will be adjusted over time as partner agencies and organisations confirm the detail.

Wellington Region Resurgence Plan: Objectives, outcomes, and agency roles		Wellington CDEM Group ECC	Local EOCs	Regional Leadership Group (RLG)
Resurgence objectives	Contributing outcomes (primary outcomes in bold)			
1 Establish (as appropriate) and sustain timely and effective multi-agency coordination, decision making and governance arrangements	Coordination mechanisms are clearly established, and agencies understand how they connect	Lead - Implement regional CDEM coordination	Support - Implement local CDEM coordination in alignment with ECC	
	Strategic direction is provided by governance in accordance with relevant legislative frameworks			
	Operational decision making is aligned with national, regional and local intent	Lead - Overall coordination of CDEM response activities		Lead - Develop and commit regional resources to long term strategies
	Operations/Coordination Centres are appropriately activated and resourced	Lead - Activation of Wellington Region ECC	Support - Activation of TA EOCs as needed, or if directed by Group Controller	
	Connection with community representatives and key central government personnel			Lead - Connecting regional reps for local government, iwi, Pasifika, ethnic communities
	Social and economic recovery programmes are supported by regional decision makers, in line with local and regional strategies			Lead - Guide regional strategy, and support links to existing C4C / AOG direction

Objectives, outcomes, and agency roles matrix. For each of the region’s four Resurgence Objectives and associated outcomes, the matrix shows the lead and support roles of key partner agencies. Not every agency is involved in every outcome, and there can be multiple leads. An up to date spreadsheet of the full matrix will be distributed with each version of this document.

⁷ The movement of people and freight is a particularly important and complex part of resurgence planning. For more detail see **Annex 3: Transportation routes and responsible agencies**.

Coordination

Although COVID-19 is expected to remain a threat for some time to come, it is expected that the level of response activities required will shift between periods of high activity following outbreaks and periods of low activity after outbreaks have been successfully managed. In periods of low activity, it is intended that this plan be used as a touchstone for improving agency and organisational readiness, and for improving the region's overall level of preparedness to respond to any future outbreaks. Coordination measures for low activity periods will be defined as needed but could draw on several existing regional groups which typically meet quarterly. These include:

- **Joint Committee, Coordinating Executive Group (CEG), CEG sub-committee (sub-CEG):** Provide governance and strategic direction to the CDEM Group. These groups meet at least four times a year in readiness and, as required, during response and recovery.
- **Regional Inter Agency Planning Committee (RIAPC):** Supports the development of an integrated response framework for the CDEM Group. Aligns regional operational arrangements and strengthens regional relationships.
- **Emergency Services Coordinating Committees (ESCC):** Provide the opportunity for local emergency services to get together to discuss and align local operational arrangements, as well as build and strengthen local relationships.
- **Welfare Coordination Group (WCG):** Led by the Group Welfare Manager, this group includes Local Welfare Managers and regional welfare agency partners. WCG members work together to facilitate planning at the regional level in support of local arrangements as outlined in the Wellington Region CDEM Group Welfare Plan.
- **Local Welfare Committees (LWC):** Ensure coordinated local welfare service planning arrangements are in place as outlined in local welfare plans. During an emergency, LWCs coordinate the delivery of welfare services to their local communities. The LWCs are supported by the WCG and will escalate any issues they are unable to resolve for further assistance.
- **Regional Transport Response Team (RTRT):** Co-ordinates the response between land transport management agencies and organisations during moderate to larger-scale events that impact more than one transport network in the Wellington Region. (More detailed information on the wider transport network can be found at **Annex 4: Transport Routes and Responsible Agencies Matrix**).

During periods of high activity, coordination measures will be more clearly defined. High activity could include instances such as an outbreak in the Wellington Region, or heightened risk following an outbreak elsewhere in New Zealand. High activity would also follow any direct recommendations from Health officials indicating risks to the region. In these instances, the Wellington CDEM Group Controller will likely activate the regional Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) and initiate a number of measures.

Exact timings and details of these measures will be defined during each activation, but are likely to include:

Key coordinating groups and arrangements:

- **Group Controller's teleconference:** Led by the Group Controller, primarily attended by Local Controllers.

- **Regional Public Information Management (PIM) teleconference:** Led by the Group PIM, primarily attended by Local EOC PIM, and PIM from other regional partners such as DHBs and RPH.
- **Operational schedules:** Operational schedules to de-conflict key timings and engagements throughout the response.
- **Other arrangements:** Additional recurring meetings may also be stood up, including:
 - o Regional Manager, Group Controller, DHB, RPH and NZ Police daily teleconferences.
 - o Inter-agency liaison arrangements as required.

Situation Reports (SitReps) and other data collection:

- **Regional SitReps:** Wellington CDEM Group SitReps to provide regular updates on the number of infected cases, level of activation and key response actions. ECC Intelligence will set timings for regional SitRep distribution and the requirement for local input via local status updates.
- **Status updates to National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA):** Wellington CDEM Group is to provide key information to NEMA as required, to contribute to the national SitRep. ECC Intelligence will request additional information from ECC functions and other agencies as required.
- **Quantitative Metrics:** CDEM Groups must compile and send quantitative metrics to NEMA to inform national status updates. ECC Intelligence will set timings for local input if required. Currently this process collects data from local levels. The period for collection is Thursday to Wednesday each week, with reporting on Friday.

J. Holmes

Regional Manager

Wellington CDEM Group

17 September 2020

Annexes:

1. Key Legislative Frameworks
2. Regional Leadership Group Membership and Structure
3. Roles and Responsibilities Matrix
4. Transport Routes and Responsible Agencies Matrix

Annex 1: Key Legislative Frameworks

Note: The content for this annex is drawn directly from the NEMA Regional Coordination and Leadership Resurgence Plan. Changes to formatting and an initial summary have been added to improve readability. Any direct wording or reference to content of Acts is preserved.

There are two primary legislative frameworks for COVID-19 response:

1. COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020
2. CDEM Act 2002, and CDEM Plan Order 2015

COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020

The COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020 creates a comprehensive legal framework to support the Government's alert level system to limit the spread of COVID-19 in New Zealand, and other measures necessary to respond to COVID-19.

The purpose of the COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020 (COVID-19 Act) is to support a public health response to COVID-19 that:

- prevents, and limits the risk of, the outbreak or spread of COVID-19 (taking into account the infectious nature and potential for asymptomatic transmission of COVID-19); and
- avoids, mitigates, or remedies the actual or potential adverse effects of the COVID-19 outbreak (whether direct or indirect); and
- is coordinated, orderly, and proportionate; and
- has enforceable measures, in addition to the relevant voluntary measures and public health and other guidance that also support that response.

The COVID-19 Act enables the Director-General Health or the Minister of Health to make 'Section 11' Orders which can require specific actions to be taken, measures to be complied with, or restrictions to be put in place to prevent or limit the extent or spread of COVID-19.

Although 48hrs notice is normally required these orders can be issued urgently where required. These Orders are the mechanism whereby for example businesses could be required to close or implement other restrictions, members of the public required to quarantine themselves at home, or close or restrict movement over roads.

The COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020 is the primary legislation for addressing COVID-19 response and recovery issues. Therefore, we expect that there is less likely to be a need for emergency powers under the Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Act e.g. through a state of emergency or transition period.

Health Orders

It is important that CDEM Groups and partner agencies understand the implication of any Health Orders issued under S.11 of the COVID-2019 Public Health Response Act which will be used to apply the public health interventions which give effect to an increase in Alert Level.

S.70 Orders may also be issued by Medical Officers of Health to more defined groups of people or individuals to manage specific public health risks.

Links to all S.11 and S.70 orders are routinely published to the COVID-19 website here: <https://covid19.govt.nz/updates-and-resources/legislation-and-key-documents/>

CDEM Act 2002 and CDEM Plan Order 2015

The CDEM Act 2002 and CDEM Plan Order 2015 provide the legislative basis for CDEM Groups to coordinate the multi-agency response to an emergency (whether declared or undeclared).

CDEM Act S. 17 (1)(d) provides that it is a function of CDEM Group to respond to and manage the adverse effects of emergencies in its area.

Section 6 of the CDEM Act provides that the '*CDEM Act does not limit, is not in substitution for, and does not affect the functions, duties, or powers of any person under the provisions of any enactment or any rule of law*'. This means that CDEM Act powers **should not be used in substitution for other legislation**, such as the COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020 but complement it by enabling access to emergency powers to fill any gaps.

Process for emergency declarations at the local level for COVID-19

COVID-19 is a matter that affects all New Zealanders and is being managed nationally. A local declaration could potentially diminish the necessary national coordination that will continue to be required at all Alert Levels. Therefore, ***the CDEM Act requires approval from the Minister of Civil Defence prior to any state of local emergency or local transition period being declared for COVID-19.***

The additional ministerial test will help determine whether declaring a state of local emergency or local transition period is appropriate given the national management of COVID-19 and the COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020. The CDEM Act already provides a similar type provision where ministerial approval is needed where a local transition period is proposed, and no prior state of emergency was in place for the emergency.

If the Minister approves a state of local emergency for an area being declared for COVID-19, the declaration may then be made by either a person appointed for that purpose by the CDEM Group for that area or the mayor of a TA

Check the COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020 before using powers under the CDEM Act for COVID-19 related purposes

Before exercising any power under the CDEM Act in relation to COVID-19 it is important that CDEM Groups first check if the power is available in the COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020.

For example, the COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020 provides for the power to close roads and public places for the purpose of enforcing related measures contained in a section 11 Order (orders made to provide for COVID-19 alert levels and responding to COVID 19). CDEM Groups should not use the power in the CDEM Act to close roads and public places if the same road closure could be done under the COVID-19 Public Health Response Act 2020.

If the Group Controller believes that additional powers available under a local emergency declaration are required to manage the wider consequences of COVID-19, they should immediately contact the Duty REMA who will escalate the issue. NEMA will coordinate the provision of advice to the Minister of Civil Defence in conjunction with AoG COVID-19 Controller and Director CDEM.

It is highly likely that the Group Controller will already be in regular contact with the NEMA Duty Team, NEMA NCC and the AoG response and that this will be an ongoing review item.

It should be remembered that the COVID-19 Act contains the necessary legislative tools to manage the direct impact of COVID-19 and that a local declaration is not required for movement control, closing businesses or other similar functions, unless powers are inadequate to manage the wider consequences of COVID-19, or powers available under the CDEM Act 2002 are required for a concurrent event.

Process for local emergency declarations not related to COVID-19

Section 68 of the CDEM Act allows for a local emergency to be declared for any reason not related to COVID-19, even in the event there is a state of national emergency for COVID-19 in place. This would, for example, allow a local emergency to be declared for a flood event. Normally a local state of emergency is in force in respect of that part.

As with any declaration early and comprehensive liaison with NEMA is beneficial. It is also important that the declaration is consistent with the requirements in the CDEM Act and on the prescribed form set out in the Civil Defence Emergency Management Regulations 2003.

IN CONFIDENCE

Annex 2: Regional Leadership Group Membership and Structure

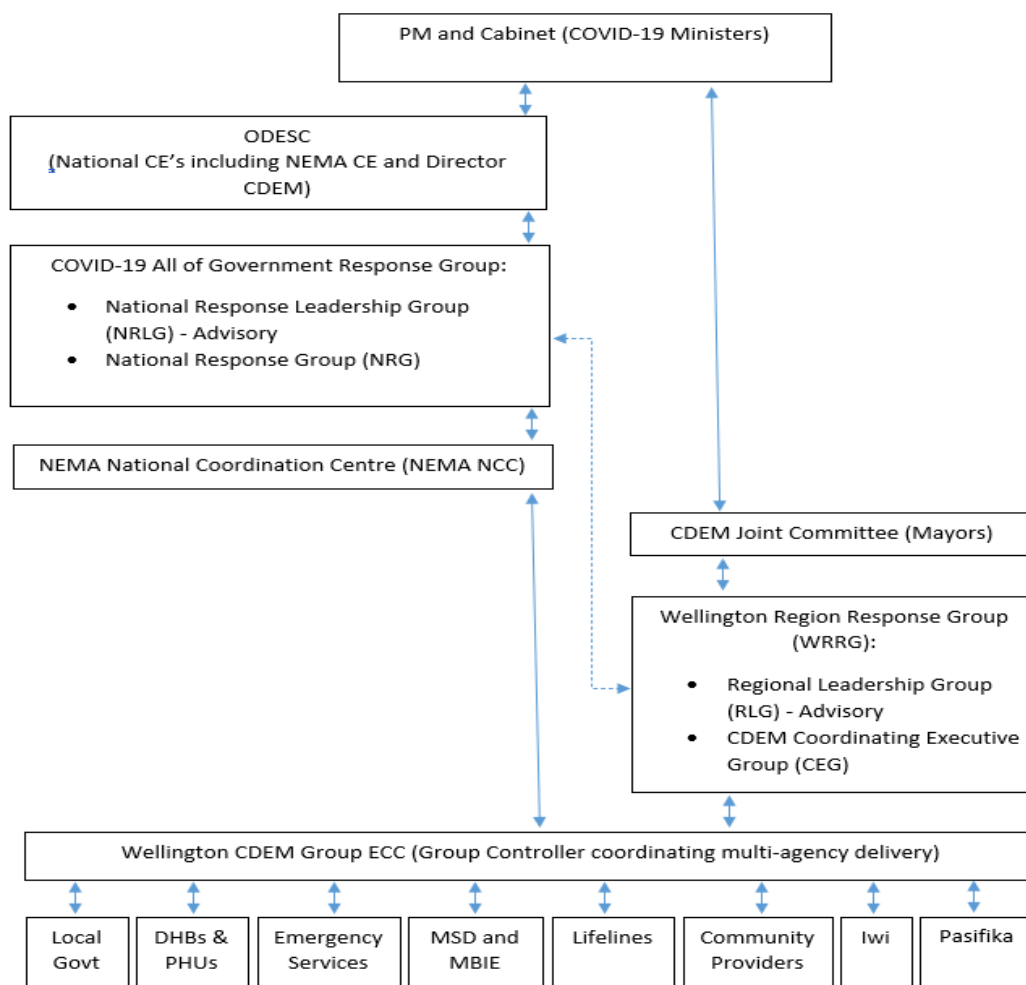
Note: This information is indicative as of 28 August and is subject to change as the RLG develops.

RLG Membership:

- Greater Wellington Regional Council
- Wellington City Council
- Hutt City Council
- Upper Hutt City Council
- South Wairarapa District Council
- Carterton District Council
- Masterton District Council
- Porirua City Council
- Kapiti Coast District Council
- Police District Command
- MSD Regional Commissioner
- Regional Public Sector Lead (MoE)
- CDEM Regional Manager
- Wairarapa DHB
- CCDHB & HVDHB
- Ngāti Raukawa
- Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai
- Ngāti Toa Rangatira
- Te Ātiawa /Taranaki ki Te Upoko o Te Ika
- Rangitāne o Wairarapa
- Ngāti Kahungunu o Wairarapa
- Ministry for Pacific Peoples

Structure:

The following diagram provides an overview of how the RLG is proposed to fit into national and regional leadership and governance structures:



Annex 3: Roles and Responsibilities Matrix

Wellington Region Resurgence Plan: Objectives, outcomes, and agency roles		Wellington CDEM Group ECC	Local EOCs	Regional Leadership Group (RLG)	RPH	DHBs	NZDF	Police	MSD	MBIE	MoH	NEMA	AoG	
Resurgence objectives	Contributing outcomes (primary outcomes in bold)													
1 Establish (as appropriate) and sustain timely and effective multi-agency coordination, decision making and governance arrangements	Coordination mechanisms are clearly established, and agencies understand how they connect	Lead - Implement regional CDEM coordination	Support - Implement local CDEM coordination in alignment with ECC		Establish - a coordinated response for RPH staff and resources		Support - coordination of Managed Isolation and Quarantine Facilities	Lead - Establish and manage regional cordons and checkpoints	Lead - Establish and maintain MSD working arrangements where boundaries are not aligned	Lead - identification of MIQ facilities and temporary accommodation services (TAS)				
	Strategic direction is provided by governance in accordance with relevant legislative frameworks				Ensure - appropriate use and compliance of regulatory tools		Support - follow guidance from MoH for managing facilities.	Support - enforcement of restrictions under COVID-19 Health Response Act			Support - Provide legislative advice to Health agencies	Support - Provide legislative advice to CDEM agencies		
	Operational decision making is aligned with national, regional and local intent	Lead - Overall coordination of CDEM response activities		Lead - Develop and commit regional resources to long term strategies						Lead - Long term financial assistance arrangements				
	Operations/Coordination Centres are appropriately activated and resourced	Lead - Activation of Wellington Region ECC	Support - Activation of TA EOCs as needed, or if directed by Group Controller			Lead - Activation of RPH EOC	Lead - Activation of DHB EOC(s)	Support - provide liaison officers as required.	Support - provide liaison officers as required.	Support - Provide MSD Liaisons to the ECC and six EOC's in the region if required				

	Connection with community representatives and key central government personnel			Lead - Connecting regional reps for local government, iwi, Pasifika, ethnic communities		Support - clear, consistent, and timely public health messaging for communities across our region			Lead - Provision of grants to social service providers and entitlements to affected individuals, etc.				
	Social and economic recovery programmes are supported by regional decision makers, in line with local and regional strategies			Lead - Guide regional strategy, and support links to existing C4C / AOG direction									
	Contingency plans enable cohesive response coordination following a secondary event, such as an earthquake or flood	Lead - Develop plans, aligned with COVID response requirements	Support - Contribute to plan development and localise as relevant	Support - Consider governance implications of a combined COVID / Secondary event					Support - Contributes to plan development				
2 Rapidly identify, control, and eliminate and outbreaks of COVID-19 in our region	Widespread regional COVID-19 testing capabilities and capacity is in place to support the community	Support - Provide logistical and comms support, or other support on agreement			Support - Convey requirements for CBACs and other health priorities	Lead - Manage support requests from Primary Health Organisations (PHO)		Support - provide Police presence at CBACs if required.					
	Control measures are rapidly put in place in accordance with national direction						Lead - any changes to processes are implemented quickly.	Lead - regional cordons are planned and ready to be implemented rapidly.					
	Isolation and quarantine facilities are available, fit for purpose and secure						Lead - Coordination of regional managed isolation and quarantine facilities	Support - provide Police presence at managed isolation and quarantine facilities					

	Maintaining liaisons with RPH and DHB	Lead- Request liaisons and work with Health to confirm arrangements			Support - Provide liaisons to ECC and EOC where required	Support - Provide liaisons to ECC	Lead - ensure effective health liaison is in place at facilities.							
	In support of Alert Level requirements, movement of people and freight is managed safely and securely	Support - Logistical support to Police, and reinforcing situational awareness			Provide - health protection services at the aviation and maritime borders		Support - provide staff for cordons as required.	Lead - Establish and manage regional cordons and checkpoints					Key Decision - Necessity of regional restrictions , based on Alert Levels	
3 Minimise the negative consequences of COVID-19 on community health, safety and wellbeing	Social service capability is in place to support the community													
	Community impacts are identified, communicated and addressed													
	Any actions taken will be responsive to community needs													
	Regional and local welfare agencies are linked into regional coordination	Lead - (If required) Coordinate CDEM welfare, where no other support is available		Lead - RLG agency meetings					Lead - Ongoing coordination of welfare service delivery, from June 2020 arrangements				Support - Provide support and advice to CDEM Groups	
	Welfare services are delivered in line with the people's needs	Support - Leverage relationships and available information					Support - refer welfare needs at facilities to welfare service providers.	Support - refer welfare needs at cordons to welfare service providers.	Lead - Implement MSD national arrangements at the regional level	Lead - Implement MBIE national arrangements at the regional level			Support - Provide key guidance on requirements and reimbursement options	

	Needs Assessment processes and other systems for understanding community welfare needs are clear, consistent, and useable	Lead - Develop Needs Assessment processes, or adapt existing systems as appropriate	Support - Contribute to development or adaptation of Needs Assessment processes		Support - Contribute to development or adaptation of Needs Assessment processes	Support - Contribute to development or adaptation of Needs Assessment processes			Support - Contribute to development or adaptation of Needs Assessment processes	Support - Contribute to development or adaptation of Needs Assessment processes		Support - Contribute to development or adaptation of Needs Assessment processes		
	Sharing of welfare information and building situational awareness	Lead - Promote sharing of information through Welfare Coordination Group (WCG)			Provide - situational awareness of border, case, contact and cluster intelligence				Support - Information is shared with the WCG	Support - Information is shared with the WCG				
4 Ensure the community and key partners are informed with timely and accurate information	Information is collected, analysed and shared amongst partner agencies													
	Data and intelligence are used to inform decision making													
	Widespread public messaging is used to inform, educate, and reassure the community													
	Partner agencies are able to access information sharing portals, with considerations in place for privacy and data sensitivity	Lead - Set process to collate and distribute key information to CDEM Group	Support - Provide information in the form of status updates					Lead - reporting of capacity at facilities to partner agencies.						
	Following identification of cases in region, key information is reported within 90 minutes	Lead - Prepare to convey key information via CDEM reporting lines	Support - Provide information to ECC proactively or upon request			Lead - Prepare to convey key information via Health reporting lines						Key Decision - Required Health channels and what is considered key information	Key Decision - Required channels CDEM and what is considered key information	

	Quantitative Metrics are collected accurately and timely, in support of national reporting requirements	Lead - Collate data for the Wellington CDEM Group and send to NEMA	Support - Contribute data if relevant (if EOC activated or providing services relevant to Metrics)				Lead - reporting of capacity at facilities to partner agencies.	Lead - reporting of cordon traffic volumes and turn arounds.					
	Reporting uses clear and concise language, avoiding sector-specific jargon where practical												
	Where practical, key information will be shown visually, such as maps and graphs	Lead - Develop GIS products to support the response											
	AoG campaigns are distributed regionally, and reach all intended audiences	Lead - Regional distribution	Support - local distribution of key messages		Support - MoH messaging that comes from AoG		Lead - regional managed isolation and quarantine messaging	Support - AoG messaging for Alert Level Guidelines	Lead - messaging on Welfare support		Lead - Health Messaging	Lead - National Messaging	Key Decision - Messaging based on Alert Levels
	Sector-specific communications adapt AoG campaigns to provide appropriate detail for the regional and local levels	Lead - Regional CDEM communications		Support - distribution through channels	Lead - Regional Health communications	Support - distribution through channels		Support - distribution through channels		Key Decision - Business and temporary accommodation guidelines	Key Decision - Health specific guidelines	Key Decision - CDEM specific guidelines	
	Messaging to priority populations is appropriate and clear	Support - Distributing communications, as developed by leads		Support - Reinforce messaging through RLG member organisations, as relevant	Lead - Communications to people with disability	Lead - Communications to priority populations including those with a high disability		Support - AoG messaging for Alert Level Guidelines	Lead - Communications with MSD client base		Support - AoG messaging for Alert Level Guidelines	Support - AoG messaging for Alert Level Guidelines	Key Decision - Rules around travel, mass gatherings etc

	Messaging to businesses is appropriate and clear	Support - Business focused messages at regional level	Support - Business focused messages developed by AOG							Lead - COVID-19 business information		Support - business messaging at a national level	Lead - Develop business-focused messages
	Where practical, messaging is amplified by regional stakeholder representatives and agency liaisons	Support - liaison between the regional and local level for key messaging		Lead - regional stakeholder relationships (including iwi and Pacifica)	Support - distribution through channels	Support - distribution through channels		Support - distribution through channels	Support - distribution through channels		Support - distribution through channels	Support - AoG to liaise with national PIMs	Lead - national liaison between all partner agencies

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Annex 4: Transport Routes and Responsible Agencies Matrix

The agencies represented here may have overlapping areas of responsibility, but in general will have primary lead and support responsibilities regarding rail, sea, air and road transportation.

<i>Transport routes and related agencies</i>		KiwiRail	Metlink	NZTA	Territorial Authorities	Inter Islander	Bluebridge	CentrePort	GWRC Harbours	Wellington Airport	Kapiti Airport	Aviation Security	Customs	Airlines	NZ Police	Ministry of Education
Rail	Passenger trains between regions	Lead														
	Commuter trains within the region		Lead													
	Freight trains between regions	Lead														
Sea	Passenger travel on Cook Strait ferries	Support				Lead	Lead	Support								
	Freight vehicles on Cook Strait ferries	Support				Lead	Lead	Support								
	Overseas freight ships docking at CentrePort							Support					Support			
	Small passenger ferries across Wellington harbour		Support		Support				Support							
	Private vessels docking in the region								Support							
Air	Domestic flights into the region									Lead	Lead			Support		
	International flights into the region									Support		Support	Support	Lead		
	Freight into the region's airports									Support		Support		Support		
	Chartered flights & private planes into the region									Support	Support	Support	Support			



Road	Buses between regions															
	General buses within region															
	School buses within region															
	Freight vehicles within the region															
	Freight in/out of the region															
	Passenger vehicles within the region															
	Passenger vehicles between regions															

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