



# Northland Local Advisory Committee

## Quarterly Report to Fire and Emergency Board

---

### 2021-22 Quarter 1

The Northland Local Advisory Committee (LAC) met on 27 February at Kaikohe Fire Station, with the incoming District Manager (currently Area Manager, Muri Whenua).

It was useful to meet with the Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) team during our meeting and to hear about their work and cooperation with Fire and Emergency, both currently and in the future.

### Community engagement

Since the last LAC meeting, members have met with Te Iwi o Roroa. Emergency response is a priority for this iwi living in and around the Waipoua. As a result of the meeting the community will carry out their own GAP analysis.

Members engaged with Ngāti Wai, other iwi and hapū and government agencies at a pōwhiri at Mōkau Marae in Whangaruru, where the whareniui has been rebuilt after a fire incident.

We also engaged with Fire and Emergency and St Johns volunteers in the Hokianga town of Kohukohu. Many young people leave for larger centres to work and drugs and alcohol are a barrier to volunteering for some. Older people in the community have skills to contribute and we see value in a volunteer attraction campaign in the Hokianga. Fire and Emergency's Volunteer Resilience Team is considering a visit to the area in early 2022.

We were pleased to hear that the five-week Youth and Cadet training programme developed in Northland by Police, St Johns, Fire and Emergency and the Northland Regional Council is providing volunteer training for young people in emergency services. The two industry brigades in the north have been supportive in providing facilities and equipment for this programme.

At a regular Kaipara Police-Iwi Liaison meeting, iwi noted that they would like more engagement from agencies at marae level. The LAC will continue to attend these hui, providing updates and identifying opportunities for partnership in communities.

Some quite major local government changes are being progressed currently – Three Waters and changes to roading and the Unitary Authority. There is some concern about the effects of centralisation on outlying communities. We will maintain a watching brief on these, with Fire and Emergency planning in mind.

Following a fatal house fire in Taemaro Bay, members of the Taupō Bay Fire Brigade supported by Area Fire Risk Management staff and Te Hiku's Pou Takawaenga visited multiple homes in the bay, providing fire safety advice and installing smoke alarms to reduce the risk to the community.



This project was then replicated for the residents of Waimahana, a Far North community the LAC connected Fire and Emergency with, and in the near future will be offered to the Taupō Bay area. The relationships developed between staff and the community will be very valuable going forward. CDEM were also able to provide advice in relation to the threat of tsunami and flooding, which both communities are susceptible to. Working together with CDEM allowed Fire and Emergency staff to assist the community to build resilience, giving them the ability to recover more quickly following an incident.

The Far North District Council has deferred implementation of its Significant Natural Areas (SNAs) programme due to opposition and consideration of things such as the New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy. We note that although some landowners are trying to involve Fire and Emergency – and the LAC – in debate on SNAs, the organisation shouldn't get drawn into the debate.

In the coming year, we will continue our focus on isolated and vulnerable communities, supporting people who don't generally have a voice, by connecting them with Fire and Emergency and seeking partnership and risk reduction opportunities.

We will also make use of Waitangi Day, Field Days and other community events to connect with a broad cross-section of the community, inform people of the role of the LAC, learn about community needs and identify engagement opportunities.

## **Insights and considerations**

During our engagement in Kohukohu we heard that volunteering for St Johns and Fire and Emergency require a lot of training, therefore it is difficult for people to do both. There may be potential for some training to be combined, particularly in small communities.

The Committee is considering the best way to capture the outcomes of our engagement and to maintain the connections and relationships we have initiated. We would like to see the successes and value of LAC work shared with the organisation but note that this is likely to develop once local planning mechanisms have been set up.

## **Priority stakeholders for 2021-22**

- **Isolated and vulnerable communities**
- **Iwi/hapū**
- **Fire and Emergency Volunteers**
- **CDEM/Coordinating Executives Group**
- **Health**
- **Industry brigades**



## Tairāwhiti Local Advisory Committee

### Quarterly Report to Fire and Emergency Board

---

#### 2021-22 Quarter 1

The Tairāwhiti Local Advisory Committee (LAC) held its fourth meeting at Gisborne Fire Station.

The Regional Manager updated the LAC on the Tranche 2 organisational district redeployment commenting on the new roles and introducing the incoming Tairāwhiti District Manager. The Area Manager informed the LAC of the marae preparedness meetings with Te Puni Kokiri and the work involved for LACs to promote the programme when engaging with iwi/hapū.

#### Community engagement

We set our engagement priorities, working with local leaders to consider district and national priorities.

We will continue our engagement with Māori communities and extend our engagement to include iwi CEOs, Māori rural health organisations and marae. Members will utilise the korero on the marae preparedness programme to facilitate conversations with iwi and hapū leaders.

The Committee will engage with local government and Civil Defence to understand what they identify as district risks and what mechanisms are in place to mitigate these hazards.

To understand how vulnerable groups, perceive fire and emergency services and their needs to prepare for emergencies, LAC members will engage with Pasifika, our youth and elderly, and disabled communities.

We will continue to engage with Fire and Emergency volunteers at their leadership meetings and update them on LAC work being achieved. Farming entities, such as Federated Farmers and Farming Women Tairāwhiti, and forestry companies are targeted for engagement to gather insights around community risks and pathways to volunteerism.

#### Priority stakeholders for 2021-22

- Māo i (iwi, hapū, CEOs, health providers)
- Forestry
- Farming entities
- Multicultural communities
- CDEM
- Fire and Emergency Volunteers



## Hawke's Bay Local Advisory Committee Quarterly Report to Fire and Emergency Board

---

### 2021-22 Quarter 1

The Hawke's Bay Local Advisory Committee (LAC) held its quarterly meeting at Havelock North Volunteer Fire Station. The Chief Fire Officer welcomed the LAC to the station and gave an overview of the types of callouts, volunteer membership, risks and changing demographics in the community.

### Community engagement

Members noted at district volunteer leadership meetings, that brigade leaders would like to recruit more brigade support to assist in the support or prevention space. The LAC has agreed to meet with elder organisations to publicise volunteering opportunities when engaging with stakeholders.

We attended a Safer Napier hui to introduce the LAC. There is opportunity for Fire and Emergency to strengthen its relationships with youth-focussed agencies and participate in a youth development programme which could present volunteer pathways for a younger demographic in the area.

The Committee discussed the risks posed by emergency housing in the district where occupants can end up residing in temporary accommodation for up to three years. The housing is often not fit-for-purpose for longer term occupation which can pose fire safety risks. The LAC will engage with accommodation providers initially to understand the issues and risks involved.

The LAC also identified risks associated with transient and migrant workers living in noncompliant rental properties. We will engage with these at-risk communities through migrant networks to make these communities aware of the district's Safety Alarms for Everyone programme and the opportunity for home fire safety visits.

We have confirmed our engagement plan for the next year. Our focus for engagement aligns with district priorities and the LAC will engage with stakeholders and networks to gather information and connections to effectively support district leadership and planning.

### Insights and considerations

The Committee noted the number of reforms currently being undertaken at a local and national level. We see benefit in understanding how these reforms, such the local government reforms, Three Waters proposal and changes to the Resource Management Act, may impact Fire and Emergency.

Volunteers commented that the length of time taken to train recruits can lead to new members leaving the brigade affecting response capability. There may be an opportunity for Fire and Emergency to consider how it can provide training to new recruits in a more timely way to improve retention rates.



The Committee noted the commitment of Fire and Emergency to Māori and the focus on strengthening engagement with Māori communities. We note the level of resource needed to support this work, such as Pou Takawaenga Māori and consider that current resource may be inadequate to meet this need.

### **Priority stakeholders for 2021-22**

- Māori communities
- Transient and migrant communities
- Pasifika
- Older populations
- Youth
- Local government
- Forestry
- Fire and Emergency volunteers



## Marlborough Local Advisory Committee Quarterly Report to Fire and Emergency Board

---

### 2021-22 Quarter 1

The Marlborough Local Advisory Committee (LAC) met on 13 July at the Emergency Operations Centre in Blenheim, with members of the Te Ihu Regional Team (RLT).

The RLT update included the latest recruitment for stand-up of the new district teams on 27 September and changes to the management of rural fire across the top of the South Island. Local leaders also expressed appreciation for LAC members' feedback on the Fire Plan and noted that they have received positive feedback on the Committee's engagement with volunteers.

### Community engagement

Engagement with volunteers has progressed well since the last LAC meeting. Members attended events, such as the Northbank and Rai Valley station openings and met with a variety of groups and individual volunteers, including the Chief Fire Officer of the Blenheim Brigade. We will continue with volunteer engagement, using the Volunteer Strategy outcomes as a guide.

Extending our volunteerism deep dive, we have organised four evening events for engagement with employers of volunteers for August and September. These meetings will be held at fire stations across the LAC district, so that employers can choose the most suitable venue and time.

During the LAC meeting we received a presentation from the Operations Manager of Te Kotahi o Te Taihu Charitable Trust, a former iwi Chair who has developed a draft Civil Defence Strategy for the eight Te Taihu iwi (2021-2025). In Marlborough, Civil Defence has funded marae to put together emergency management plans but she noted that there is potential for the LAC and for Fire and Emergency to support marae with compliance and risk reduction.

Iwi would like to see a consistent emergency response across the region, rather than division between Marlborough and Nelson/Tasman.

We also had the opportunity to explore with her the best way forward for LAC engagement with iwi. Iwi are currently highly committed. Due to the pressure for iwi to engage with a variety of agencies and organisations, and their focus on the growth of their economic and social base, the LAC will postpone engagement for the next few months, until the Community Risk Team is set up.

One LAC member will then lead engagement, meeting with General Managers to start with. To avoid duplication, LAC engagement will be undertaken alongside the District Community Risk team. There may also be opportunities for introductory engagement with iwi stakeholders at existing events.



## **Insights and considerations**

The Committee noted that there may be an opportunity for older volunteers who may not wish to respond to emergencies, to support risk reduction work.

Volunteers raised with us the fact that there is no standardisation of employer policies to support volunteers. For example, when dealing with fatalities, some volunteers receive paid leave – others do not. There may be an opportunity for Fire and Emergency to share with employers' specific options in this regard, or to formalise a protocol for employers to agree to.

## **Priority stakeholders for 2021-22**

- **Iwi**
- **Volunteers**
- **Employers of volunteers**
- **Community**



## West Coast Local Advisory Committee Quarterly Report to Fire and Emergency Board

---

### 2021-22 Quarter 1

The West Coast Local Advisory Committee (LAC) met at Greymouth Fire Station on 16 July with members of the Te Ihu Regional Leadership Team (RLT). The meeting coincided with the extreme weather event that caused flooding and damage on the West Coast, so our local leaders were largely occupied with that.

As a committee we want to acknowledge Paul Swain's contribution as Fire and Emergency Chair during the establishment of the first seven committees. We welcome Rebecca Keoghan's appointment to the role of Chair, particularly as she is from the West Coast. We would like to extend an invitation to Rebecca to attend one of our LAC meetings.

### Community engagement

Since the last LAC meeting we have met with volunteer representatives from Hokitika, Ross, Kumara and Greymouth, at a volunteer forum similar to those undertaken in the past few months.

Volunteers commented on a shortage of cleaning facilities at some brigades, meaning they return home dirty after callouts, causing volunteers to feel less than appreciated.

The engagement we had planned in South Westland was postponed. The timing for this was not ideal, as stakeholders had recently been brought together by Fire and Emergency local leaders. We are keen to extend our engagement into this area and will arrange engagement with businesses in South Westland this quarter, to coincide with a business forum related to the government support package for companies affected by COVID-19.

The incoming District Manager's priority is to build relationships in the first few months. We will therefore work with him to plan LAC engagement timelines, and schedule joint meetings where appropriate, to avoid duplication and stakeholder confusion.

We will work alongside the new Community Risk Team on Education, engaging with schools and young peoples' groups, with volunteer sustainability in mind. We also have an interest in contributing to any review of Fire and Emergency's MOU with the Ministry of Education, to assist with potential addition of content relating to the alignment of strategic priorities - specifically, building resilient communities through education.





## Insights and considerations

Hokitika volunteers noted that their recruitment is going particularly well – the brigade has a waiting list. We observed that the reputation of brigade leaders is an important factor in attracting volunteers, but also suggest that a case study could be undertaken to identify what is working well here.

We heard feedback on the professional development of senior leaders - that brigade chiefs and senior officers would like more refresher training. They are always keen to hear about operational changes from recruits returning from Rotorua, but a better mechanism to let senior leaders know what has changed would be helpful.

We were interested to hear about the framework Fire and Emergency is developing to integrate LAC advice into the planning and strategy into the organisation, in particular the feedback loops to LACs. The Committee had an extended discussion about the ways in which feedback could be provided to communities and would like Fire and Emergency to consider this as the details are worked out.

We would also appreciate assurance that the local nature of advice to the Board and Fire and Emergency will be retained.

## Priority stakeholders for 2021-22

- **Fire and Emergency Volunteers**
- **Iwi**
- **Educations (Youth/Schools)**
- **Civil Defence Emergency Management**
- **Industry and small and medium enterprises – including farming, tourism and larger dairy, forestry and mining employers**



## Chatham Islands Local Advisory Committee Quarterly Report to Fire and Emergency Board

---

### 2021-22 Quarter 1

The Chatham Islands Local Advisory Committee (LAC) met at Te Ūpoko Region Headquarters on 5 August, with members of the Te Ūpoko Regional Leadership Team (RLT).

We were pleased to hear about the appointment of Fire and Emergency's new Chair and that Tranche 2 recruitment is progressing rapidly. The LAC looks forward to welcoming the new District Manager to the Chatham Islands in November.

### Community engagement

Since our last meeting we have engaged with community health and social service provider, Ha o Te Ora o Wharekauri Trust. At this meeting, the Trust noted that community home fire safety training including the use of fire extinguishers would be useful, and emphasised the importance of a variety of fire safety communications materials.

During the meeting with Ha O Te Ora we were asked to explain the meaning of fire sirens on the Island. RLT have clarified the triggers for first, second and third alarms and we asked them to include this information in the fire safety brochure they are producing for the Chatham Islands.

The brochure is part of the Home Fire Safety Visit project led by Te Upoko's Fire Risk Management Officer. Fire and Emergency's Communications team will produce a video and other collateral highlighting how the people of the Chatham Islands can work together as a community to reduce fire risk and to demonstrate the importance of building community resilience.

Tranche 2 changes have delayed this work in partnership with iwi and imi to distribute smoke alarms and increase fire safety communication, but the programme is now planned for September and will include one day on Pitt Island.

The Committee is arranging meetings with four key stakeholders in November, to coincide with our next LAC meeting and the time when RLT members are on the Islands. Ngāti Mutunga o Wharekauri Iwi Trust, Hokotehi Moriori Trust, Chatham Islands Enterprise Trust and the Chatham Islands Council, are all stakeholder with whom we have agreed to meet regularly, due to their importance and influence on the Islands.

We confirmed our engagement plan for the coming year, reducing our list of key stakeholders to those with the broadest mandate and targeting established forums to engage with as many as possible in the community.



## **Insights and considerations**

At the meeting with Ha O Te Ora, interest was expressed in CIMS training for members of the community, so that more people understand the structure and can better assist during emergency events. This suggestion has been conveyed to local leaders, for follow up with CDEM.

## **Priority stakeholders for 2021-22**

- **Iwi / Imi**
- **Chatham Islands Council**
- **CI Enterprise Trust**
- **Community Groups**
- **Fire and Emergency Volunteers**



## Otago Local Advisory Committee

### Quarterly Report to Fire and Emergency Board

---

#### 2021-22 Quarter 1

The Otago Local Advisory Committee (LAC) held its quarterly meeting at Naseby Volunteer Fire Station. The Deputy Chief Fire Officer (DCFO) greeted the LAC and gave an overview of the district risks, volunteer membership and the make-up of the community. The DCFO is also a representative of the forestry sector and provided an outline of processes and risks associated with forest operations.

LAC members were encouraged to hear of the amalgamation of the Ranfurly brigade with the Maniototo component of the Blackstone brigade. We understand this merger will enable more volunteers to offer a broader skillset, to better respond to and support local communities.

#### Community engagement

An LAC member engaged with Pasifika groups in Oamaru to understand their risks and needs and to support the local brigades to connect with Pasifika groups to develop a relationship and build resilience and fire safety awareness amongst this community.

A Committee member introduced the LAC purpose and role to Safer Waitaki and Network Waitaki. There is an opportunity for Fire and Emergency to collaborate with these groups to organise a community-based event to enhance fire safety awareness and promote volunteerism in the Waitaki district. It would be an effective way to meet and engage with several organisations in one setting. Engagement will continue with both entities to further understand community needs and priorities.

An LAC member met with the Royal Albatross Centre to understand their risks on the peninsula and identified a need for developing an evacuation plan which Fire and Emergency will assist with developing to improve their emergency preparedness.

The Committee noted the shortage of suitable housing available in North Dunedin and increase of itinerant workers coming into the area. There may be an opportunity for Fire and Emergency to increase their risk reduction work in this part of the city.

LAC members discussed with Regional Leadership Team (RLT) members the level of engagement with volunteers and whether information reported back was useful for them. RLT encouraged members to continue meeting volunteers at leadership meetings with a focus on discussing community risks and pathways to volunteerism.

After careful consideration of the previous year's engagement, the Committee agreed to continue with its three priority groups, mana whenua, Fire and Emergency volunteers, and vulnerable communities. Valuable links have been made and built upon and more focused work will continue to gather and report their interests, local risks and issues.



## **Insights and considerations**

The Committee appreciate the work in developing the framework to include LAC advice into Fire and Emergency. To help the Committee focus on specific areas for future engagements, we look forward to receiving more direction from the Board on strategic priorities.

High fire risk as the result of urban development in previously rural areas remains an issue of concern. The LAC noted the significant need for Fire and Emergency to submit on issues and risks to resource consent planning processes at an early stage and insist for conditions to be included within the consent that include fire mitigation. As subject matter experts, Fire and Emergency have an important role to play in ensuring risk reduction is considered when planning new developments.

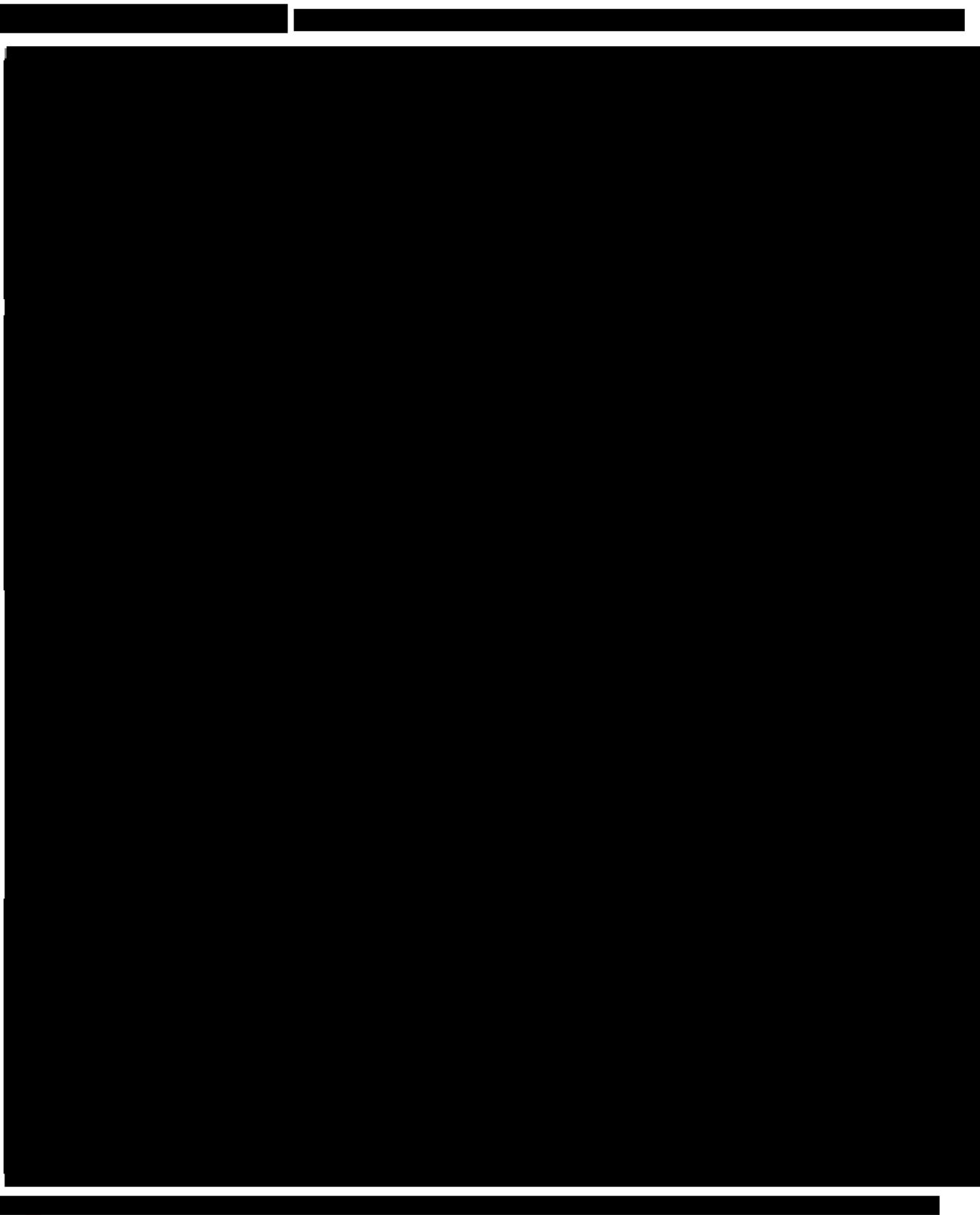
The Otago LAC suggested a nationwide conference of all LACs. The purpose would be for members to receive an update on Fire and Emergency's strategy and to share learnings across all the LACs.

## **Priority stakeholders for 2021-22**

- **Mana whenua**
- **Vulnerable communities**
- **Fire and Emergency volunteers**
- **Local Government**



982



Rele

LAC	Committee updates and insights
<p><b>Northland</b></p>	<p>An LAC member accompanied the District Manager and team members on a visit to [REDACTED] to inspect a [REDACTED] for a new fire station. The meeting concluded that a feasibility study and further discussion with the landowner should be undertaken. The LAC member will work with the Group Manager on a robust community consultation process, to ensure the new site has the support of the community prior to the project proceeding.</p> <p>Work and communications continue between the LAC, Fire and Emergency management CDEM and Te Uri o Hau in establishing a marae-based community programme dealing with response, education and planning for recovery in the North Western Kaipara area</p> <p>At a meeting of the Kaipara Police-Iwi Liaison Group it was noted that there are not enough skilled people available to lift tapu from road accident sites, particularly under COVID levels 3 and 4. The question of capacity to support first responders with whakawātea of sites of vehicle accidents will be raised with the Whangarei Group Manager's team and Northland COVID working group.</p> <p>The Committee has scheduled a planning session for the February LAC meeting. District leaders will present their plans, engagement focus and priorities and we will consider our engagement capacity and plan further collaboration with the district team.</p>
<p><b>Hawke's Bay</b></p>	<p>The Committee discussed their stakeholder priority groups with the District Manager and agreed to continue engaging with the same entities over the next quarter. Engagements will take place with Heretaunga Takoto Noa Māori Standing Committee, Ngāti Rongomaiwahine, and Tātau Tātau o Te Wairoa to connect district leaders with iwi leaders.</p> <p>LAC members will set stakeholder meetings with the Hawke's Bay Multicultural Organisation and the local migrant network, the Older Person's network and kaumatua group, Eastern Essential Community Trust and He Poutama Rangatahi and with Hastings and Wairoa District Councils.</p> <p>The Committee noted an increase in forestry work within the LAC district, and in road traffic and rail services as a result. LAC members agreed to engage with communities that neighbour forestry operations or forests to understand their risks and concerns.</p>
<p><b>Marlborough</b></p>	<p>The Committee has changed its engagement approach, leveraging LAC member networks and roles in the community to inform and gather insights, and to open doors for the district team.</p> <p>We are partnering with the Marlborough Chamber of Commerce, to engage with the business community and employers of volunteers, by co-hosting a Business After 5 event in March 2022.</p> <p>The Committee has committed to LAC representation at the Nelson Marlborough Land Management Forum in November 2021, to meet stakeholders and inform them on the LAC's purpose and work.</p> <p>We will continue work with the Community Risk Manager and our Pou Takawaenga to arrange and coordinate engagement with Te Taihū iwi.</p>



<p><b>West Coast</b></p>	<p>The COVID-19 lockdown in September resulted in the cancellation of a business forum with agencies and volunteer engagement the Committee had planned for South Westland. We are however aiming to meet with South Westland businesses in November.</p> <p>The Committee agreed to a change of strategy with relation to engagement with volunteers, moving away from the brigade forums we met with last year. In partnership with the district team we are planning a series of events to recognise volunteers and promote volunteerism with employers.</p> <p>The District Manager will discuss with Buller Council's Recovery Manager what LAC engagement might be useful around the July 2021 flood. The Committee would like to understand the community's level of resilience and what the main issues were. Development West Coast's survey on the impacts of the flood on businesses will provide a useful overview of the effects on industry and SMEs.</p> <p>We are looking to schedule second meetings with the two hapū in the LAC District, Kāti Waewae and Kāti Māhaki ki Makaawhio, in the new year.</p>
<p><b>Otago</b></p>	<p>The Committee was pleased to learn of the District Manager's priorities and encouraged him to utilise members to help connect Fire and Emergency district leaders with community groups and individuals.</p> <p>Following engagement with vulnerable community groups, we noted an opportunity for the development of fire safety material, aimed at migrant communities, that could be distributed nationally.</p> <p>As members approach the mid-point of their tenure, they noted that it may be timely to review the LAC Terms of Reference and that they would be willing to contribute to a review.</p>

Rhys Jones  
**Chief Executive**

Raewyn Bleakley  
**Deputy Chief Executive, Office of the Chief Executive**



Chatham Islands and Tairāwhiti LACs' Board reports were not included in the consolidated LAC report to the Board in December. Their quarter 2 meetings were delayed, to allow for the induction of new members.

## **Tairāwhiti Local Advisory Committee Quarterly Report to Fire and Emergency Board**

---

### **2021-22 Quarter 2**

#### **Committee updates and insights**

The Tairāwhiti LAC welcomed its four new members at the Committee's quarter 2 meeting on 23 November. The Committee is working to understand the strengths and the opportunities members bring and plan efficient and cooperative community engagement.

The Committee is keen to support Fire and Emergency's current activities to help build resilience in communities. LAC members will support the district team to approach and get to know communities in their rohe they are less familiar with.

The Committee's engagement will be planned according to Fire and Emergency's most relevant strategic priorities, *Building resilient communities* and *Collaboration, partnerships and influence*.

## **Chatham Islands Local Advisory Committee Quarterly Report to Fire and Emergency Board**

---

### **2021-22 Quarter 2**

#### **Committee updates and insights**

The Chatham Islands LAC was pleased to welcome two new members to our meeting on 9 December. The Committee received a presentation on Hiwa-i-te-Rangi and members will, in their own time, complete the He Tīmatanga Kōrero booklet and test, to support our work with iwi and imi.

The introduction of cell phone coverage to the Chatham Islands provides new opportunities for Fire and Emergency in terms of the distribution of information and capture of data. Communications Centre (ComCen) mapping for the Chatham Islands went live in December, allowing Centre staff to pinpoint the locations of emergency incidents and resolving an issue we flagged during our visit to the ComCen in August.

The LAC will engage with its four key stakeholders in early March. In addition to Hokotehi Moriori Trust, Ngāti Mutunga o Wharekauri Iwi Trust, Chatham Islands Council and Chatham Islands Enterprise Trust, members will make contact with Air Chathams and the Chatham Islands Airport company.



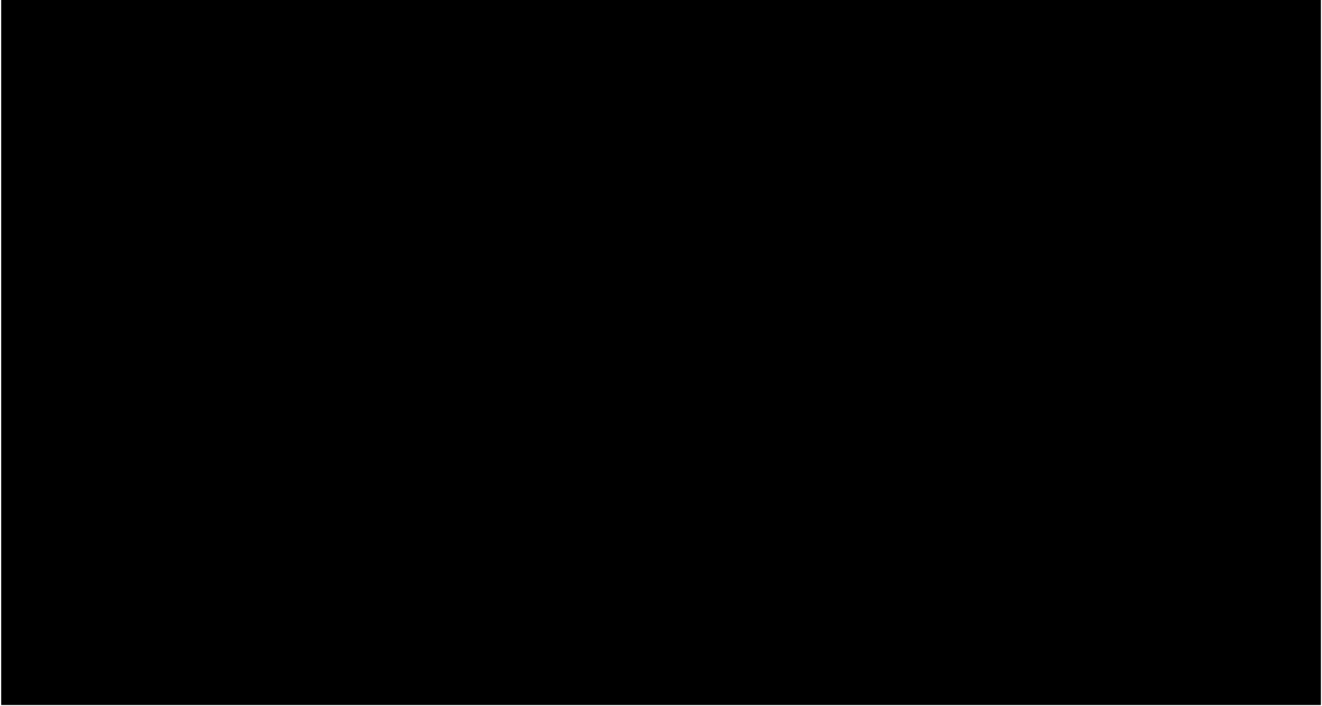
[REDACTED]

1982

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Released



[Redacted text block]

**Committee updates, insights and engagement**

LAC	Committee updates and insights
Northland	Since the last LAC meeting members have engaged with volunteers at Te Kōpuru Fire Station alongside the Community Risk Manager, with Dargaville Lions Club, DOC, the Kaipara Council, Whakawhiwhi Ora Pai Māori health provider in the Far North and CDEM. Iwi and hapū engaged include Te Rōroa, Te Uri o Hau and Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara.

<sup>1</sup> [Redacted footnote text]

Released under the Official Information Act

LAC	Committee updates and insights
	<p>After attending a community meeting alongside the district team in Pipiwai, we note the significant value of using post-incident debriefs to assist communities to increase their resilience.</p> <p>We were pleased to hear that Fire and Emergency and CDEM worked well together on the Kaimaumu and Waiharara fires, particularly when evacuation was necessary. Video updates and the dissemination of information via social media during these fires were valuable for communities. We note the importance of clear and modern messaging through channels that will reach young people.</p> <p>COVID-19 has seen the initiation of some strong new networks and opportunities exist for Fire and Emergency and the LAC to link in with these.</p> <p>Planning engagement going forward we will focus on where strategic relationships exist, as well as on communities by location. Iwi and hapū are a good example of this relationship approach.</p> <p>Some Councils and iwi in Te Tai Tokerau have signed mana-enhancing relationship agreements and this may be something that Fire and Emergency could consider.</p>
Tairāwhiti	<p>Since the last LAC meeting members have engaged with the community alongside the Community Risk Manager on a community housing project and worked with Fire and Emergency staff on Marae preparedness.</p> <p>There is also work with Te Runanganui o Ngati Porou Iwi and strengthening our relationship with Iwi Chairs through working through smoke alarms in homes and Firewise in schools.</p> <p>However, COVID-19 has had a significant impact on the ability to engage kanohi ki te kanohi within the Tairāwhiti region. However, COVID-19 has seen the initiation of some strong new networks and opportunities exist for Fire and Emergency and the LAC to link in with these.</p> <p>We were pleased to hear of the work that is underway to increase the volume of volunteers and designed to explore cohorts within communities that have previously been ignored. We are keen to part of this project and provide assistance in designing an approach that will work within Tairāwhiti communities. We note the importance of ensuring that communities are at the center of designing approaches such as this.</p> <p>We are planning on engaging with local media more regularly in an effort to increase the understanding and knowledge of the LAC within Tairāwhiti. We are engaging with the Fire and Emergency media team to ensure this aligns with the guidelines for media engagement.</p> <p>Planning engagement going forward we will particularly focus on engagements to explore the ongoing impact of climate change in our communities.</p>

LAC	Committee updates and insights
Hawke's Bay	<p>The Hawke's Bay LAC discussed engagement for the district for the next quarter and over the coming year, with a focus on engagement with Māori/iwi/hapū. The committee received a presentation on iwi connections and organisations across the rohe to support this work.</p> <p>The Committee notes the levels of stress and fatigue affecting the rural sector including rural volunteers. Rural communities are feeling under pressure and are being affected by COVID-19 impacts, labour shortages, supply chain issues and land usage changes such as the move to carbon forestry.</p> <p>The district team will be working with the local CDEM team, prioritising coastal communities/coastal brigades as part of their risk reduction strategy, which will also help to educate the community about CDEM's coordination role in the area.</p> <p>Going forward, the LAC will work with the district team to provide feedback on their risk reduction workplan and assist the team in mapping remote and vulnerable communities, to help build and support these communities' resilience and readiness.</p>
Marlborough	<p>In November, an LAC member attended Fire and Emergency's Land Management Forum in Nelson, to meet and hear from stakeholders. He noted the openness of Fire and Emergency staff with stakeholders and that trust and communication are key to the new teams building grass roots connections</p> <p>At its February meeting, the LAC met with Port Marlborough representatives, who provided an update on the development required to accommodate new Cook Strait ferries. The LAC noted following the update that Fire and Emergency will need to understand the scope of growth and its ability to meet associated extra demands. The LAC will support the district team to establish connections and ensure that Fire and Emergency is included in the detailed design phase, so that risk reduction, readiness and response planning are integrated into project design.</p> <p>Taking into account the Board's strategic direction, the Committee began an engagement planning workshop during the meeting and followed it up with two separate online sessions, to finalise the plan.</p> <p>Through engagement with the Marlborough District Council, the LAC is looking to identify vulnerable communities and explore ways to support preparedness and recovery. With these communities in particular, it is important for CDEM and Fire and Emergency to take a community-centric, community-led, multi-agency approach.</p> <p>The LAC's planned meeting with Chamber of Commerce members to highlight and promote employer support for volunteers has been rescheduled, due to COVID-19 restrictions, for 16 June 2022.</p> <p>In response to a request from the District Manager, we will look for opportunities to assist Fire and Emergency to get a seat on community forums the organisation is not currently part of.</p>



LAC	Committee updates and insights
	<p>The Committee has observed some challenges with alignment between agencies in Marlborough, but also sees opportunities for Fire and Emergency to leverage off increased agency collaboration that has developed through COVID.</p>
<p><b>West Coast</b></p>	<p>The Committee notes the Board’s direction from the LAC Chairs’ Forum, in particular regarding a focus on climate change and remote and at-risk communities. The vulnerability of infrastructure such as that supported by fibre broadband was discussed at our January meeting. The sporadic failure of communications methods including the 111 number is leading some more isolated stakeholders (such as iwi) to invest in alternative communications technology.</p> <p>With COVID-19 restricting face to face engagement and meaning that many stakeholders are preoccupied, this quarter the LAC will meet with the District Manager, who is relatively new to the West Coast, to provide community context and to assist his team with the development of the Coast’s community risk profile.</p> <p>An event acknowledging employers of volunteers and promoting volunteerism that was planned for March in South Westland has been postponed, while employers are focusing on business continuity during COVID.</p>
<p><b>Chatham Islands</b></p>	<p>The Committee is working well as a team and the partnership with the district and region teams strengthens each time we meet</p> <p>The LAC engaged with three of its four key stakeholders on 2 March - Hokotehi Moriori Trust, Ngāti Mutunga o Wharekauri Iwi Trust and the Chatham Islands Council. Members of the Region Leadership Team (RLT) attended these meetings virtually and it was valuable to meet jointly with stakeholders.</p> <p>A common concern raised by these organisations was access to water in emergency situations. The Council noted that it could work in partnership with Fire and Emergency on a water storage initiative, but is not in a position to fully resource it.</p> <p>Clear messaging is required around the use of the 111 emergency number (rather than 3050 111), now that mobile connectivity allows service from the mainland on the Chatham Islands.</p> <p>The engagement with Ngāti Mutunga o Wharekauri Iwi Trust reinforced commitments made by Fire and Emergency during the establishment of the LAC. The iwi acknowledged Fire and Emergency’s openness to and respect for te tino rangatiratanga and noted that the feedback flow they see on topics raised demonstrates the value of regular engagement.</p> <p>We have taken up an opportunity to present to the Chatham Islands Community Conservation Board in April, introducing the LAC’s role and work.</p> <p>The CE of the Chatham Islands Airport company has indicated an interest in meeting with the LAC. The Committee will arrange to meet with him when he is on-island.</p>



LAC	Committee updates and insights
	<p>We are also looking to engage with volunteers this quarter, if COVID-19 restrictions permit.</p> <p>All members have now completed the He Timatanga Kōrero booklet and test, supporting our work with iwi and imi and Fire and Emergency's commitment to the Treaty of Waitangi.</p>
<b>Otago</b>	<p>The LAC and Otago FENZ team discussed the Otago district work programme and priorities for the next quarter, as well as opportunities for collaboration with other emergency groups in the area. A lot of work has been done on a RAMs document to fully prepare for COVID-19 in the region. The Community Risk Manager identified how can the Otago LAC can help with community risk reduction work already being done.</p> <p>COVID-19 is restricting face to face engagement, however some engagement with the local community did take place over the Christmas break. LAC members engaged with Ngāi Tahu, the Portobello Fire Brigade, Owaka Civil Defence, Queenstown Lakes District Council and with volunteer fire fighters in the Queenstown and Franklin areas.</p> <p>The committee discussed how to help get vulnerable communities/community groups engaged across the area i.e. seniors, Pacific community, those whose first language is not English, and how best to engage with other agencies doing similar work.</p> <p>The committee received two presentations. Raewyn Bleakley, Deputy Chief Executive, Office of the Chief Executive (OCE), provided an organisational update, including FENZ future focus and Barbara Olah, National Manager Women's Development spoke about women's successful participation in fire and emergency roles across the organisation, and the role of WFENZ in facilitating this.</p>

Kerry Gregory  
**Chief Executive**

Nicky Chilton  
**Director, Office of the Chief Executive**