

I hereby give notice that an ordinary meeting of the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee will be held on:

**Date:** Tuesday, 4 June 2024  
**Time:** 2.00pm  
**Meeting Room:** Room 1, Level 26  
**Venue:** 135 Albert Street  
Auckland

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## **Komiti mō te Ārai Mate Whawhati Tata me Te Raru Ohorere / Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee**

### **OPEN AGENDA**

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#### **MEMBERSHIP**

|                           |                                   |                            |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Chairperson</b>        | Cr Sharon Stewart, QSM            |                            |
| <b>Deputy Chairperson</b> | Cr Andrew Baker                   |                            |
| <b>Members</b>            | Cr Julie Fairey                   | Cr Greg Sayers             |
|                           | Cr Alf Filipaina                  | Cr Ken Turner              |
|                           | Cr Mike Lee                       | Hokura Member Glenn Wilcox |
|                           | Hokura Member Pongarauhine Renata |                            |
| <b>Ex-officio</b>         | Mayor Wayne Brown                 |                            |
|                           | Deputy Mayor Desley Simpson, JP   |                            |

(Quorum 5 members)

**Mike Giddey**  
Kaitohutohu Mana Whakahaere / Governance Advisor

**28 May 2024**

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**1 Ngā Tamōtanga | Apologies**

An apology from Mayor W Brown has been received.

**2 Te Whakapuaki i te Whai Pānga | Declaration of Interest**

**3 Te Whakaū i ngā Āmiki | Confirmation of Minutes**

Click the meeting date below to access the minutes.

That the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee:

- a) whakaū / confirm the ordinary minutes of its meeting, held on [Tuesday, 5 March 2024](#), including the confidential section, as a true and correct record.

**4 Ngā Petihana | Petitions**

**5 Ngā Kōrero a te Marea | Public Input**

**6 Ngā Kōrero a te Poari ā-Rohe Pātata | Local Board Input**

**7 Ngā Pakihi Autaia | Extraordinary Business**



## Acting General Manager update

File No.: CP2024/06624

### Te take mō te pūrongo Purpose of the report

1. To enable the Acting General Manager, Adam Maggs to give an update on Auckland Emergency Management to the committee.

### Whakarāpopototanga matua Executive summary

2. The Acting General Manager Auckland Emergency Management will provide a verbal update.

### Ngā tūtohunga Recommendation/s

That the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee:

- a) whiwhi / receive the verbal update from the Acting General Manager Auckland Emergency Management.

### Ngā tāpirihanga Attachments

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| A↓  | Prioritised plan tracking sheet | 9    |

### Ngā kaihaina Signatories

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Author     | Casey Hart - Business Operations Lead Auckland Emergency Management |
| Authoriser | Adam Maggs – Acting General Manager Auckland Emergency Management   |





| Bush report ref.                 | PPF ref. (Note - refer approved Prioritised Plan for exact wording of actions below. This wording comes from Appendix 2 - Timeline of actions, and is a summary) | Indicative completion  | Status   | Progress as at February 2024  |
|----------------------------------|--|--|----------|---|
| 2                                | 1 Review Group Plan (Committee approved timeline on 26 Apr)  | June '24   | Complete | CDEM Committee approved the 2024-2029 Auckland CDEM Group Plan on March 5th and final design and subsequent publishing of the document is underway.   |
| 1                                | 2 Review Reduction and Readiness focus as part of the Group Plan (underway)  | June '24   | Complete | Reduction and readiness approach reviewed in draft Group Plan sections 6 and 7.   |
| 3                                | 3 Planning focussed on high priority hazards   | Flooding - Aug '23<br>Volcanic - Dec '23<br>Tsunami - Jun'24 | Delayed  | <p><b>Flooding and Tsunami are complete. Volcanic Contingency Plan expected completion is August 2024. Further work for into each of these hazards is mentioned below but will continue to be prioritised in the AEM department work plan FY 2024/2025, aligned to the 5-year Group Plan action 7, which speaks to undertaking risk reduction activities, such as contingency plans, focused on high priority hazards and complex events/impacts.</b></p> <p><b>FLOODING</b><br/>The following planning tools have been developed:<br/>                     - Severe weather Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for duty team (sets thresholds for duty team and external SMEs such as MetService for escalation of weather events to a response and includes initial actions pre-Incident Management Team (IMT) activation).<br/>                     - Flooding hazard tools to inform situational awareness include Hydrotel and MOATA. Hydrotel is a network of remote stations that monitor rainfall, river flows and lake levels through the region. Hydrotel allows the Duty team to review hydrological data and sends alerts based on defined thresholds. MOATA provides a visual overview of rainfall across the region and reports on locations, types and number of requests for service being received by AC contact centre for issues related to stormwater flooding. It also shows all stream gauges and rain radar in real-time across the region. The duty and intelligence teams also have access to MetConnect, a much more detailed forecasting platform available through the MetService.<br/>                     - The work completed gives us confidence that we have improved understanding and capability to deal the response to flood events and delivers on the intent of the Bush review recommendations regarding flood alerting.<br/>                     - Longer term, there are opportunities to enhance collaboration and utilisation of intelligence across the wider council to enhance response effectiveness. This piece of work is currently being scoped to implement Group Plan actions regarding reduction and readiness.</p> <p><b>TSUNAMI</b><br/>                     - A Tsunami SOP for the duty team has been developed. This is regularly exercised with the duty team and NEMA.<br/>                     - The Tsunami Contingency Plan was approved by CEG on May 21st.<br/>                     - The Tsunami work programme, which includes updated Tsunami Maps, Vulnerability Studies and a Public Alerting Strategy continues with regular reporting to the CDEM Committee.</p> <p><b>VOLCANIC</b><br/>                     - A volcanic SOP for the duty team has been finalised.<br/>                     - We are working closely with the responsible agencies on monitoring and alerting protocols for the Auckland Volcanic Field.<br/>                     - Following national workshop with scientists and discussions with the national planning team at the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), more time is required to clarify the information that supports the Auckland Volcanic Field Eruption Contingency Plan.<br/>                     - <b>Draft Volcanic Contingency Plan will be put forward to CEG on May 21st, requesting consultation and input. The final draft will be presented for approval at the 23rd August CEG meeting. This will continue to be prioritised through the activity 11 in the AEM Department Work Programme FY24/25</b></p> |
| <b>LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE</b> |  |  |          |   |
| 6                                | 4 Document organisational structure and operational and governance relationships between AEM and wider Auckland Council  | May '23  | Complete | Captured in section 10 Management and Governance of draft Group Plan.   |
| 6                                | 5 Review Controller structure  | Dec '23  | Complete | CDEM Committee approved the appointed roles in June 2023.   |
| 11                               | 6 Explore a realignment of reporting lines to the GM EM position   | June '24   | Complete | Structural change process for AEM implemented.  |
| 14                               | 7 Finalise and brief Mayor and Elected Members on induction guide  | July '23   | Complete | Elected member guide completed and distributed in July 23. Mayoral Office, Deputy Mayor, CDEM Chair and Deputy, CE briefing carried out 01 Aug 23. Mayoral EM guide, AEM Response Escalation Process and quick reference checklist also provided to Mayoral office. Additionally, a new Elected Member eLearning module has been created. eLearning module has been rolled out to all elected members via the Kura Kanawa platform on Tupu.   |
| <b>OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES</b>    |  |  |          |   |
| 4                                | 8 Update CIMS structure to include key standalone functions, such as Safety  | June '23   | Complete | Captured in Group Plan.   |







## Recovery in Response Guide

File No.: CP2024/04386

### Te take mō te pūrongo

#### Purpose of the report

1. To approve the Recovery in Response Guide to offer easily understood, practical, operational guidance to the recovery function through the lens of focus areas and corresponding key tasks.

### Whakarāpopototanga matua

#### Executive summary

2. The recovery function is one of the nine Coordinated Incident Management System (CIMS) functions operated in Tāmaki Makaurau for the management of responding to emergency events.
3. The practice of recovery is significantly less mature, understood and supported than that of response. While the lessons from the current recovery from 2023's events will continue to emerge for some time to come, improvements can be made now in the practice of recovery in response.
4. The Recovery in Response Guide (the Guide) seeks to offer easily understood, practical guidance. It identifies the main areas of focus of the recovery function and the corresponding key tasks. The main areas of focus are:
  - Activating and standing-up the recovery 'desk,' in readiness to fulfil its role
  - Understanding the emergency event, its impacts and consequences to anticipate what might be required to establish a recovery if required or needed
  - Plan the transition from response to recovery, and the establishment of the recovery
  - Provide, to the extent possible, insight into the immediate stage (1-4 weeks) of a recovery, its priorities, structure, resources and strategic perspective.
5. The corresponding tasks are set out in the summary table at the front of the guide, before being further explained with templates and examples, in subsequent parts of the Guide.
6. The approved Guide will provide a basis for training Auckland Council Emergency Support staff (ACES). This training will be developed and delivered in the next financial year.
7. The Guide will be developed and refined iteratively, until replaced by a suite of documents, tools, templates and plans to better support recovery in response and beyond. Refinement of the Guide and the development of replacement documents will be informed by the work of Auckland Emergency Management (AEM), the Tāmaki Makaurau Recovery Office, the Recovery Specialists Network, Civil Defence Emergency Management Groups and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) over time.

### Ngā tūtohunga

#### Recommendation/s

That the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee:

- a) whakaae / approve the Recovery in Response Guide.

## Horopaki Context

### Item 9

8. Emergency events can occur in any location across the region, as lesser events with confined impacts through to larger, more impactful events affecting large areas of the region. The response to emergency events operates under the CIMS framework, with roles and responsibilities assigned to 'functions' under the direction of the Controller. The recovery function is one of the nine CIMS functions operated in Tāmaki Makaurau.
9. The Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 (the Act) defines 'recovery' as "the coordinated efforts and processes used to bring about the immediate, medium-term and long-term holistic regeneration and enhancement of a community."
10. The Act requires a recovery following an event where a Notice of Transition Period has been issued. A notice can be issued:
  - Where a State of Emergency has been declared, and it is:
    - in the public interest; and
    - necessary or desirable to ensure a timely and effective recovery; and
    - proportionate in the circumstances; or,
  - With the approval of the Minister for Emergency Management.
11. While a recovery is not required in the absence of a Notice of Transition Period, the question of whether a recovery is needed may arise.
12. Until 2023, Tāmaki Makaurau gradually accumulated experience of recovery through the Papatoetoe Tornado and the West Auckland Floods (2021), COVID-19 (2020-22). Last year's Anniversary Weekend Floods, Cyclone Gabrielle and the 9 May flash flooding represent significant developments, with the formal establishment of a Recovery Office with staffing levels, budgets and areas of activity reflecting the recovery from a major emergency event.
13. The content of the Recovery in Response Guide (the Guide) covers what the recovery function would need to provide for transition to a recovery led by the Tāmaki Makaurau Recovery Office or in the absence of the Office, to support the establishment of a recovery office for another recovery.
14. Multiple reviews of the response by the Mayor's Office, AEM, the Auditor General, the Chief Ombudsman and the Government Inquiry into the response to 2023's events have highlighted actions to be taken for more effective response.
15. The practice of recovery is significantly less mature, understood and supported than that of response. While the lessons from the current recovery from 2023's events will continue to emerge for some time to come, improvements can be made now in the practice of recovery in response.

## Tātaritanga me ngā tohutohu Analysis and advice

16. Development of a guide for recovery in response commenced in late 2022. The need to document processes and practices was identified based on a growing understanding of common concerns across CDEM Groups. Progress stalled following last years' emergency events before being recommenced towards the end of 2023.
17. Ideally, the recovery function commences alongside other functions in the response to an emergency event. An exception may be where an emergency is towards the lesser end of the scale and the potential for a formal recovery being needed is minimal. Even so, the recovery function can be activated at any time should the need arise.

18. The Recovery in Response Guide (the Guide) seeks to offer easily understood, practical guidance. It identifies the main areas of focus of the recovery function and the corresponding key tasks. The main areas of focus are:
  - Activating and standing-up the recovery 'desk,' in readiness to fulfil its role
  - Understanding the emergency event, its impacts and consequences to anticipate what might be required to establish a recovery if required or needed
  - Plan the transition from response to recovery, and the establishment of the recovery
  - Provide, to the extent possible, insight into the immediate stage (1-4 weeks) of a recovery, its priorities, structure, resources and strategic perspective.
19. The corresponding tasks are set out in the summary table at the front of the guide, before being further explained with templates and examples, in subsequent parts of the Guide.
20. The Guide provides support for the decision of whether a recovery will be required or needed through outlining the relevant considerations. The Guide also identifies the main considerations relevant to the potential size and scale of the recovery effort that might be required.
21. Decision making on whether a recovery is required or needed is identified as an area which would benefit from further work by AEM, the Auckland CDEM Group, the Auckland Council family and the emergency management sector.

### **Tauākī whakaaweawe āhuarangi** **Climate impact statement**

22. The Guide provides operational guidance to Auckland Council Emergency Support staff (ACES) who will or may work in the recovery function during a response. Many emergency events are weather related. While it is anticipated that such events could become more frequent and more intense, the Guide is directed to improving performance of the recovery function in the response to such events.

### **Ngā whakaaweawe me ngā tirohanga a te rōpū Kaunihera** **Council group impacts and views**

23. The Recovery in Response Guide provides operational guidance to Auckland Council Emergency Support staff (ACES) who will or may work in the recovery function during a response in support of the response. AEM acknowledges the contribution made by the Auckland council groups in making staff available to support the response to emergency events.

### **Ngā whakaaweawe ā-rohe me ngā tirohanga a te poari ā-rohe** **Local impacts and local board views**

24. The extent of the impacted area is ascertained as a part of activating the response to an emergency event. Understanding the events impacts and implications remains a focus of the response and its CIMS functions. Engagement and communication with the mayor and elected representatives, the CE and council executives and communities of Tāmaki Makaurau is central to the effective response and the operation of CIMS.
25. The Recovery in Response Guide provides operational guidance to Auckland Council Emergency Support staff (ACES) who will or may work in the recovery function during a response in support of the response.

## Tauākī whakaaweawe Māori Māori impact statement

26. The recovery function works alongside, actively interacting with the other CIMS functions as a part of the emergency management. This includes working closely with Iwi liaison, which supports the Controller, informs decision-making and task assignment. For recovery, this enables iwi and Māori perspectives to be integrated into the transition to recovery and its establishment.

## Ngā ritenga ā-pūtea Financial implications

27. The Guide aims to enhance the operation of the recovery CIMS function during emergency responses. It clarifies the tasks and processes that support decision-making and provides a foundation for initiating recovery efforts as needed. Consequently, financial efficiency associated with the Guide arise from improved performance.

## Ngā raru tūpono me ngā whakamaurutanga Risks and mitigations

28. The Guide is directed to improving the operation of the recovery CIMS function in the response to an emergency event. Its main contribution is in clarifying the tasks and processes utilised to support decision-making and establish a platform for initiating a recovery, as appropriate.

## Ngā koringa ā-muri Next steps

### Training

29. The approved Guide will provide a basis for training Auckland Council Emergency Support staff (ACES) who have indicated an interest in supporting the recovery function desk in a response. This training will be developed and delivered in the next financial year.

### Ongoing refinement

30. The events of 2023 provided lessons and added impetus to an emerging network of recovery practitioners. From initially providing a network to share issues, concerns, experience, workarounds and solutions, the Recovery Specialist Network has adopted three projects to work on collaboratively with the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to pro-actively develop the recovery practices:
- A recovery toolbox
  - Training capability and capacity
  - Pre-disaster recovery planning.
31. The Guide is an operational document that will be updated on an ongoing basis to capture the improvements made available through the work of AEM, the Recovery Office, the Recovery Specialists Network and NEMA.
32. It is envisaged that the Guide will be developed and refined iteratively, until replaced by a suite of documents, tools, templates and plans to better support recovery in response and beyond.



## Ngā tāpirihanga Attachments

| No.                 | Title                      | Page |
|---------------------|----------------------------|------|
| A <a href="#">↓</a> | Recovery in Response Guide | 19   |

## Ngā kaihaina Signatories

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Author      | Wayne Brown - Principal Advisor Recovery   |
| Authorisers | John Cranfield - Head of Operations<br>Adam Maggs – Acting General Manager Auckland Emergency Management |



























































































































































# Auckland Emergency Management Local Board and Community Emergency Readiness Programme

File No.: CP2024/06310

Item 10

## Te take mō te pūrongo

### Purpose of the report

1. To provide the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee with an update on the Auckland Emergency Management Local Board and community emergency readiness programme.

## Whakarāpopototanga matua

### Executive summary

2. The Planning Unit was created through the Auckland Emergency Management department structural change process of 2023. The Planning Unit built on an earlier iteration of the then Auckland Emergency Management Resilience Unit, but with increased resourcing and a clear priority to build local board and community readiness.
3. The key priorities of the Planning Unit are to support local emergency readiness by:
  - improving mana whenua and mataawaka resilience to disasters (Group Plan Initiative #1)
  - working with Local Boards to prepare, communicate and embed Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Plans (Group Plan Initiative #16)
  - encouraging and supporting communities to develop their own community resilience plans, in particular those communities who can establish and run community emergency hubs (Group Plan Initiative #17), and
  - partnering with organisation's that support those communities that may be disproportionately impacted by disasters (Group Plan Initiative #18).
4. The Planning Unit are working with key internal and external stakeholders to ensure that preparedness activities with community groups are coordinated. Key internal stakeholders include (but are not limited to) Local Board Services, Connected Communities, Tamaki Makaurau Recovery Office, Resilient Land and Coasts, Healthy Waters (specifically teams delivering the Blue Green Network programme), Nga Mātārae and the Chief Sustainability Office in particular.
5. Key risks to the delivery of the FY25 preparedness programme include the risk of an emergency response meaning day to day work will be put on hold, and constraints associated with internal resourcing and capacity, and budget.

## Ngā tūtohunga

### Recommendation/s

That the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee:

- a) whiwhi / receive the report on the Auckland Emergency Management Local Board and community emergency readiness programme.

## Horopaki Context

6. The Planning Unit was created through the Auckland Emergency Management department structural change process of 2023. The Planning Unit built on an earlier iteration of the then Auckland Emergency Management Resilience Unit, with increased resourcing and a clear priority to build local board and community readiness. By early February 2024, all 11 positions within the Planning Unit were filled, except for the Principal Business and Partnerships (Greg Morgan) who commences 4 June 2024.
7. The key priorities of the Planning Unit are to support local emergency readiness by:
  - improving mana whenua and mataawaka resilience to disasters (Group Plan Initiative #1)
  - working with Local Boards to prepare, communicate and embed Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Plans (Group Plan Initiative #16)
  - encouraging and supporting communities to develop their own community resilience plans, in particular those communities who can establish and run community emergency hubs (Group Plan Initiative #17), and
  - partnering with organisation's that support those communities that may be disproportionately impacted by disasters (Group Plan Initiative #18).
8. The Planning Unit are using four guiding principles to deliver on the key priorities:
  - i) Whakawhanaungatanga – Establishing and building trust and relationships
  - ii) Mātauranga – Sharing knowledge around hazards and helping to identify the range of impacts through kōrero
  - iii) Manawaroa – Sharing our knowledge and experience on what is required to build readiness and resilience through training, scenario testing, guidance documentation and kōrero
  - iv) Whakapakari – Identifying and building on the depth of existing community strengths and resources

## Tātaritanga me ngā tohutohu Analysis and advice

### **Group Plan Initiative #1: improving mana whenua and mataawaka resilience to disasters**

9. The Senior Iwi Māori Community Resilience Advisor is leading the marae, mana whenua and maatawaka resilience programme with support from Ngā Mātārae and Customer and Community Services Directorate Māori Outcomes team. Over the 2024 calendar year, engagement work is primarily focussing on supporting the 13 marae who stood up and supported the Auckland Anniversary Flood response effort, but over FY25 and beyond opportunities to build whakawhanaungatanga with all 43 Tāmaki Makaurau marae will be sought.
10. This work programme will also:
  - Develop guidance documentation to support marae preparedness including how to prepare a marae resilience plan, running a marae emergency hub, scenario activities for testing marae emergency preparedness.
  - Deliver core training to marae including facilitated preparedness workshops, and scenario testing, looking after whanau through psychological-social support, and other training as required.



- Supporting the delivery of an annual one-day preparedness wananga led by Te Kotahi a Tāmaki collective.
  - Ongoing delivery of Kia Rite, Kia Mau to schools and kura.
  - Build relationships with Māori Wardens and confirming relationship between marae and the Emergency Coordination Centre in response.
11. Auckland Emergency Management is seeking to create a new position – Principal Iwi Māori Community Resilience, to further resource and accelerate efforts in this area.

### Group Plan Initiative #16: Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Plans

12. Group Plan initiative #16 prioritises the preparation of Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Plans. In addition, the Planning Unit acknowledges that is equally important to build trusting and enduring relationships with Local Boards and their members, build knowledge and confidence in emergency preparedness and response, and to clarify roles of elected members in a response. Therefore, this workstream seeks to both drive the preparation of Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Plans and build enduring capability and confidence within Local Boards.
13. The Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Plan process is led by the Community Planning and Readiness Manager and being delivered by the teams seven Senior Community Planning and Readiness Advisors. Each Senior Community Planning and Readiness Advisor is working with three Local Boards and their respective communities. Work with 20 Local Boards on their Emergency Readiness and Response Plans is well progressed. Note: Aotea Great Barrier Local Board has an existing Emergency Management Plan, and the Senior Advisor has reached out to seek guidance on how we can best support.
14. The Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Plans are being developed through a four-step process:
- Workshop 1** (Approx. March – May 2024): Introduce the concept of a Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Plan, nominate Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Lead(s), agree the process to develop the Plan.
  - Workshop 2** (Approx. June – July 2024): Presentation of the draft Plan template. Discussion to identify and/ or confirm hazards specific to Local Board area, civil defence centres and community emergency hubs. Local Board to confirm a targeted group of community stakeholders with which to test the draft Plan.
  - Workshop 3** (Approx. August – September 2024): Review of feedback received through targeted stakeholder consultation. Presentation of the final draft Plan. Agreement on launch and testing activities.
  - Business Meeting** (Approx. October – December 2024): Adoption of Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Plans. Publication and launch activities to commence.
15. In parallel with this process, the following workstreams are being progressed:
- **Plan development:** Drafting of the Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Plan template - now complete. Formatting and design are underway. The Plan template is currently being tested with key stakeholder groups including NZ Police, Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ), St Johns, Tāmaki Makaurau Recovery Office, Connected Communities, and the six Auckland Council Diversity Panels (Ethnic, Pacific, Youth, Seniors, Disability and Rainbow) to name a few.

- **Appointment of Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Leads:** Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Leads are being appointed by all 21 Local Boards. The appointments are to be formalised in Local Board Business Meetings scheduled in May 2024. The role of the appointed Leads is to work with the Senior Advisors outside of the Local Board Workshop setting to ensure the Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Plans address nuances specific to each Local Board area. The Leads also have a role in advocating emergency readiness within their Local Board and their community on an ongoing basis, and to attend the Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Forum (refer below).
- **Establish the Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Forum.** Three forums will be held per annum, with the inaugural forums being held 1 July and 21 October 2024. The Forum will be attended by the Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Leads. The purpose of the Forum is to build emergency preparedness and response capability, confidence and awareness within Local Boards and their members.
- **Development of training programme for Local Board members:** Including Foundation Course for Elected Members and Psychological-Social support. Capability development will be provided through the Local Board and Emergency Readiness and Response Forum.

#### **Group Plan Initiative #17: Community Resilience Planning and Community Emergency Hubs**

16. The community emergency resilience planning work programme is delivered predominately by the Community Planning and Readiness Team. Engagement work to date has been primarily focused on identifying and supporting the community emergency hubs who stood up and supported the response effort during the Auckland Anniversary Flood event, and active community emergency resilience/ readiness groups. As work progresses over FY25, the focus will shift to identifying additional community groups in areas of need, and who have the potential to stand up a community emergency hub in future responses.
17. This work programme will also:
  - Develop a package of guidance documentation to aid community groups in developing community emergency resilience/ readiness plans, establishing a community emergency hub, or running scenario activities for testing emergency preparedness.
  - Assisting with community groups to develop community emergency resilience/ readiness plans through technical review and guidance.
  - Develop and deliver core training to community emergency resilience/ readiness groups and community emergency hubs including facilitated preparedness workshops, and scenario testing of community emergency hubs, psychological-social support training and other.
  - Identify any essential resourcing needs of community emergency hubs (such as generators, star link or other), and appropriate funding mechanisms.
  - Host an inaugural community Civil Defence and Emergency Management Forum for community groups, marae and volunteers to share learnings, receive industry updates, to facilitate cross group networking, collaboration and to enable recognition.
  - Build strong working relationships with Tāmaki Makaurau Recovery Office, Connected Communities, Healthy Waters, Neighbourhood Support, Citizen Advice Bureau, Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) and other organisations with whom we can partner in community preparedness activities.
  - Attend key targeted community events and meetings to promote emergency readiness.

### Group Plan Initiative #18 – Disproportionately affected communities

18. In addition to the Community Planning and Readiness Team, work with disproportionately affected communities is being driven by the Senior Education and Youth Advisor and the Principal Business and Partnerships. The Principal Business and Partnerships will lead and manage the business preparedness programme, the preparedness programme for the disability sector and the strategic partnerships programme (including faith based and targeted ethnic groups).
19. The youth programme which targets age groups 0-24 years, is well underway. A new production of the turtle safe earthquake preparedness video has recently been released and the animation of the disaster awareness storey books will be completed by June 2024 with ongoing financial support from the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA). Activities over the FY25 will be to deliver the disaster awareness storybooks in braille and sign language, to review existing digital content for youth and to deliver a series of digital guides targeted at intermediate and secondary school aged children to compliment classroom-based awareness workshops and activities. A partnership with the Auckland Council Sustainable Schools is currently being scoped to further resource and accelerate efforts in this area. A preparedness programme for tertiary students will be scoped in the FY25.
20. The Principal Business and Partnerships commences 4 June 2024 and will be responsible for reviewing, planning and delivering on an emergency preparedness programme for small to medium sized businesses. In the interim Auckland Emergency Management has partnered with Tātaki Auckland Unlimited who are facilitating a co-design process with small medium businesses across Auckland, to develop a suite of emergency readiness and preparedness resources for businesses.
21. In respect to other disproportionately affected communities, the Planning Unit will shortly be commencing a series of two workshops with each of the Auckland Council diversity panels (Ethnic, Pacific, Youth, Seniors, Disability and Rainbow) to identify how the Planning Unit can most effectively support the communities they represent and to identify key stakeholder groups and organisations to work with and support. From 4 June 2024, the Principal Business and Partnerships will develop and lead this programme. In the interim the Community Planning and Readiness team are attending meetings and facilitating discussions with community groups representing those who are disproportionately affected in an emergency.

### Tauākī whakaaweawe āhuarangi Climate impact statement

22. The Local Board and community readiness programme will address actions that can be taken to increase community readiness and resilience in the face of increased frequency and severity of weather events associated with climate change. The programme will also work with, and educate, both local boards and communities on actions that can be taken to reduce risks, respond to, and recover from events.

### Ngā whakaaweawe me ngā tirohanga a te rōpū Kaunihera Council group impacts and views

23. The Local Board and community emergency readiness programme provides an opportunity to partner and collaborate with many departments across the Council Group.

24. Within Auckland Council, the Community Planning and Readiness Team is building relationships with, and looking for opportunities to collaborate and coordinate effort with Local Board Services, Connected Communities, Tamaki Makaurau Recovery Office, Resilient Land and Coasts, Healthy Waters (specifically teams delivering the Blue Green Network programme) and the Chief Sustainability Office in particular. The Auckland Emergency Management Senior Youth and Education Advisor is currently scoping a partnership with Auckland Council Sustainable Schools, and the Senior Iwi Māori Resilience Advisor is collaborating with Nga Mātārae and the Customer and Community Services Directorate Māori Outcomes team.
25. The Planning Unit will shortly be commencing a series of two workshops with each of the six Auckland Council diversity panels - Ethnic, Pacific, Youth, Seniors, Disability and Rainbow. These diversity panels provide an opportunity to identify how the Planning Unit can effectively support the communities they represent in emergency preparedness and awareness activities.
26. Council Controlled Organisations such as Auckland Transport and Watercare Limited, are connected to this work through both the Coordinating Executive Group (CEG) and through the Lifelines programme. The business resilience programme is currently supporting an initiative funded by Tātaki Auckland Unlimited to co-design resources for small medium businesses across Auckland. The codesign process seeks to develop a suite of emergency readiness and preparedness resources for small to medium sized businesses.

## Ngā whakaaweawe ā-rohe me ngā tirohanga a te poari ā-rohe Local impacts and local board views

27. The Auckland Emergency Management Planning Unit has engaged with 20 of the 21 Local Boards through the preparation of the Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Plans. Aotea Great Barrier Island Local Board will not be preparing a Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Plan, as they already have a Community Emergency Response Plan (November 2023). The Senior Community and Planning Advisor is in discussions with the Aotea Great Barrier Local Board to see how we can best support them.
28. Through the process of preparing the Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Plans, information about likely local emergency events, local communication channels and local support structures such as Civil Defence Centres and Community Emergency Hubs for each Local Board area will be captured.
29. All 21 Local Boards are in the process of appointing a Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Lead(s) to enable further discussion and information sharing between Auckland Emergency Management and Local Boards. All appointed Leads will have the opportunity to attend a Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Forum which will be held three times a year, with the inaugural forums being held 1 July and 21 October 2024. The purpose of the forum is to build emergency preparedness and response capability, confidence and awareness.

## Tauākī whakaaweawe Māori Māori impact statement

30. The impacts on Māori from disasters can be significant and there are real strengths in integrating kaupapa Māori, mātauranga Māori and tikanga Māori into resilience building for disasters. Auckland Emergency Management are committed to honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi by ensuring the views and knowledge of Iwi and Māori are reflected.

31. The Senior Iwi Māori Community Resilience Advisor is leading the marae, mana whenua and maatawaka resilience programme with support from Ngā Mātārae and Customer and Community Services Māori Outcomes team. This programme delivers on Initiative #1 of the Auckland Emergency Management Group Plan. Over the 2024 calendar year, engagement work is primarily focussing on supporting the 13 marae who stood up and supported the Auckland Anniversary Flood response effort, but over FY25 and beyond opportunities to build whakawhanaungatanga with all 43 Tāmaki Makaurau marae will be sought.

## Ngā ritenga ā-pūtea Financial implications

32. The activities associated with delivering the Local Board and community emergency readiness programme are resourced by several funding mechanisms.
33. The work programmes supporting marae, business and disproportionately affected communities are largely funded through the Auckland Emergency Management operating budget and/ or are resourced internally. The business resilience programme is currently supporting an initiative of which Phase 1 is funded by Tātaki Auckland Unlimited. Phase 2 of this initiative is yet to be scoped and funded.
34. The programme seeking to support community emergency planning and readiness activities and the development of community emergency hubs is largely reliant on access to the Auckland Council Local Preparedness Storm Fund, in addition to internal resourcing. Without access to Local Preparedness Storm Fund the pace at which these important programmes can be delivered, and their associated reach, will be constrained by the capacity of our internal resource.
35. The Planning Unit is also looking for opportunities for additional funding through Red Cross, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Te Puni Kōkiri, Local Boards, other council departments to support engagement activities.
36. The Auckland Emergency Management Finance Business Partner has been consulted with, and is supportive of, the proposed funding allocations associated with the Local Board and community emergency readiness FY25 work programme.

## Ngā raru tūpono me ngā whakamaurutanga

### Risks and mitigations

37. Key risks to the delivery of the Auckland Emergency Management Local Board and community readiness programme, as outlined in this report, should be acknowledged. These include:
- Response risk – Should the Emergency Coordination Centre be activated, all day-to-day work will be put on hold to enable kaimahi to prioritise response efforts. This may cause a delay in the delivery of the Planning Units FY25 work programme.
  - Resourcing – The ability to support community groups with preparedness activities is constrained by the internal resourcing of the Planning Unit. The Planning Unit is seeking to partner with departments across Auckland Council and other agencies (such as New Zealand Police, Fire and Emergency New Zealand and Neighbourhood Support) to increase reach. The Planning Unit is also proposing the creation of a Principal Iwi Māori Resilience role to further resource mahi in this area. The Planning Unit is seeking to fund community facilitators to run workshops and training programmes for marae and community groups, to increase capacity and reach, however this is dependent on confirmation of funding from the Auckland Council Storm Fund (refer below).



- Budget - The Planning Unit are progressing conversations to seek access to the Auckland Council Storm Fund to support local preparedness activities. The Planning Unit are also looking for opportunities for funding through Red Cross, Local Boards, other council departments to support engagement activities. Without access to additional funds the pace at which programmes can be delivered, and associated reach, will be constrained by the capacity of internal resource.

Item 10

## Ngā koringa ā-muri

### Next steps

38. The Auckland Emergency Management Planning Unit will progress implementation of the local board and community readiness work programme as outlined in this report.

## Ngā tāpirihanga

### Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

## Ngā kaihaina

### Signatories

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Author     | Anna Wallace - Head of Planning                                   |
| Authoriser | Adam Maggs – Acting General Manager Auckland Emergency Management |

# Provision of sandbags by Auckland Council to support the protection of private properties ahead of severe weather / flood inundation risk

File No.: CP2024/06586

Item 11

## Te take mō te pūrongo Purpose of the report

1. To consider options on the provision of sandbags by Auckland Council to support the protection of private properties ahead of severe weather / flood inundation risk.

## Whakarāpopototanga matua Executive summary

2. There is no consistent approach in Auckland (or at a national level) on the provision of sandbags by local government to the public to protect private property ahead of severe weather / flood inundation risk.
3. There have been circumstances in the past (such as in the lead-up to Cyclone Gabrielle) where they have been provided at scale by Auckland Council. The scale of Auckland means that the demand far exceeds the available supply in a regionwide event.
4. Having a consistent approach would provide greater certainty for both the public and for emergency managers about their activities in both readiness and response.
5. An options analysis has been undertaken, identifying 3 options relating to the provision of sandbags by Auckland Council to the public to protect private property ahead of severe weather / flood inundation risk.
6. In all options, Auckland Council / Auckland Emergency Management would continue to:
  - protect public assets that reduce the general flood risk and impact within a community;
  - advise the public of severe weather systems (based off MetService forecasting) that have the propensity to cause localized, or widespread, flood inundation risk, and;
  - deliver (and where possible, enhance) the provision of community advice and public education that supports better community readiness for emergencies such as flood inundation (alongside other key hazard risks).
7. The Coordinating Executive Group met on 21 May 2024 and endorsed the option that as a general approach, Auckland Council does not provide sandbags or other flood protection products to protect private property ahead of severe weather / flood inundation risk, unless directed by the Controller. This is the recommended option of the report.

## Ngā tūtohunga Recommendation/s

That the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee:

- a) whiwhi / receive the report regarding the provision of sandbags to support the protection of private properties ahead of severe weather / flood inundation risk
- b) whakaae / approve the option that as a general approach, Auckland Council does not provide sandbags or other flood protection products to protect private property ahead of severe weather / flood inundation risk, unless directed by the Controller

- c) ohia / endorse the approach that Auckland Council continues to protect public assets that reduce the general flood risk and impact within a community
- d) ohia / endorse the approach that Auckland Emergency Management continues to advise the public of severe weather systems (based off MetService forecasting) that have the propensity to cause localized, or widespread, flood inundation risk
- e) ohia / endorse the approach that Auckland Emergency Management, alongside other Auckland Council teams, continues (and where possible, enhances) the provision of community advice and public education that supports better community readiness for emergencies such as flood inundation (alongside other key hazard risks).

## Horopaki Context

- 8. Some smaller local authorities in New Zealand provide sand and sandbags, or pre-prepared sandbags to the public to protect private property where there is the potential for flood inundation ahead of an emergency - generally with bag numbers in the low-thousands, and usually within areas that have a known flood inundation history.
- 9. There are other examples of local authorities in New Zealand, including other larger metropolitan cities that do not provide sandbags to the public to protect private property, but may use them to protect public assets, in particular those that reduce the general flood risk within a community (such as pump stations).
- 10. There is no national position on the provision of sandbags to the public to protect private property, but there is high level guidance on how households can effectively use sandbags on the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) website, and on several local authority websites.
- 11. There is no consistent guidance in Auckland on the provision of sandbags to the public to protect private property, although there have been circumstances in the past where they have been provided – most notably in the lead-up to Cyclone Gabrielle. Having a consistent approach would provide greater certainty for both the public and for emergency managers about their actions in both readiness and response.

### Sandbag provision to the public to protect private property in Auckland for Cyclone Gabrielle

- 12. Following the flooding impacts from the Auckland Anniversary weekend severe weather in 2023, and on receiving advice from MetService about the potential impacts from Cyclone Gabrielle, Auckland Council established three sandbag stations (Mairangi Bay, St Heliers, and Westgate) in the days leading up to the arrival of Cyclone Gabrielle, after it became apparent that usual sandbag supplies were limited.
- 13. Auckland Council sandbag stations supplied approximately 190,000 sandbags with direct costs of approximately \$300,000. These costs are not reimbursable through NEMA.
- 14. Demand significantly exceeded supply, and the just-in-time nature of the operation was highly resource intensive. Auckland Council's response efforts were stretched, and the standup and management of the sandbag stations was an additional task for the emergency coordination centre.
- 15. There were very few complaints raised with council in the days following Cyclone Gabrielle regarding the disposal of these sandbags and it is assumed they were either disposed of privately or remain with those households that collected them.
- 16. The indicative rain amounts ahead of Cyclone Gabrielle did not materialise where they were forecast, so for many, the physical effectiveness of the sandbags was not broadly tested. While some areas did receive significant rainfall, generally, it was not the same intensity of the Auckland Anniversary weekend event.



## Tātaritanga me ngā tohutohu Analysis and advice

### Factors to consider for Auckland

17. Some of the factors to consider when reviewing the pros and cons of providing sandbags to protect private property ahead of severe weather in Auckland:
  - a) Auckland's weather and lead in times for planning
  - b) The scale of provision across the Auckland region and associated cost to ratepayers
  - c) The effectiveness of the use of sandbags during flood inundation
  - d) Public education and community readiness.

### Auckland's weather and lead in times for planning

18. The Auckland Region extends over a large geographical area that is by and large, long and narrow, meaning weather can arrive rapidly and be very different depending on where one is in the region (it may be fine weather in Warkworth while at the same time be raining heavily in Waiuku). The nature of Auckland's catchments and urban environment mean that the impacts from rain are felt rapidly with limited advance notice.
19. MetService is New Zealand's national weather authority and the Government-approved sole provider of severe weather warnings. A yellow 'watch' indicates that communities should 'stay alert' and are used when severe weather is possible, but not imminent or certain. An orange 'warning' indicates that people need to be prepared and 'take action' as appropriate as there could be some disruption to their day and potential risk to people, animals and property. A red 'warning' is reserved for the most severe impacts, where a significant impact and disruption is expected. It signifies that people should 'act now' as immediate action is required to protect people, animals and property from the impact of the weather<sup>1</sup>.
20. Auckland Emergency Management shares MetService weather watches and warnings with the public on its social media channels (generally accompanied by preparedness actions) and directly with stakeholders, with stakeholder distribution dependant on the severity of the warning. This is undertaken as part of the duty monitoring function.
21. While Cyclone Gabrielle resulted in a 'broad scale severe weather warning' (these cover 1000km<sup>2</sup> or more and may permit enough lead in time to allow for planning), this is not the only type of weather system that Auckland can experience. Localised weather systems (such as thunderstorms) are generally more unpredictable, local and with rapid onset timeframes. While the conditions may be right for a thunderstorm warning, it is not always straightforward for MetService to determine where or when thunderstorms will occur.
22. The Auckland Anniversary weekend severe weather event had a localized severe weather warning (thunderstorm) with an underlying broad severe weather warning for rain (orange that escalated to red) – with limited lead in timeframes and uncertainty about the level of impact and where those impacts could be experienced.
23. Severe weather systems with the potential to cause flooding are not uniform in terms of lead in timeframes and it is difficult to predict where impacts will be experienced across the region.

<sup>1</sup> Refer to [the Met Service website](#) for an overview of MetService severe weather warnings and watches.

The scale of provision across the Auckland region and associated cost to ratepayers

24. While some smaller local authorities in New Zealand do provide sandbags to the public ahead of some severe weather events, they have a much smaller number of households that may access this support. Ahead of Cyclone Gabrielle, efforts to secure sand and sandbags to support three sandbag stations stripped Auckland of supplies, with additional resources being brought in from the Waikato. Located in comparatively densely populated areas, people travelled to collect sandbags from sandbag stations, and many queued for some time to collect them.
25. Demand significantly exceeded supply and 190,000 sandbags were rapidly exhausted, with a direct financial cost to ratepayers of approximately \$300,000.
26. Some of the unintended consequences of supplying sandbags at scale in the immediate lead up to Cyclone Gabrielle included impacts to supply chains, traffic management requirements, and the diversion of resourcing from other response activity to deliver the work.
27. There are a number of companies in Auckland that specialise in the supply of sand and sandbags (empty and filled). As with any business, there are limits on the available stock at any single point in time and as observed in early February 2023, this stock can be exhausted if there is regionwide demand in a very short timeframe. This emphasises the importance of early preparedness.

Sandbag effectiveness.

28. Used correctly, sandbags can be an effective tool to divert low and moderate levels of water. Guidance suggests that to protect a standard doorway, 6 sandbags would be needed to restrict up to 20cm of water, with each sandbag weighing approximately 15-20kg. For larger volumes of water, more sandbags would be needed. The collection, filling and placement of sandbags is physically demanding.
29. For larger volumes of water, significantly more sandbags may be required and may not reduce the risk of water infiltrating a property from its floorboards, sinks or toilets. In these circumstances, sandbags may not be the most effective flood protection.
30. Sandbags can divert floodwaters to neighbouring properties and if compromised, they can reduce the ability for water to recede if it is 'trapped' behind a sandbag wall.
31. Having readily available guidance to the public on where to obtain sandbags and how to most effectively deploy them is important. Ensuring the public have a means of understanding their flood risk and how they can take steps to prepare themselves accordingly enables people to make decisions about whether sandbags are a suitable preparedness tool for their circumstance well before rain begins to fall.
32. The effectiveness of the sandbags provided by Auckland Council ahead of Cyclone Gabrielle is not measurable. The indicative rain amounts did not materialise where they were forecast, so for many, their effectiveness was not tested. While some areas did receive significant rainfall, for most parts of Auckland, generally it was not the same intensity of the Auckland Anniversary weekend event.
33. It is acknowledged that the provision of sandbags may have given reassurance and a level of physical protection for some, particularly in light of recent the very flooding, however the just-in-time arrangements and scarcity of supply, likely fuelled concern for others.

Community and household preparedness.

34. Emergencies can occur anytime and anywhere in New Zealand, potentially without any warning – so it's important that people take steps to be prepared. The best time for communities to prepare for potential flood inundation is well before rain begins to fall. Supplies of sandbags through normal retailers is less pressured, and reducing the risk of a property flooding can be supported through other approaches (such as clearing drains, gutters etc.).

35. Auckland Council has been working to raise awareness of those properties that may be at risk of flood inundation. Council's Flood Viewer allows households to add their address into the portal to see if their property is at risk of flooding. The Flood Viewer also provides information on the types of flooding (flood plains, flood prone areas, overland flow paths) and how to get prepared. This supplements public guidance and resources on the Auckland Emergency Management website and the Get Ready website.
36. A workshop with the CDEM Committee was held in April 2024 with strong feedback provided to staff regarding the importance of engaging proactively with communities and households before an emergency to encourage better levels of preparedness. There are several approaches currently underway delivering programmes in alignment with this feedback, including:
- a) improving mana whenua and mataawaka resilience to emergencies (including ongoing delivery of Kia Rite, Kia Mau to schools and kura)
  - b) working with Local Boards to prepare, communicate and embed Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Plans
  - c) encouraging and supporting communities to develop their own community resilience plans
  - d) partnering with organisations that support those communities that may be disproportionately impacted by emergencies
  - e) enhancing Auckland Emergency Management's public awareness and communications strategy (improved community awareness of hazards and how best to prepare)
  - f) exploring how to capture high flood risk properties through the Land Information Memorandum (LIM).

#### Options Analysis

37. Following engagement with Auckland Council subject matter experts in March 2024 and a subsequent workshop with the CDEM Committee in April, the following options have been identified for consideration:
- a) Adopt the approach that as a general approach, Auckland Council does provide sandbags / other flood protection products to protect private property ahead of severe weather / flood inundation.
  - b) Adopt the approach that that as a general approach, Auckland Council does not provide sandbags / other flood protection products to protect private property ahead of severe weather / flood inundation risk.
  - c) Adopt the approach that that as a general approach, Auckland Council does not provide sandbags / other flood protection products to protect private property ahead of severe weather / flood inundation risk, unless directed by the Controller.
38. It is important to note than in all options, Auckland Council / Auckland Emergency Management would continue to:
- protect public assets that reduce the general flood risk and impact within a community
  - advise the public of severe weather systems (based off MetService forecasting) that have the propensity to cause localized, or widespread, flood inundation risk
  - deliver (and where possible, enhance) the provision of community advice and public education that supports better community readiness for emergencies such as flood inundation (alongside other key hazard risks).

Option A: Council does provide sandbags for the protection of private property ahead of severe weather / flood inundation risk.

39. This option would see council proactively planning to prepare the wholesale distribution of sandbags to the public ahead of severe weather with all costs borne by ratepayers. Arrangements with suppliers would need to be made, potentially with much larger reserves of stock held for distribution. It remains unlikely that supply would meet demand in a large regionwide event similar to Cyclone Gabrielle.

Option B: Council does not provide sandbags to protect private property ahead of severe weather / flood inundation risk.

40. This option would see council promoting a 'user pays' approach. Auckland Emergency Management would provide advice on where to obtain flood protection products and how / when to use them effectively alongside the community and household preparedness measures outlined above.

Option C: Council does not provide sandbags to protect private property ahead of severe weather / flood inundation risk, unless directed by the Controller.

41. This option would see council promoting a 'user pays' approach. Auckland Emergency Management would provide advice on where to obtain flood protection products and how / when to use them effectively alongside the community and household preparedness measures outlined above. This option acknowledges that there may be unique and sensitive circumstances where the Controller may utilise their discretion to locally distribute sandbags.
42. Based on the factors outlined above, Option C is the recommended option. It places a stronger emphasis on the importance of delivering on community and household preparedness outcomes, rather than just-in-time arrangements in the lead up to an event, which can have a range of unintended consequences and uncertain costs based off a demand that is not quantifiable. This option still acknowledges there may be unique circumstances where local provision may be undertaken and allows Controller discretion undertake this work.
43. The Coordinating Executive Group met on 21 May 2024 and endorsed this option.

## **Tauākī whakaaweawe āhuarangi Climate impact statement**

44. The outcome of this report will set an operational approach for Auckland Emergency Management ahead of severe weather / flood inundation risk, whilst retaining and where possible enhancing the provision of community advice and public education relating to this hazard. It is anticipated that such events will become more frequent and more intense due to the impacts of climate change.

## **Ngā whakaaweawe me ngā tirohanga a te rōpū Kaunihera Council group impacts and views**

45. The views of subject matter experts from many parts of Auckland Council (including members of Auckland Emergency Management's Incident Management Team, Tāmaki Makaurau Recovery Office, Healthy Waters, Waste Solutions, Biosecurity Compliance, Communications, Environmental Services, Public Law) were sought in the preparation of this piece of work through a workshop held in early March 2024. The views expressed form much of the 'factors to consider' outlined earlier in this report.

## **Ngā whakaaweawe ā-rohe me ngā tirohanga a te poari ā-rohe Local impacts and local board views**

46. Clarifying an approach will provide greater certainty for elected members and local communities about what is or is not provided by Auckland Council ahead of severe weather where flood inundation is possible. Currently, there is an absence of guidance and clarity.

47. This clarity (supported by guidance and advice on preparedness measures and how to effectively utilise sandbags) will flow through to Local Board Readiness and Response Plans, that are currently under development and expected to be completed before the end of 2024.
48. The adoption of a consistent approach does not preclude local communities or community based groups from seeking alternative funding streams for the provision of sandbag supplies well in advance of severe weather and Auckland Emergency Management can support this with guidance and advice.

## Tauākī whakaaweawe Māori

### Māori impact statement

49. Auckland Council and Auckland Emergency Management is committed to meeting its responsibilities under Te Tiriti o Waitangi and its broader obligations to Māori. These commitments are articulated in the council's key strategic planning documents, the Auckland Plan 2050, the Long-term Plan 2024-2034, the Unitary Plan, Whiria Te Muka Tangata Māori Responsiveness Framework, Kia Ora Tāmaki Makaurau - Māori Outcomes Performance Measurement Framework, Local Board Plans and the Auckland Emergency Management Group Plan.
50. The impacts on Māori from disasters can be significant and there are real strengths in integrating kaupapa Māori, mātauranga Māori and tikanga Māori into resilience building for disasters. Auckland Emergency Management is committed to honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi by ensuring the views and knowledge of Iwi and Māori are reflected.
51. The Senior Iwi Māori Community Resilience Advisor is leading the marae, mana whenua and maatawaka resilience programme with support from Ngā Mātārae and Customer and Community Services Māori Outcomes team. This programme delivers on Initiative #1 of the Auckland Emergency Management Group Plan. Over the 2024 calendar year, engagement work is primarily focussing on supporting the 13 marae who stood up and supported the Auckland Anniversary Flood response effort, but over FY25 and beyond opportunities to build whakawhanaungatanga with all 43 Tāmaki Makaurau marae will be sought.
52. The adoption of a consistent approach will provide greater certainty for marae about what is or is not provided by Auckland Council ahead of severe weather where flood inundation is possible. Currently, there is an absence of guidance and clarity.
53. The adoption of a consistent approach does not prevent marae from seeking alternative funding streams for the provision of sandbag supplies well in advance of severe weather and Auckland Emergency Management can support this with guidance and advice.

## Ngā ritenga ā-pūtea

### Financial implications

54. The expenditure of operational funding on the provision of sandbags for the protection of private property ahead of severe weather is an unbudgeted expense. Costs cannot be reimbursed from NEMA, meaning all costs associated with this are ratepayer funded.
55. The costs associated with the provision of sandbags for the protection of private property ahead of severe weather cannot be accurately forecasted given severe weather can impact at any time and with irregular intervals between events. Based on the most recent large scale deployment during Cyclone Gabrielle, it is clear that the demand significantly outweighed the supply and direct costs could have easily exceeded \$300,000, had there been additional stock available.
56. Adopting a consistent approach will provide greater certainty for Auckland Council from a financial perspective that as a general approach, expenditure will not be directed towards this activity and instead be utilised for activity that can be more accurately measured and forecasted, such as programmes that enhance household and community awareness and preparedness.



57. The adoption of a consistent approach in no way precludes community or other groups from seeking alternative funding streams for the provision of sandbag supplies and Auckland Emergency Management can support this with guidance and advice (along with how to most effectively utilise sandbags).

## Ngā raru tūpono me ngā whakamaurutanga Risks and mitigations

58. There is a reputational risk with the recommended option in that some other, smaller local authorities do provide sandbags to support the protection of private properties ahead of severe weather / flood inundation risk. A means of mitigating this risk is acknowledging there is no national consistency and that there other local authorities, particularly those in larger metropolitan areas that do not. More importantly, there is a need to ensure Auckland Emergency Management reflects this approach in community readiness resources (such as Local Board Readiness and Response Plans) and public communications channels (such as the Auckland Emergency Management website). This is further mitigated as the recommended option acknowledges there may be unique and sensitive circumstances where the Controller may utilise their discretion to locally distribute sandbags.

## Ngā koringa ā-muri Next steps

59. The decision of the Committee will set the direction for the provision of sandbags by Auckland Council to support the protection of private properties ahead of severe weather where flood inundation is possible. This will be reflected in community readiness resources (such as Local Board Readiness and Response Plans) and public communications channels (such as the Auckland Emergency Management website).
60. Much of the provision of community advice and public education is aligned with the delivery of Auckland Emergency Management website local board and community readiness work programme, which has been outlined in a separate report to the Committee.

## Ngā tāpirihanga Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

## Ngā kaihaina Signatories

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Author     | John Cranfield - Head of Operations                               |
| Authoriser | Adam Maggs – Acting General Manager Auckland Emergency Management |

## Exercise Rū Whenua - National Exercise Participation

File No.: CP2024/06180

### Te take mō te pūrongo

#### Purpose of the report

1. To inform the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee on Auckland Emergency Management's participation in Exercise Rū Whenua, the National Exercise being held in June and July 2024.

### Whakarāpopototanga matua

#### Executive summary

2. Across three dates in June and July 2024, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) will be running a National Exercise, called Exercise Rū Whenua.
3. Exercise Rū Whenua is based on a magnitude 8.2 earthquake occurring along the Alpine Fault line in the South Island, which is one of the largest sources of seismic or earthquake hazards in Aotearoa New Zealand. This kind of event would be significant for the South Island, and parts of the lower North Island. While an event of this scale is unlikely to physically affect Auckland, the region would have a very large supporting role in the response.
4. NEMA have allowed each Civil Defence and Emergency Management group to consider how they participate in the exercise, and to arrange their own exercising of this scenario alongside the National Exercise. This is partly due to the nature of the scenario's impacts, and the levels of planning present across different regions in Aotearoa New Zealand.
5. Auckland Emergency Management (AEM) held an Exercise Rū Whenua – Auckland Impact Discussion workshop on Monday 27 May 2024, to discuss initial capability and capacity with various Auckland partner agencies to support a response to the scenario.
6. The intention of these discussions is to be the beginning of conversations around Auckland Agency capability and capacity, to continue both Auckland BAU priorities and support a large-scale response in another region.
7. Following this, AEM will run a light Emergency Coordination Centre to respond to any exercise queries on Wednesday 12 June 2024, that may come from the NEMA exercising team.
8. A follow up workshop around Auckland Impact Discussions will be held in late June, which will look more in depth at agency capability to support short to medium term operations and logistics. This will involve the agency partners that were included in the initial workshop on Wednesday 27 May 2024.
9. The Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee will not be required to participate in this exercise or the discussion workshops.
10. Post-exercise, AEM may look to the support of the Coordinating Executive Group to form a long term workstream that initiates and coordinates an all of region working group that focuses on larger event planning for the region.

### Ngā tūtohunga

#### Recommendation/s

That the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee:

- a) whiwhi / receive the information on Auckland Emergency Management's participation in Exercise Rū Whenua.

## Ngā tāpirihanga Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

## Ngā kaihaina Signatories

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Author     | Krystal McLarin - Senior Exercises and Scenario Training Advisor  |
| Authoriser | Adam Maggs – Acting General Manager Auckland Emergency Management |



## AEM Work Plan for Financial Year 2024/2025

File No.: CP2024/06169

### Te take mō te pūrongo

#### Purpose of the report

1. To present the Auckland Emergency Management (AEM) Work Plan for financial year 2024/2025 to the Auckland Civil Defence and Emergency Management (CDEM) Committee for approval.

### Whakarāpopototanga matua

#### Executive summary

2. AEM has produced an annual work plan, aligned to the Auckland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan 2024-2029 (the Group Plan), which will guide the departments work activities for the 2024/2025 financial year, beginning July 1 (Attachment A).
3. The Auckland CDEM Committee will receive a presentation outlining the key aspects of the AEM Work Plan FY 24/25 (Attachment B).
4. Due to the work plans alignment with the Group Plan, implementing it ensures that we are doing what we said we will in the Group Plan, and that the Auckland CDEM Group is on path to achieve its mission, as outlined in the Group Plan.
5. The work plan will be actively monitored over the course of its operational period by AEM's Strategy and Implementation team.
6. The CDEM Committee will receive a closure report summarising completion of the work plan, at the end of the 24/25 financial year.
7. The Auckland CDEM Committee will continue to receive updates on projects of interest in line with current arrangements.

### Ngā tūtohunga

#### Recommendation/s

That the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee:

- a) whiwhi / receive the report on the AEM Work Plan for the 2024/2025 financial year
- b) whakaae / approve the AEM Work Plan for the 2024/2025 financial year
- c) tuhi ā-taipitopito / note that a closure report will be presented to the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee upon the AEM Work Plan's closure, at the end of June 2025
- d) tuhi ā-taipitopito / note that reporting on significant projects to the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee will continue under the current arrangements.

### Horopaki

#### Context

8. On March 5, 2024, the Auckland CDEM Committee approved the adoption of the Auckland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan 2024-2029 (Resolution number [CDEMC/2024/6](#)).

9. Action 32 of the Auckland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan 2024-2029 requires Auckland Emergency Management to produce an annual department work programme aligned to the Group Plan, approved by the Coordinating Executive Group and Auckland CDEM Committee.
10. On 26 April 2023, following the 2023 severe weather events, the CDEM Committee approved the Prioritised Plan of actions, a short work plan for Auckland Emergency Management (Resolution number [CDEMC/2023/6](#)).
11. Since April 2023, AEM has been working in line with the Prioritised Plan of actions. This work-plan ends 30 June 2024.
12. AEM has now produced an annual work plan, aligned to the Group Plan, which will guide the departments work activities for the 2024/2025 financial year, beginning July 1 (Attachment A).

## Tātaritanga me ngā tohutohu Analysis and advice

### Strategic alignment

13. All activities outlined in the work plan have been aligned to the objectives and actions within the Auckland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan 2024-2029 (displayed in Attachment A).
14. The work plan is presented in line with the Group Plan chapters (Mana whenua and mataawaka partnership, reduction, readiness, response, recovery, management and governance, and monitoring and evaluation).
15. As the Auckland CDEM Group Plan incorporated feedback from several sources, including the public, various large and small organisations, local boards, a cross-panel demographic advisory panel and NEMA, aligning work plan activities with the Group Plan ensures AEM is focusing their efforts on agreed upon priority areas (described in detail in CP2023/12837).
16. As the Auckland CDEM Group Plan included amendments to address the findings of the Toa Consulting 'Auckland Severe Weather Events 2023' post response debrief report, aligning work plan activities with the Group Plan ensures implementation of post-debrief recommended actions (described in detail in CP2023/12837).

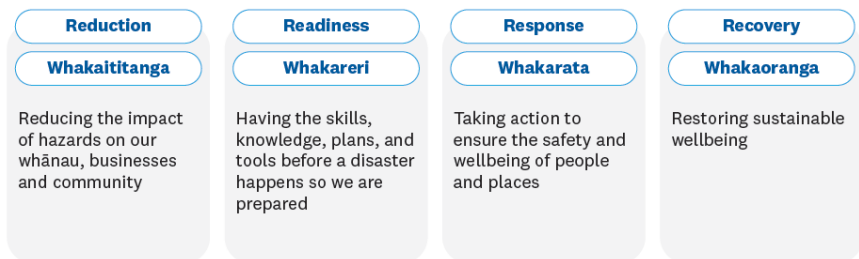
17. Actions in the Group Plan were formulated based on identified areas of improvement, therefore, the aligned workplan is not an exhaustive list of all activities Auckland Emergency Management will be undertaking, however, implementing the 2024/2025 Work Plan will warrant that the Auckland CDEM Group is working to achieve its mission, as outlined in the Group Plan and as shown below.

Tā mātou anga mahi whai rautaki  
**Our strategic framework**

**Our mission**

To strengthen the disaster resilience of Tāmaki Makaurau by managing risks and empowering and supporting everybody to be ready to respond to and recover from emergencies

**Achieving our mission through the 4 Rs**



**Workplan development**

18. The work plan was developed collaboratively across the department through a mixture of facilitated team workshops and 1 on 1 meetings.
19. Further details were also identified during the work plan’s development, to later support effective monitoring and delivery of the work plan. Details include activity delivery leads, estimated costs, cost types and quarterly milestones.

**Tauākī whakaaweawe āhuarangi  
Climate impact statement**

20. Activity numbers 6-9 within Attachment A contribute to the objectives of understanding our current and future hazard risks and taking reasonable steps to prevent or manage these.
21. Activity number 9 within Attachment A contributes to achieving the Group Plan action of collaborating with central government to:
- implement adaptation options including managed retreat as a method to reduce risk, and
  - avoid the establishment of development in areas where the extent of hazard risk warrants such an approach.

**Ngā whakaaweawe me ngā tirohanga a te rōpū Kaunihera  
Council group impacts and views**

22. Delivery leads for Group Plan actions 3,5,6 and 14 (shown in Attachment A) lay within other Auckland Council departments. Defining the workplan activities aligned to these actions (activities 6, 8, 9 35, 36, 39) were determined by the appropriate action owners from the wider Council.
23. Council Controlled Organisations are connected to the AEM Work Plan through the Coordinating Executive Group who endorsed this work plan on the 21 May 2023 Coordinating Executive Group meeting.

## Ngā whakaaweawe ā-rohe me ngā tirohanga a te poari ā-rohe Local impacts and local board views

24. Local boards have an important role to play in supporting disaster resilient communities through their knowledge of local communities and local government. Activities 44 and 45 in Attachment A are areas of work focused on working with Local boards to build resilient and adaptive communities, through the development and implementation of Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Plans.

## Tauākī whakaaweawe Māori Māori impact statement

25. Auckland Emergency Management acknowledges our partnership obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi and acknowledges mana whenua mātauranga mai rā anō (traditional and historical lived-experience and knowledge of an area, place or space).
26. Activities 1-5 in Attachment A aim to build strong relationships between emergency management organisations, mana whenua and mataawaka, to ensure greater recognition, understanding, and integration of Māori perspectives and tikanga in emergency management. Activities 1-5 also seek to enhance representation of mana whenua and mataawaka in the emergency management system. Over the 2024/2025 FY this will be done through:
- ongoing whakawhanaungatanga activities with Marae
  - development of documentation to support marae preparedness
  - delivery of core training to marae requesting support in capability development
  - ongoing delivery of Kia Rite, Kia Mau to schools and kura
  - building depth and capability in the Māori Iwi Liaison function.

## Ngā ritenga ā-pūtea Financial implications

27. The work plan activities are funded through AEM departmental budget, the Storm Fund, NEMA funding and through the Tech fund. Should any additional funding be required, this would be subject to the normal council budget processes.

## Ngā raru tūpono me ngā whakamaurutanga Risks and mitigations

28. There are key risks which may impact the delivery of the AEM Work Plan, these risks should be acknowledged and are described below.

| Risk   | Risk description and impact   |
|--|---|
| 1. <b>Auckland Emergency Management responds to an emergency</b> | Staff responsible for work plan delivery are redirected to response efforts for an unknown period, delaying Work Plan delivery.   |
| 2. <b>A restructure of Auckland Emergency Management</b>         | AEM's current structure includes a number of roles with niche areas of work, several Work Plan activities rely on these roles for work plan delivery. A restructure may remove roles accountable for particular areas of activity, leaving no appropriate personnel capable of carrying out the work. Delivery of the AEM Work Plan is also constrained by current AEM staffing numbers, a decrease in staff numbers would result in decreased capacity to carry out workplan activity. |

| Risk   | Risk description and impact  |
|--|--|
| 3. <b>Storm Fund denied</b>  | Several activities in the work plan rely on approval of Storm Fund funding, particularly activities relating to community preparedness. An inability to gain additional funding will impact timelines for delivery and depth of work.  |
| 4. <b>Changes to the Civil Defence Emergency Management Sector</b> | Sector wide changes may be seen in response to the several reviews following the 2023 severe weather events, particularly in response to the Government Inquiry into the Response to the North Island Severe Weather Events. Should any actions for local government or local CDEM Groups arise from this, the FY24/25 AEM Work Plan may be revised. |
| 5. <b>Post-emergency debriefs and corrective actions</b>           | Should risk 1 occur, there will be post-emergency debriefs which may include corrective action which would need to be incorporated into Work Plan activity.  |

## Ngā koringa ā-muri

### Next steps

29. The Strategy and Implementation team within Auckland Emergency Management will actively monitor and track progress on the work plan, regularly reporting to AEM's General Manager and the Department Heads.
30. The Auckland CDEM Committee will continue to receive updates on projects of interest in line with current arrangements.
31. The Auckland CDEM Committee will receive a closure report at the end of the 2024/2025 Financial year, summarising completion of the AEM Work Plan FY24/25.
32. The Auckland CDEM Committee will receive the AEM Work Plan FY25/26 for approval at the end of the 2024/2025 financial year.

## Ngā tāpirihanga

### Attachments

| No.               | Title   | Page |
|-------------------|---|------|
| <a href="#">A</a> | AEM Work Plan FY24/25                               | 111  |
| <a href="#">B</a> | Presentation for AEM Work Plan Financial Year 24/25 | 127  |

## Ngā kaihaina

### Signatories

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Author     | Jasmine Fowler – Strategy and Implementation Advisor              |
| Authoriser | Adam Maggs – Acting General Manager Auckland Emergency Management |































































## Summary of Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee information memoranda, workshops and briefings - 4 June 2024

File No.: CP2024/03701

Item 14

### Te take mō te pūrongo Purpose of the report

1. To whiwhi / receive a summary and provide a public record of memoranda, workshop and briefing papers that may have been held or been distributed to committee members.

### Whakarāpopototanga matua Executive summary

2. This is a regular information-only report which aims to provide greater visibility of information circulated to committee members via memoranda/workshops and briefings or other means, where no decisions are required.
3. The following information memoranda have been sent:

| Date       | Subject  |
|------------|--|
| 13/05/2024 | Auckland's Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan 2024 – 2029 |
| 21/05/2024 | Emergency Alert System test on Sunday, 26 May 2024 from 6-7pm        |

4. The following workshops/briefings have taken place for the committee:

| Date      | Subject   |
|-----------|---|
| 3/04/2024 | Workshop combined notes - Sandbag use and community distribution: Auckland Council and Civil Defence response |

5. These documents can be found on the Auckland Council website, at the following link: <http://infocouncil.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/>
  - o at the top left of the page, select meeting/te hui "Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee" from the drop-down tab and click "View";
  - o under 'Attachments', select either the HTML or PDF version of the document entitled 'Extra Attachments'.
6. Note that, unlike an agenda report, **staff will not be present to answer questions about the items referred to in this summary.** Governing Body members should direct any questions to the authors.

### Ngā tūtohunga Recommendation/s

That the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee:

- a) whiwhi / receive the Summary of Civil Defence and Emergency Management Committee information memoranda, workshops and briefings – 4 June 2024.

Item 14

## Ngā tāpirihanga Attachments

| No. | Title  | Page |
|-----|--|------|
| A⇒  | Auckland's Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan 2024 – 2029 <i>(Under Separate Cover)</i> |      |
| B⇒  | Emergency Alert System test on Sunday, 26 May 2024 from 6-7pm <i>(Under Separate Cover)</i>        |      |
| C⇒  | Combined notes of workshop on 3 April 2024 <i>(Under Separate Cover)</i>                           |      |

## Ngā kaihaina Signatories

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Author     | Mike Giddey - Kaitohutohu Mana Whakahaere / Governance Advisor    |
| Authoriser | Adam Maggs – Acting General Manager Auckland Emergency Management |