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Wellington Region Co-ordinating Executive Group (CEG) – Co-option of representatives for Lifeline Utility Services and Regional Welfare Group

1. Purpose

To expand membership of the Co-ordinating Executive Group (CEG) by coopting a representative for each of the Lifeline Utility Services and Regional Welfare Advisory Group.

2. Background

Section 20 (1) of the CDEM Act states:

A Civil Defence Emergency Management Group must establish and maintain a Civil Defence Emergency Management Co-ordinating Executive Group consisting of:

The chief executive officer of each member local authority or a person acting on the chief executive officer's behalf; and

A senior member of the police who is assigned for the purpose by the Commissioner of Police; and

a senior member of the Fire Service who is assigned for the purpose by the National Commander; and

the chief executive officer of the hospital and health services operating in the area or a person acting on the chief executive officer's behalf; and

any other persons that may be co-opted by the Civil Defence Emergency Management Group.

Since the Wellington region CEG was established in 2002 it comprised of Chief Executives of the Wellington region local authorities, Chief Executives of the three District Health Boards and senior representatives from both the New Zealand Police and New Zealand Fire Service.

3. Proposals in principle adopted by the Chief Executives Group

In early 2009 Chief Executives from the Greater Wellington Region have identified a number of opportunities where potential benefit could be found for sharing emergency management services. A Steering Committee has been established to come up with workable solutions and its recommendations were tabled at a Chief Executives meeting on 16 April 2010.

One of the options considered by the Chief Executives was:

• Establish active representation from the Lifeline Utility sector on the CEG.

4. Benefits for an expanded CEG

Emergency response agencies in the Wellington Region are meeting frequently through various platforms (Emergency Services Co-ordinating Committees and the Regional Inter-Agency Committee) to discuss mutual operational matters in emergency management. Utility lifelines organisations and welfare organisations are also represented on these committees.

However, it will be beneficial if all the emergency response agencies are also included at CEG level where they can contribute to strategic planning discussions and be part of implementing strategic solutions. The CDEM Act 2002 requires these agencies to contribute to and take part in CDEM planning.

To have all the emergency response agencies in the Wellington region represented on the CEG it is recommended that a representative for the lifelines utility services and a representative for regional welfare agencies be co-opted to the CEG.

At the Annual meeting of the Wellington Engineering Lifelines Group on 17 August 2010, Mr Stavros Michael (Wellington City Council) was nominated as representative to serve on the CEG.

The Regional Commissioner (Ministry of Social Development) was nominated as the Regional Welfare Advisory Group's representative.

5. Recommendations

That CEG:

1. Appoints Mr Stavros Michael (Wellington City Council) as the Lifelines Utility Services representative for the Wellington region Co-ordinating Executive Group (CEG)

- 2. Appoints the Wellington Regional Commissioner (Ministry of Social Development) as the Regional Welfare Advisory Group representative for the Wellington region Co-ordinating Executive Group (CEG)
- 3. That the period of appointment be until the October 2013 local authority elections unless either the Wellington Engineering Lifelines Group or the Regional Welfare Advisory Group decides to appoint a new representative for their organisation to the CEG.

Report prepared by:

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