

# **GISBORNE DISTRICT**

# **CIVIL DEFENCE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Produced by  
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## MAYOR'S FOREWORD

THE CIVIL DEFENCE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT GROUP PLAN is now active and by all accounts it has been well received. Planning is the most crucial tool in the success of any activity - even more so in those that happen infrequently.

I take this opportunity to thank the 'team' for putting this plan together for all of us. It has been achieved with minimal resources but is still able to provide a valuable resource for planning, dealing with and recovering from emergencies.

I can say that the Plan should give us more confidence that the Group will be able to cope with an emergency BUT the overall success still depends on the majority of the public being prepared and able to cope without assistance.

I have every confidence in our staff and trained Civil Defence coordinators in our region, that all our planning and training will lessen the trauma in case of an emergency. Our community volunteer team certainly adds huge community contribution to ensure that our communities are safer.

Our team has experience with Cyclone Bola, the 2007 earthquake and the close calls we have had since. This has meant that the team that developed the Plan has reality based knowledge and experience behind them when preparing the Civil Defence Emergency Group Management Plan.

However we should not be complacent as the impact of any event can still provide the unknown and in reality Bola was a small emergency.

We have a good group of Civil Defence volunteers (Community Link) ready to provide leadership in an emergency, a good communication infrastructure ready to communicate with the other parts of our region and our Council will continue to provide funds to ensure that a reasonable level of preparedness is maintained and a response structure is in place.

As long as communities prepare to a credible level and 'organisational' support is maintained we should be able to cope with the majority of disasters that the region can expect.

Kia ora

Meng Foon  
Mayor  
GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Te Runanga O Turanganui A Kiwa	1	48
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Radio Network	1	49
Gisborne Media Ltd	1	50
Radio Ngati Porou	1	51
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Gisborne Herald	1	53
<b>Adjoining Regions and Districts</b>		
Hawke's Bay Regional Council	1	54
Bay of Plenty Regional Council	1	55
Wairoa District Council	1	56
Opotiki District Council	1	57

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
CONTEXT .....	1
AUTHORITY AND APPROVAL OF THE PLAN .....	2
PURPOSE OF THE CDEM GROUP PLAN .....	2
CDEM GROUP VISION AND GOALS .....	3
GOALS.....	3
PRINCIPLES .....	4
STRUCTURE OF THE PLAN.....	5
PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND CONSULTATION PROCESS.....	6
RELATIONSHIP OF THE GROUP PLAN TO THE NATIONAL CDEM STRATEGY AND NATIONAL CDEM PLAN AND GUIDE.....	6
<b>RISK PROFILE SECTION</b>	<b>9</b>
INTRODUCTION.....	9
REGIONAL FEATURES .....	9
MAJOR CONSEQUENCES OF HAZARDS .....	10
DEVELOPMENT OF THE RISK PROFILE.....	10
REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTS .....	11
SOCIAL ENVIRONMENTS .....	11
<i>Table 1:</i> .....	11
<i>Table 2</i> .....	12
NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS.....	13
BUILT ENVIRONMENTS .....	15
KEY LIFELINES.....	15
FLOOD CONTROL SCHEMES .....	19
ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENTS .....	20
<i>Table 3:</i> .....	20
<i>Table 4:</i> .....	21
<i>Table 5:</i> .....	21
SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS .....	22
<i>Table 6:</i> .....	24
<i>Table 7:</i> .....	25
RISK ANALYSIS.....	27
SIGNIFICANT RISKS .....	27
<i>Table 8:</i> .....	27
<b>REDUCTION SECTION</b>	<b>29</b>
INTRODUCTION.....	29
PURPOSE OF THE REDUCTION SECTION .....	29
RISK REDUCTION OBJECTIVES.....	29
PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA FOR RISK REDUCTION .....	30
CHALLENGES IN RISK REDUCTION PLANNING (CURRENT REDUCTION ACTIVITIES AND RELATED ISSUES) .....	30
RISK REDUCTION POLICIES, METHODS AND TOOLS .....	31
<i>Table 9:</i> .....	32
<b>READINESS SECTION</b>	<b>33</b>

---

INTRODUCTION TO READINESS .....	33
PURPOSE OF THE READINESS SECTION .....	33
READINESS OBJECTIVES .....	33
PLANNING AND OTHER ACTIVITIES .....	34
LIAISON, INFORMATION SHARING AND PLANNING .....	35
READINESS ARRANGEMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THE RESPONSE .....	35
PERSONNEL.....	37
<i>Table 10:</i> .....	38
COMMUNITY LINK STRUCTURE .....	40
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM .....	42
TRAINING/PUBLIC EDUCATION .....	44
CDEM GROUP SUPPORT TO OTHER CDEM GROUPS .....	46
REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE .....	46
SUPPORT TO OTHER GROUPS THAT CAN BE CONSIDERED .....	46
<b>RESPONSE SECTION</b>	<b>47</b>
INTRODUCTION TO RESPONSE.....	47
PURPOSE OF THE RESPONSE SECTION .....	47
RESPONSE OBJECTIVE .....	47
RESPONSE PRINCIPLES .....	47
LEVELS OF RESPONSE .....	48
DISTRICT WARNING SYSTEM .....	49
NATIONAL WARNING SYSTEM .....	49
WARNING SYSTEM OVERVIEW .....	49
PREDETERMINED ACTIVATION LEVELS .....	52
OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES .....	52
NATIONAL SUPPORT.....	53
GROUP EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE (GEOC) - (SEE STRUCTURE DIAGRAM ... P 53) .....	53
GROUP CONTROLLERS.....	53
IMPACT ASSESSMENT.....	56
EARTHQUAKE .....	56
GENERAL.....	56
MEDIA .....	58
DECLARATIONS .....	58
<b>RECOVERY SECTION</b>	<b>60</b>
INTRODUCTION .....	60
PURPOSE OF THE RECOVERY SECTION .....	60
RECOVERY OBJECTIVE.....	60
RECOVERY PRINCIPLES .....	61
DISASTER RELIEF FUND .....	63
RECOVERY GUIDELINES .....	64
GENERAL RULES .....	65
EVENT SPECIFIC RULES.....	66
<b>MONITORING AND EVALUATION SECTION</b>	<b>68</b>
INTRODUCTION .....	68
PURPOSE OF THE MONITORING AND EVALUATION SECTION .....	68

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CONTEXT FOR MONITORING AND EVALUATION.....	68
MONITORING AND EVALUATION.....	69
LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE .....	69
EXTERNAL MONITORING .....	69
<b>MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE SECTION</b>	<b>70</b>
CDEM GROUP DESCRIPTION .....	70
THE ROLE AND LEGAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE CDEM GROUP.....	70
MEETING REQUIREMENTS .....	72
DELEGATIONS AND POWERS .....	72
APPOINTMENTS .....	73
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE .....	73
EMERGENCY SERVICES CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE (ESCC).....	74
DISTRICT COUNCILLORS .....	74
COSTS.....	74
TABLE 11: APPROVAL, REPORTING AND DELEGATIONS .....	75
TABLE 12 - FUNCTIONS, POWERS AND EMERGENCY POWERS OF CDEM GROUPS UNDER THE CDEM ACT 2002.....	76
TABLE 13 - EMERGENCY POWERS AVAILABLE TO THE CONTROLLER UNDER CDEM ACT 2002.....	78
TABLE 14: EMERGENCY POWERS OF OTHER RESPONDERS .....	80
<b>GLOSSARY/ABBREVIATIONS</b>	<b>91</b>
ABBREVIATIONS .....	97
<b>ANNEX A   ▶▶ EMERGENCY SERVICES</b>	<b>99</b>
LAW AND ORDER .....	99
FIRE SERVICE .....	100
RURAL FIRE .....	102
MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH.....	102
<b>ANNEX B   ▶▶ LIFELINE UTILITY ISSUES</b>	<b>106</b>
GENERAL.....	106
ELECTRICITY .....	106
GAS.....	107
PETROLEUM.....	107
<b>ANNEX C   ▶▶ DECLARATION OF A STATE OF CIVIL DEFENCE EMERGENCY FORMS</b>	<b>110</b>
<b>ANNEX D   ▶▶ RESPONSE ACTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES</b>	<b>113</b>
OVERVIEW FLOWCHART – RESPONSE ACTIONS .....	113
SUMMARY OF KEY AGENCIES RESPONSE ISSUES AND FUNCTIONS .....	114
<b>ANNEX E   ▶▶ EMERGENCY LEVELS, PROCEDURES AND ROLES</b>	<b>119</b>
<b>ANNEX F   ▶▶ 4RS RESPONSIBILITIES OF KEY ORGANISATIONS</b>	<b>121</b>
<b>ANNEX G   ▶▶ DISTRICT MAP AND AREA BOUNDARIES</b>	<b>129</b>
<b>ANNEX H   ▶▶ CITY MAP AND COMMUNITY BOUNDARIES</b>	<b>130</b>
<b>ANNEX I   ▶▶ MM EARTHQUAKE SCALE MODIFIED MERCALLI INTENSITY SCALE</b>	<b>131</b>
<b>ANNEX J   ▶▶ RISK ANALYSIS PROCESS</b>	<b>137</b>
RISK EVALUATION PROCESS .....	137
RISK ANALYSIS.....	140
RISK EVALUATION .....	141
<b>ANNEX K   ▶▶ PERSONS APPOINTED TO KEY POSITIONS</b>	<b>143</b>