

Date/Time: Friday, 14 November 2025, 11.30am
Venue: Te Ao Nui – Huia Room
Palmerston North

MWCDEM GROUP PLAN DELIBERATIONS

HEARING PANEL

Chair:

Mr. Clive Manley (CEG Representative)
Mayor Michael Ford (MWCDEM Joint Standing Committee Representative)
Mrs. Hollei Gabrielsen (MWCDEM Joint Standing Committee Iwi Representative)
Mr. James Lamb (NEMA Representative)

Advisors:

Mr. Chay Hook (MWCDEM Manager)
Mr. Matthew Putt (MWCDEM Senior Advisor)
Mr. Ian Wilson (NEMA Senior Regional Advisor)

**Full Agenda is available on Horizons Regional Council website
www.horizons.govt.nz**

for further information regarding this agenda, please contact:
Rosa De Souza, 06 9522 800

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DELIBERATION OF SUBMISSIONS

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the written submissions to the Manawatū-Whanganui Civil Defence Emergency Management (MW CDEM) Group Plan 2025 - 2030 Draft, alongside the Officers Recommendation for each, provided by the MW CDEM Group Office.

2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 A total of ten (10) submissions were received, including one (1) late submission.
- 2.2 The Deliberations Panel, as a committee of the MW CDEM Group, is being asked to accept the one (1) late submission.
- 2.3 At the agenda deadline, four (4) submitters have been scheduled to speak to their submission.

3 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That the MW CDEM Group Office recommends that Deliberations Panel:
- (a) receives the information contained in the Submissions contained in Annex A, including Submission ID No. 4107 as late submission to the MW CDEM Group Plan 2025 - 2030 Draft.
 - (b) receives the information contained in the Officers Reports contained in Annex B.

4 FINANCIAL IMPACT

- 4.1 There is no financial impact associated with deliberating on submissions.

5 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- 5.1 Before making a civil defence emergency management group plan, a Civil Defence Emergency Management Group must:
- (a) give public notice, and any specific notice that the Group considers appropriate, of the proposal to make a plan; and
 - (b) specify in every notice given under paragraph (a) a period within which persons interested in the proposal may make submissions on the proposal to
 - (i) the Group; or
 - (ii) a subgroup or committee of the Group; and
 - (c) ensure that any person who makes written submissions on the proposal within the period specified in the notice given under paragraph (a) is given a reasonable opportunity to be heard by the body to which the submissions are made; and
 - (d) make all written submissions on the proposal available to the public unless there is some good reason in law why it should not do so; and

- (e) ensure that the final decision in relation to the proposal is made at a meeting of the Group.
- 5.2 The period specified under subsection (5.1) (b):
- (a) must not be less than 1 month; and
 - (b) unless the Group otherwise directs, must not be more than 3 months.
- 5.3 To give effect to the consultative procedure outlined in subsections 5.1 and 5.2, the MW CDEM Group Office undertook public consultation from 30 September 2025 to 31 October 2025 and is providing the opportunity for submitters to speak to a Committee of the MW CDEM Group about their submissions at a hearing session on 14 November in Palmerston North. Microsoft Teams link is available at this hearing for those who are not able to attend in person.
- 5.4 Consultation on the MW CDEM Group Plan 2025 - 2030 draft has been widely advertised throughout the region to promote awareness and encourage participation. This has included:
- i. Media releases to regional media at the beginning and end of the consultation period.
 - ii. A summary of the consultation process was included in the Across the Region newsletter sent to all households in the region (and via the e-newsletter database).
 - iii. Social media posts.
 - iv. Emails to key stakeholders.
- 5.5 The public could access the consultation document, the submission form, and the supporting information via the 'have your say' website, and in hard copy from offices.

6 BACKGROUND

- 6.1 When a Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan has been in operation for 5 years it is required by the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 to be reviewed.
- 6.2 The review of the current Group Plan (2016 – 2021) review began in 2021 and focused on the Hazard review. This Group Plan review was put on hold due to the uncertainties surrounding the development of a new Emergency Management Bill. In April 2024 the Government informed they would no longer be progressing the new Emergency Management Bill in its current form and subsequently the MW CDEM Joint Standing Committee approved the reinstatement of the Group Plan review in June 2024.
- 6.3 The Group Plan must align with national legislation and guidance and any change to these has the potential to impact on the Plan outcome. There is a significant review of New Zealand's Emergency System currently underway, the end state for this review being a fit for purpose Civil Defence and Emergency Management Act.
- 6.4 There have been three significant pieces of Emergency Management System Reform work produced to date:

- (a) Government Inquiry Report into the Response to the North Island Severe Weather Events.
 - (b) Government Response to the Report of the Government Inquiry into the Response to the North Island Severe Weather Events.
 - (c) Discussion document – Strengthening New Zealand’s emergency management legislation (April 2025)
- 6.5 Due to the ongoing Emergency Management review process and the forthcoming rewrite of the CDEM Act, the Group Plan review has aligned with the National Disaster and Resilience Strategy (NDRS). This is a ten-year plan which outlines the vision and long-term goals for Civil Defence and Emergency Management in New Zealand. The project team will also reference the documents and reports being produced to shape the future of Emergency Management in New Zealand, as these will be the founding documents of the new Emergency Management Bill.
- 6.6 The purpose of the Group plan is to enable effective, efficient and coordinated CDEM delivery at a Group level. The outcome of the project will be to have a fit for purpose in date MW CDEM Group Plan which aligns with national legislation and guidance, which represents our regional communities.

7 TIMELINE / NEXT STEPS

- 7.1 A Joint Standing Committee meeting for adoption of the MW CDEM Group Plan 2025 - 2030 is scheduled to occur on 2 December 2025.

Matthew Putt
SENIOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISOR

Chay Hook
MANAGER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

ANNEXES

- A Public Submissions
- B Officers Reports on Submissions
- C Additional Correspondence

Annex A

Annex A - 1

Submission ID: 4097

Date Submitted: Oct 01, 2025

Name: John Murphy

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

District: Horowhenua

Submission:

“I agree with the plan”

Annex A - 2

Submission ID: 4098

Date of Submission: Oct 01, 2025

Name: Kim Coates

Email: [REDACTED]

District: Manawatū

Speak to Submission? Yes

Submission:

"I would like to see two additions at the local council level:

One - offer residents a discounted water supply tank. Other council have done and are doing this. They buy in bulk and pass that saving to the resident costing little to none to council, whilst giving residents the option and encouragement to have a personal clean water supply in an emergency. Being were a rural, flood prone area this would relieve town water supply in emergencies

Two - consult with the local disabled community and emergency services to ensure all disabled/ deaf residents have the support they need. Ensure local services have contacts and details, where appropriate, to assist those who cannot assist themselves in emergencies."

Annex A - 3

Submission ID: 4099

Date of Submission: Oct 01, 2025

Name: Sally Dryland

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

District: Tararua

Submission:

"116 pages make it a long document.

Pg 30 is example of where a list of incomes for all regions would be more enlightening than the commentary within paragraphs.

Pg 41 would be good to see colour codes for hazards that highlight the district level risks. ie break into Horowhenua, Ruapehu, Tararua etc as the fire risk must now be climbing to very high within Tararua with increased forestry

Pg 46. Hikurangi Subduction Zone - do general population understand the risks and is risk high or very high?

Pg 47 No mention of TB?

Pg 61. Flow chart type pic might be clearer way to show info. How the co-ordination groups interact or crossover would be useful to know. Very siloed if need to go to each of the terms of reference

General comment. By using all of Tararua photos it would appear that no other district has suffered from events? Maybe a more balanced portfolio of photos from whole of horizons region would be good?

Pg 74. It would be good to think that there isn't crossover between readiness and response because there are no events :-)) and we are all ready.

Pg 77 4c. Education is empowerment hence important to focus on actions that can reduce risk, anxiety in youth has grown due to a knowledge of risk but not of steps to take to better prepare and cope. eg we learn first aide skills so we're prepared not because you're going to get your leg cut off by a chainsaw.

Pg 80 5a Good if standardised. Notable within Tararua is that some areas still aren't covered or connected with. Clear comms as to who connects well would be good

Is MPI lead agency for domestic and livestock animals within the local RCG plan?

107 Whanau. Economic or social unit?

Pg 111. Does Dannevirke have no backup facilities?"

Annex A - 4

Submission ID: 4101

Date of Submission: Oct 04, 2025

Name: Kaike Kereopa

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

District: Ruapehu

Do you want to speak to your submission: Yes?

Iwi/Hapū/Marae: Maniapoto / Tuwharetoa / Paerangi / Uenuku Land Administration
Ruapehu

Submission:

"My consistent engagement with Horizons has been met with all sorts of run around, in regards to who I should consult with over this 2025 year, thanks to a staff member who tried his hardest to engage me with the right person, sadly never eventuated.

This is very concerning for me and I do not intend on letting this matter be dissolved in anyway by a Crown department. Climate change continues to do it's utmost to impact what little whenua we still hold, but those powers to be need to ensure we as tangata whenua has the support & resources to do what we need to as kaitiaki.

I have a submission for you but I intend on elaborating this further in my brief of evidence for the Wai 3450 Inquiry."

Submission to the Emergency Management Bill Review (2025)

Na Kaike Kereopa ahau

Whenua Maori Matanga

Wahine Toa, Lead Claimant, Constitutional Advocate

CIMS Level 3 Certified

Rohe: Taumarunui, Taringamotu me Ongarue nga awa, Tuhua te Maunga.

04/10/2025

1) He Kupu Whakataki/Executive Summary:

This summary outlines urgent concerns regarding erosion-prone whenua, blocked river access and the disestablishment of local river committees. As a certified level 3 Emergency Responder and Uri of the whenua, I call for the removal of systemic barriers that undermine kaitiaki leadership and emergency readiness.

2) Nga Take Matua/Key Issues:

Te Hoha o Te Awa/ River Erosion

The river is worsening, with photo evidence captured. Leaseholder's reluctant to intervene due to council regulations that prohibit debris removal.

Te Aukatinga o te Ara/ Blocked Access

Road access is compromised, posing risks to whanau and emergency responders. Horizons has not provided a recovery plan under the CDEM framework, around my whenua.

Te Whakakore i te Komiti Awa/ Disestablished River Committee

The local river committee was disestablished, and funding for kaitiaki roles withdrawn – breaching Te Tiriti and resilience principles.

3) Nga Tutohu/Recommendations

Amend council regulations to allow debris removal and awa protection.

Support certified level 3 Maori responders to participate in regional planning, more so those that know the area, awa and whakapapa to the whenua.

Prioritize erosion-prone whenua in Horizons' hazard strategy

Embed kaupapa Māori frameworks into resilience planning

Consultation first and foremost with tangata whenua of the whenua in question, not next door or down the road whanau, not those listed on your go to contact list, Hapu/Iwi representatives do not speak for me, Pou Kuia, Pou Matua and Whanau Roopu.

He Kupu Whakakapi/Closing Statement

I am a Uri of the whenua, a kaitiaki, and certified level 3 emergency responder. I urge the review panel to honour Maori Knowledge, support Uri to protect our whenua, and remove the regulatory barriers that prevent rightful action.







Annex A - 5

Submission ID: 4102

Submission Date: Oct 13, 2025

Name: Barrie Angland

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

District: Palmerston North

Submission:

"Full of words the draft plan, so please learn of TC Gabriel where social media was useless. Web sites were no good with Power, Internet and water all out. Alternative communications are needed. Also Radio NZ has withdrawn from the Manawatu since Gabriel and are depending on 567kHz transmitter in Wellington to cover our region. Who can receive this Station particularly with a transmitter Radio. Any plan needs to stick to the basics and the most important thing learned from TC Gabriel was to keep the community fully informed."

Annex A - 6

Submission ID: 4103

Date Submitted: Oct 21, 2025

Name: Jonathan Procter

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

District: Horowhenua

Would you like to speak to your submission: Yes In-person

Submission:

"I do not agree with aspects of the draft Group Plan.

The natural hazards components and analysis in the Group do not provide the detail needed to quantify risk. The classifications are in my opinion, qualitative at best. The assessment of risk should be based on either recurrence rates assessed with past impacts detailed to determine risk or based on the probability of recurrence with a potential impact of lives lost or economic impact similar to that outlined in the ""Briefing to the Incoming Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery (NEMA) 2023; Annex 3"". All parts of the natural hazard descriptions seem qualitative with a lack of detail to actually calculate risk.

I do not agree with the comments/note on page 41 with respect to Ruapehu Volcano. The comments diminish the future impacts of a volcanic eruption. The past 1995-1996 eruptions nationally caused a significant economic impact of ~\$100 million, a much greater impact than many of the other natural hazards experienced by Horizons. Lahars from Ruapehu Volcano have also resulted in 151 lives being lost, which is nationally significant. The secondary and flow-on effects from a volcanic eruption of Ruapehu will have not only regional but national impacts and should not be seen as simply a local issue. This ideology of seeing a hazard as simply being local is contradictory to all over-riding aspirations of CDEM/Risk/DRR legislation and policy. If one of NZ's most active volcanoes is considered a local problem, then why isn't each other's hazard considered in that aspect? Tsunami only impacts coastal communities; earthquakes (by similar logic) should only impact those near faults, and the Hikurangi Scenario should only impact the East Coast of NZ. Volcanic eruptions should be assessed as a much greater risk.

I am also confused why the Hikurangi Margin scenario is considered a separate natural hazard. This is, at its simplest, only a scenario and a subset of earthquake and tsunami hazards. While the magnitude of the event may be high, the probability of the event is most likely low. The assessment does not provide details that would indicate it as a new type of natural hazard that should be assessed separately.

I would also like to see the role of Marae included in the group plan alongside other key recovery/relief/community organisations."

Annex A - 7

Submission ID: 4104

Submission Date: Oct 21, 2025

Name: Helen Leahy

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

District: Ruapehu

Submission:

“Strengthening disaster resilience and emergency management; Government’s response to the Report of the Government Inquiry into the Response to the North Island Severe Weather Events (October 2024).

In that report, it reminds us that: Iwi and Māori organisations have an important role to play. The NISWE Inquiry and other recent reviews have paid special attention to the contributions iwi and Māori have made to extend care and protection to all in need during disaster response and recovery. The emergency management system needs to make room for more Māori participation in planning and decision making to enable this contribution. In that report, one of the very first recommendations is:

1.2 Recognise and enable the significant contribution of iwi and Māori in emergency management to the benefit of all people in New Zealand.

But there is another recommendation that should be considered in the context of the Group Plan:

1.5: Expand the number and quality of formal agreements with businesses, community organisations, iwi and Māori to deliver assistance in times of emergencies.

These recommendations arose out of issues identified that despite iwi and Māori capability and expertise, they do not have a formal legislated role in emergency management and there is distrust by some iwi and Māori towards emergency management agencies.

The report also noted that iwi and Māori are making significant contributions to emergency management. The NISWE Inquiry observed that in some cases during the NISWE, iwi and Māori activated more quickly than local and regional authority responses and provided a range of valuable services to people in their areas. However, there were instances where iwi and Māori were obstructed from taking action to protect and look after those who live in their rohe (territory). The NISWE Inquiry has called for a formal legislated role in emergency management and for the system to support the significant capacity and capability of iwi and Māori to help communities prepare for, respond to, and recover from an emergency.

The role of iwi and Māori is a fundamental strand which, if embedded and recognised formally as part of the system, will deliver stronger emergency management to the benefit of all New Zealanders.

Despite this; the Manawatu Whanganui CDEM Group plan fails to specifically refer to any one iwi by name. This would not have been an onerous role to research the names of the relevant iwi; and to be able to even reference some of the wahi tapu or sacred sites alluded to on page 19.

While the framework on meeting the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi is useful, it would be more meaningful, for example, if instead of a general statement "Representatives on the Welfare Coordination Group; Recovery Team; the Coordinating Executive Group and the JSC" there was explicit reference to the name of the iwi from which the representatives are drawn.

On page 19, it should be 'observe tikanga and cultural practices' (not practises)."



29 August 2025

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Bronwyn Hautapu
Iwi and hapū advisor
Horizons Regional Council
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Regional Emergency management preparation Ngāti Rangī

Tēnā koe me ngā tini āhuatanga o te wā. Huri atu te pō, nau mai te ao.

Ngā Waihua o Paerangi, formerly Ngāti Rangī Trust, has recently undertaken an emergency management stocktake which I attach for your information.

We have been particularly interested in the emergency pods that have been the result of a Te Puni Kōkiri and Ngai Tahu venture in the South Island and believe that these could be a vital means of assisting our preparation in our community.

Ngāti Rangī has an ambitious vision: *Kia mura ai te ora o Ngāti Rangī ki tua o te 1,000 tau*: Ngāti Rangī continues to vibrantly exist in 1,000 years. In order to reach that state of ultimate vibrancy, our approach is clear: E kōkiri tahi ana a Ngāti Rangī i ngā kaupapa hei oranga mō te katoa; Together Ngāti Rangī will grow itself and its communities.

While we have always responded in times of crisis, the opportunity to plan responsibly for all the stages of emergency management, including reduction, readiness, response, and recovery, is critical. It is in this vein that I write to you with a request for any support for any components of the stocktake that you believe Horizons Regional Council could assist with.

Our comments on the Manawatū-Whanganui Emergency Management Group Plan 2025-2030 are as follows.

P12 : last sentence: should it be: 'The Group Plan also provides the public with an overview....'

Page 13 : It is important that the current context is referenced, rather than just relying on the 2002 legislation. In this sense, it would be useful to also refer to '*Strengthening disaster resilience and emergency management*'; Government's response to the Report of the Government Inquiry into the Response to the North Island Severe Weather Events (October 2024).

In that report, it reminds us that: "*Iwi and Māori organisations have an important role to play. The NISWE Inquiry and other recent reviews have paid special attention to the contributions iwi and Māori have made to extend care and protection to all in need during disaster response and recovery. The emergency*

management system needs to make room for more Māori participation in planning and decision-making to enable this contribution". In that report, one of the very first recommendations is:

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These recommendations arose out of issues identified that despite iwi and Māori capability and expertise, they do not have a formal legislated role in emergency management and there is distrust by some iwi and Māori towards emergency management agencies.

The report also noted that iwi and Māori are making significant contributions to emergency management. The NISWE Inquiry observed that in some cases during the NISWE, iwi and Māori activated more quickly than local and regional authority responses and provided a range of valuable services to people in their areas. However, there were instances where iwi and Māori were obstructed from taking action to protect and look after those who live in their rohe (territory). The NISWE Inquiry has called for a formal legislated role in emergency management and for the system to support the significant capacity and capability of iwi and Māori to help communities prepare for, respond to, and recover from an emergency.

The role of iwi and Māori is a fundamental strand which, if embedded and recognised formally as part of the system, will deliver stronger emergency management to the benefit of all New Zealanders.

Pg 17: The role and responsibilities of CDEM Group members appear to be only Council members. There is no reference to iwi and Māori representatives in this Group which is a significant omission.

The system needs to support the significant capacity and capability of iwi and Māori across emergency management. This is not only through investing and building their capacity and capability to respond in an emergency, but how mātauranga Māori, manaakitanga and deep relationships within their communities can strengthen outcomes across reduction, readiness, and recovery activities. The Group Plan should be describing how it will work closely with iwi and Māori by as a first step ensuring participation in the CDEM Group.

Page 19: The emphasis should be on how to develop a flexible approach to enable participation at all levels (local, regional and national) in emergency management for those who have the capacity, capability, and desire to contribute. The text of the iwi partnerships section reveals the Manawatu-Whanganui CDEM group will form partnerships, rather than iwi being specifically included in the CDEM group. The latter is the preference.



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Page 28: Feilding (not Fielding).
Would it be more accurate to describe centres
Such as Marton or Ohakune as rural rather than an
urban centre?

Page 43: I think the rationale not to refer to volcanoes because the consequences at a regional level have been "rated lower" is short-sighted. As an example, a volcanic eruption leading to a lahar could significantly impact on the flow of Te Waiū-o-te-ika, the Whangaehu River, which flows across the region from the Crater Lake to the source at Whangaehu.

It should be remembered that the 1995 volcanic eruption on Mount Ruapehu set off an ash plume which disrupted flight paths (the flights had to be cancelled as the presence of acidic ash would be destructive of the plane). The ash deposited from that eruption also caused electricity outlets because the ash landed on the pylons and power lines. Ash fall was registered in Napier, Hastings and the East Coast. The ash was corrosive; rusting roofs where it fell. When the ash was washed off the roof, its debris would pollute the stormwater in that region. In sum, the impact was widespread.

Page 53: The manaakitanga provided by iwi and Māori during COVID and Cyclone Gabrielle should be referred to here. It is helpful to understand the positive value of strengths-based Māori solution-building seen through these past events. During COVID 19 the impact of iwi and Whānau Ora was a significant factor in achieving low Māori infection rates. *"This remarkable, and unanticipated, outcome is potentially a golden precedent for policymakers if we can determine the critical factors that reversed embedded trends of disproportionate disadvantage"*. McMeeking and Savage, 2020.

Page 59 : It is important to recognise that for Ngāti Rangī it is offensive to refer to Mount Ruapehu as a hazard. Otherwise known as Ruapehu, Matua te Mana is central to the cultural and spiritual identity of Ngāti Rangī. He is the stronghold for Ngāti Rangī, is beloved among his people and is referred to by uri as Koro Ruapehu, the tribal grandfather. Koro Ruapehu is the anchor for us to our whenua, and he exists as the stronghold of our people. The deed of settlement (*Ngāti Rangī Claims Settlement Act 2019*) recognizes the importance of Ruapehu as a sacred mountain, with special significance to Ngāti Rangī.

Rūaumoko is the atua of our maunga Ruapehu; through Koro Ruapehu he is able to share his raw power with us. Rūaumoko is responsible for the many natural phenomenon that we as Ngāti Rangī experience: earthquakes, lahars, volcanic eruptions and the associated thunder and lightning events. Ngāti Rangī have lived under the mantle of Matua te Mana for many generations and with that comes an acceptance and celebration of the natural events that take place here. We live alongside both Koro Ruapehu and Rūaumoko and have placed our pā and kāinga some distance from the pathways of volcanic events.

Our main issues around this area lie with the approach taken to address and mitigate Rūaumoko’s events, termed by officials as “natural disasters” or “hazards”. Ruapehu is deeply sacred to us as Ngāti Rangī. We take our responsibility to care for Ruapehu and maintain his sacredness seriously.

Page 76

Given the lived experience and the plethora of research and reports, it is disappointing that the objectives are so light in relation to enabling full and effective involvement of iwi and Māori in CDEM decision-making.

We acknowledge and support the reference in Recommendation 3.c to “draw upon Mātauranga Māori to inform understanding of hazards and their consequences”; and also in recommendation 8.c where marae are listed as resources likely to be required in response.

But it would appear the key recommendation is 11 a and b, where iwi are being referred to as part of a relationship; and that the CDEM group might ‘identify opportunities for iwi to participate’. This is the fundamental issue – where an external group will deem when iwi can participate, rather than iwi being recognised as a vital part of the CDEM structure.

Readiness objectives	Activities
11. Continue to build the relationship between emergency management organisations and iwi/ groups representing Māori, to ensure greater recognition, understanding, and integration of iwi/ Māori perspectives and tikanga in emergency management.	<p>a. Partner with iwi in the development of operational plans and strategies to ensure integration of iwi / Māori perspectives and tikanga in emergency management.</p> <p>b. Identify opportunities for iwi to participate in CDEM Group exercises and training events.</p>

On **page 98** we note a reference in recovery that “it must also address the long term and include a Te Ao Māori lens across all the environments” . However this appears to be an afterthought in the context of the narrative prior.

We appreciate the intention that the group plan will be distributed to iwi representatives across the region in early September for approval before public consultation. We sincerely hope that the matters raised here will assist Horizons Regional Council to adapt the Manawatū-Whanganui Emergency Management Group Plan 2025-2030 in a way which more effectively represents the involvement of whānau, hapu, iwi and Māori organisations.

Heoti ano



Helen Leahy
Pou Ārahi / Chief Executive

Annex A - 8

Submission ID: 4105

Date Submitted: Oct 30, 2025

Name: Karen Rees

Email: [REDACTED]

District: Tararua

Submission:

"I live in Eketahuna, where we have frequent power outages due to wind/trees down/power lines.

We need extra security manpower to protect/man shops, library/community centre. Contact details of staff. Clear job description and contact details - e.g. who is in charge of generators and filling with petrol?

I heard one poor security guy had to try to stop thieves from breaking into shops through the night because doors were open due to power outage.

Also flooding. We need one central location that can be manned by local people (not council staff who have to drive through treacherous constructions to get to town).

This happened last week in the storm (23/10/25)."

Annex A - 9

Submission ID: 4106

Date Submitted: Oct 31, 2025

Name: Kevin Wilkie

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

District: Whanganui

Do you want to speak to your submission: Yes In-person

Submission:

"I support the draft Group Plan.

I believe that the plan would benefit with some strengthening in regard to digital solutions that support Emergency Management and, in particular, to have some tweaks made to the Group Plan that outline support for the establishment of an Urban Digital Twin [UDT] for the region. The main benefits of UDT's for Emergency Management are detailed in the attached overview. In addition a key component for the creation of UDT's is to have a region wide LiDar dataset so the Group Plan should also advocate for the completion of the LiDar datasets for the region.

Support for adding these tweaks to the Group Plan is laid out in the recent Report of the Government Inquiry into the Response to the North Island Severe Weather Event.

An issue identified in this report was that there was a major disconnect between communities and emergency management agencies. Community members felt their efforts to support their communities were made necessary due to a failure of the official emergency response. Emergency management agencies saw the community response as a key part of the official emergency response.

The report's recommended shift was to put people and their communities at the heart of emergency management. A UDT would be an excellent tool to support this shift.

The draft plan already has a reference in this general area on page 13 where Investment in Digital Infrastructure is listed as one of the Government's recommended areas of response to the Inquiry."

https://haveyoursay.horizons.govt.nz/download_file/1275

AI Overview of the use of Urban Digital Twins for Emergency Management

Urban digital twins are used for emergency responses by providing real-time situational awareness during an event and for pre-disaster preparedness through simulations and training. They integrate various data streams like real-time traffic, building layouts, and sensor data to improve resource allocation, coordinate efforts, and train emergency personnel in high-risk, virtual scenarios. This approach helps cities respond more effectively to disasters, manage public health crises, and plan for future risks.

During an emergency

Real-time awareness: Digital twins use live data from sensors, social media, and satellite feeds to give a dynamic, real-time view of an unfolding disaster, such as a flood, fire, or earthquake.

Optimised resource allocation: By analyzing data on building layouts, population density, and traffic, digital twins can guide emergency responders to the most affected areas and help coordinate resource deployment for maximum efficiency.

Coordinated response: They facilitate better collaboration between different agencies by providing a common, up-to-date operational picture for all stakeholders.

For preparedness and training

Disaster simulation: Digital twins allow cities to simulate various disaster scenarios to test and optimize emergency plans, identify vulnerabilities, and predict potential impacts.

Training and readiness: They provide realistic, virtual training environments, such as using VR headsets to immerse firefighters in high-risk situations without any actual danger. This can also be used for public health emergencies to simulate resource needs and test response measures.

Long-term planning: By simulating different scenarios, digital twins help planners prepare for long-term risks, like the effects of climate change, and inform decisions on infrastructure and policy changes.

Public health management: They can predict public health risks by monitoring data and can be used to manage and coordinate the surge capacity of healthcare systems during an epidemic or other public health events.

Annex A - 10

Submission ID: 4107

Date Submitted: November 5, 2025

Name: Palmerston North City Council

District: Palmerston North

Submission:

Tēnā koe,

Re: Submission on the Manawatū-Whanganui Emergency Management Group Plan 2025-2030

Palmerston North City Council's Emergency Management team appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft Manawatū-Whanganui Emergency Management Group Plan (the Plan) 2025–2030. We commend the collaborative work that has gone into the Group Plan and acknowledge the clear regional direction and inclusive tone.

This submission reflects input from relevant Palmerston North City Council teams including our Incident Management Team, Māori Advisory, Strategic Planning, Community Development and Logistics teams. This submission was also compiled with regard to the national policy and legislative framework that guides Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) in Aotearoa New Zealand — including the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 (the Act), the National CDEM Plan Order 2015, and the National Disaster Resilience Strategy 2019 (NDRS) — alongside our local responsibilities for community resilience, essential service continuity, and long-term planning.

Our feedback reflects a practical, local government perspective focused on ensuring the Plan is both strategically sound and operationally achievable.

Specific Observations and Recommendations

Narrative, Legal, and Analytical Alignment

Overall, the Plan aligns well with the intent of the Act, the National CDEM Plan Order 2015, and the NDRS. The structure and intent are strong; however, we suggest minor refinements to enhance clarity, consistency, and regional practicality:

- 1) Clarify that the Plan must be reviewed at least every five years but may be reviewed earlier following significant events or legislative change, and that any formal review requires public consultation under s 56 and s 83 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Including this statement will maintain transparency and public confidence by confirming that any formal review will involve community consultation. It also supports consistency with other Regional Group Plans.

- 2) We suggest the Plan could more clearly connect the findings from the 2024 Lifelines Vulnerability Study in a lifelines section. It could outline how the region will coordinate between councils, lifeline utilities, and the CDEM Group to establish shared priorities, exchange information effectively, and plan for

alternate routes or backup supply options. Enhancing this connection would reinforce coordinated planning and shared understanding, contributing to more effective management of essential services during and after major events.

A clearer outline within the Plan would not limit or override local decision-making. Rather, it would provide a shared regional framework that supports consistent coordination and communication across councils and agencies, while allowing each to retain flexibility in how they manage and deliver their local responsibilities.

- 3) Strategic Objectives are sound and well aligned; however, slight wording improvements could improve alignment with national direction:
 - 'Manage risks' to 'Understand and manage risks to reduce impacts.'
 - 'Empower community resilience' to 'Empower and enable community-led resilience.'

Objective 2 was sound. Our suggested adjustments for the other two would maintain the original intent while strengthening alignment with national terminology and the 4Rs framework. They also anticipate the direction of the forthcoming Emergency Management Bill, which is expected to emphasise integrated risk management, critical infrastructure resilience, and community-led recovery.

Te Ao Māori and Treaty Alignment

We support and endorse the strong Te Ao Māori focus and the prominent use of te reo Māori throughout the Plan. Feedback from our Māori Advisory and wider Iwi Māori function team and the wider iwi network highlights an opportunity to clarify overlapping headings and strengthen logical flow.

There are currently three separate 'principles' sections within a short span:

- Our Principles (Te Ao Māori principles)
- Meeting the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi
- Our Principles – Ō Mātou Mātāpono

To improve clarity please consider the feedback and comments from our team below:

- 4) The first set of principles are fine, they establish regional settings which are the most relevant to CDEM operations here, and we don't have any overt suggestions to change these or their position in the document (we are interested if they will get strong iwi endorsement from across the rohe). They flow naturally from everything beforehand however they could be more specifically titled to what they are which is 'Iwi and Hapū Engagement Principles'.
- 5) The next set of principles we humbly suggest is actually not the best title therefore we recommend this section to be retitled 'Meeting Our Responsibilities under Te Tiriti o Waitangi' (instead of the current 'Meeting the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi').

This would address one of the three areas where the ‘principles’ headings currently overlap, improving clarity and flow.

We believe this approach is appropriate because as outlined above, CDEM expresses its regional engagement strategy principles up front – perfect. It then outlines very clearly and comprehensively in the next section titled ‘Our Responsibilities’ what specific accountabilities this represents for the regional CDEM team, followed by ‘How We Will Achieve This’.

This sequence creates a clear and logical flow — first setting out our iwi Māori responsibilities, then explaining how we will deliver on them in practice. It also helps to reduce confusion caused by having three separate Māori language-sourced ‘principles’ headings within a short span of pages, each with a different basis.

The phrase Meeting the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi may read as unusual - in contemporary Treaty language, we tend to speak of applying the principles to meet our Tiriti responsibilities.

Additionally, while the use of both te reo Māori and English throughout the document is appropriate, we believe this particular title should be in te reo Māori hence, ‘Meeting Our Responsibilities Under Te Tiriti o Waitangi’.

- 6) Finally, the third title ‘Our Principles - Ō Mātou Mātāpono’, appropriately follows ‘Our Vision – Tō Mātou Matakitea’ and ‘Strategic Objectives – Ngā Whaingā Rautaki’. These are on pages 20-21 and seem like they could be much closer to the front of the document. If these three were included earlier, it would add to the overall national context being upfront, which then shapes local settings.
- 7) Other general comment on this section was the correction to ‘Maunga Ruapehu’ which should be corrected to ‘Ruapehu Maunga’.

In closing, we recognise and value the strong integration of Te Ao Māori throughout the Plan and encourage continued partnership with iwi Māori to refine these elements so that they remain clear, consistent, and enduring.

Logistics and Operational Readiness

Feedback from our logistics team highlighted several opportunities to strengthen regional readiness, particularly around supply chain resilience, logistics coordination, and resource visibility.

- 8) Their observations identified potential gaps such as the absence of a defined regional logistics coordination model, limited contingency planning for critical supplies, and the need for improved tracking and inter-regional support arrangements.

We acknowledge the value of these insights and agree that logistics is an essential enabler of effective emergency management. However, much of this detail — such as contingency plans, supplier MOUs, and operational resource systems — sits at an implementation level and may be better captured through supporting sub-plans or standard operating procedures.

Also, by maintaining the current strategic coordination framework in the Group Plan, with detailed logistics arrangements developed and maintained separately, would allow for flexibility and continuous improvement while keeping the Plan concise and enduring. This could be captured as part of a lifelines section within the Plan.

Planning and Spatial Context

Feedback from our Planning function noted several areas where additional context and clarity could strengthen the Group Plan.

- 9) The One Plan was referred to as new document, however, it has been in place for over a decade, providing a long-standing environmental management framework for the region. Correcting this reference will avoid any misunderstanding.
- 10) It may also be helpful to expand references to adjacent national reforms that affect emergency management—such as the earthquake-prone building system, Local Water Done Well (LWDW), and ongoing resource management reform—so the regional context is more complete.
- 11) Mapping key assets and overlapping service areas could improve spatial understanding. For example, aligning or illustrating variations between service boundaries (e.g., Police, St John, and territorial authorities).
- 12) Updating references such as the ‘inland port’ to ‘Central New Zealand Distribution Hub’ (with a hyperlink to Te Utanganui-Central New Zealand Distribution Hub) would make the Plan more accurate and user-friendly.

Other General Comments on the Plan

- 13) The document was well rounded however, noted a lack of consideration around other heightened vulnerable communities such as youth. There was a clear focus in some parts on the elderly but not on others.
- 14) Additional comments on proofreading, formatting, and cross-referencing are included in Appendix 1 for ease of review.

Fit for Purpose

We believe the plan is fit for purpose. It meets the requirements of the Act and provides a sound framework for regional coordination and leadership across member councils. The structure aligns with national direction, reflects the 4Rs approach, and offers practical guidance that local authorities can adapt to their own operational contexts. It is clear, accessible, and integrates Te Ao Māori principles in a meaningful way.

While some areas may benefit from minor refinement or supporting documentation, the draft represents a solid step toward greater consistency, clarity, and collaboration across the Manawatū-Whanganui region.

Conclusion

In conclusion, we appreciate the collaborative effort behind this draft and the thoughtful balance it achieves between regional coordination and local autonomy. These comments are

offered in the spirit of shared learning and continuous improvement, with the hope they help strengthen a Plan that benefits us all.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Ngā mihi nui,

Zarra Houpapa
Acting Manager Emergency Management
Palmerston North City Council

Appendix 1 – Proofreading, Formatting and Cross-Reference Notes

The following minor editorial notes are provided to assist in final proofreading before adoption.

- Check overall consistency of formatting, including headings, font sizes, and bilingual layout (ensure te reo Māori and English headings are styled uniformly).
- Review page numbering alignment in the table of contents — a few references appear to be off by 1–2 pages.
- Standardise capitalisation (e.g., Group Plan, Emergency Coordination Centre, Lifelines Utilities).
- Ensure consistent use of macrons in te reo Māori words throughout.
- Review internal cross-references to figures, appendices, and page numbers for accuracy.
- Confirm that all acronyms are defined at first use (e.g., CIMS, ECC, LUC).
- Check and/or add hyperlinks and footnotes – check they are active and point to the correct documents (e.g., National CDEM Plan, CIMS Guide).
- Page 10: Verify the reference to HAZ-NH pg 120; there is no page 120 in the current draft.
- Page 11: Cross-check, Figure 1 — currently cited as appearing on page 15
- Page 12: ‘What we do’ would it make more sense to put this after ‘Who we are’?
- Page 17: Note indicates blessing of ‘the new road’ – the name of the road would be helpful or rewording to indicate ‘a new road’.
- Page 24: Location names are blurry – increase font size and clarity of picture.
- The diagram on page 14 is difficult to follow, could it be made simpler or provide an alternative.
- Page 52: ‘Get ready to get through’ could be more appropriate as an appendix.
- Page 55: Suggest linking the challenges to the objectives.
- Page 53: ‘Learning from past events’ could there be an intro to bring clarity to this section.
- Page 80: Readiness Objectives 6 – adding ‘Developing local CDEM plan’, ‘Centralised system for welfare needs’
- Page 81: Readiness Objectives 7c and 8 are the same – is 8 a different objective?
- Page 81: Objective 9 to include reference to ensuring TAs are appropriately resourced to do this.
- Page 81: Objective 7 and 10 could possibly combine as well as 9 and 12.
- Page 83: Suggestion around ensuring processes are in place for integration of community and development of best practice process.
- Page 85: It seems to be an odd place for this graph. Could be earlier around Part 4 where it mentions CDCs.
- Page 89: Renaming for national consistency ‘Community Emergency Hubs’.
- Page 90: List is ambiguous on whose plans and documents they are e.g., local or regional
- Page 92: Suggested to link back to objectives.
- Page 94: Links to warning / monitoring alerts and should there be a hazards section here.
- Appendices: Ensure internal references to Appendix C – Response Matrix and other annexes are correct and complete.
- Page 111: Adding ‘Council’ to Local Authority names.

Annex B

Annex B - 1

MW CDEM Group Plan Review: Officer's Report

1. Information

- Reference number: 4097
- Submitter: John Murphy
- Date: 1 October 2025
- Officer: Matthew Putt, Senior Emergency Management Advisor; Strategy, Plans, and Reduction (Manawatū-Whanganui Emergency Management Group Office).

2. Purpose

To assess the submission for the Manawatū-Whanganui Civil Defence Emergency Management (MW CDEM) Group Plan and provide a recommendation to the Hearing Panel, as a sub-group of the MW CDEM Group.

3. Summary of submission

Submission agrees with the Plan.

4. Assessment

Submission agrees with the Plan. No changes necessary.

5. Recommendation

No change suggested.

Annex B - 2

MW CDEM Group Plan Review: Officer's Report

1. Information

- Reference number: 4098
- Submitter: Kim Coates
- Date: 1 October 2025
- Officer: Matthew Putt, Senior Emergency Management Advisor; Strategy, Plans, and Reduction (Manawatū-Whanganui Emergency Management Group Office).

2. Purpose

To assess the submission for the Manawatū-Whanganui Civil Defence Emergency Management (MW CDEM) Group Plan and provide a recommendation to the Hearing Panel, as a sub-group of the MW CDEM Group.

3. Summary of submission

Discounted Water Supply Tanks:

Councils could bulk-purchase water tanks and offer them to residents at reduced prices.

This initiative has been successfully implemented elsewhere with minimal cost to councils.

It encourages households to maintain personal emergency water supplies, especially vital in rural, flood-prone areas.

Reduces strain on town water systems during emergencies.

Emergency Support for Disabled and Deaf Residents:

Collaborate with local disabled communities and emergency services.

Ensure all disabled and deaf residents have tailored emergency support plans.

Maintain appropriate contact details and protocols to assist individuals who may not be able to help themselves during crises.

4. Assessment

The suggestion of discounted water supply tanks is a budgetary and operational decision for local authorities to implement if they see fit.

Emergency support for deaf and disabled persons aligns with the objective 3 (page 20) of the Group Plan draft: Enabling, empowering, and supporting community resilience.

5. Recommendation

Recommend adding an objective (or activity within an existing objective) within the 'Readiness and Response' section around engaging with disproportionately affected communities to understand their own needs and capabilities in an emergency.

No further changes are recommended.

6. Rationale

There are agencies and organisations outside of local government who are better placed to hold key information for those in our communities who require extra support during disasters, so I would not recommend CDEM be responsible for holding contacts for all those who may be affected. This is outlined in Objective 6B (page 80):

Maintain relationships with entities representing those who may be disproportionately affected by emergencies.

Annex B - 3

MW CDEM Group Plan Review: Officer's Report

1. Header Information

- Reference number: 4099
- Submitter: Sally Dryland
- Date: 1 October 2025
- Officer: Matthew Putt, Senior Emergency Management Advisor; Strategy, Plans, and Reduction (Manawatū-Whanganui Emergency Management Group Office).

2. Purpose

To assess the submission for the Manawatū-Whanganui Civil Defence Emergency Management (MW CDEM) Group Plan and provide a recommendation to the Hearing Panel, as a sub-group of the MW CDEM Group

3. Summary of submission

Submission lists several questions, clarifications, and general points. There are the following recommendations:

- Incomes for each district would be more enlightening than current commentary.
- Colour codes for hazards for each district level recommended, as this will change across the region.
- Flow chart instead of written text on page 61.

The following questions are posed:

- Does the public understand the Hikurangi Subduction Zone?
- No mention of TB on page 47?
- Is MPI lead agency for domestic and livestock animals within the local RCG plan?
- Is Whanau an economic or social unit on page 107?
- Does Dannevirke have no backup facilities?

4. Recommendation

Recommend adding in Bovine Tuberculosis on Page 47 under Animal Epidemics.

5. Rationale

The majority of questions posed focus on local level planning and operational matters. These are addressed in objectives 4 (page 77) and 5 (page 80). Further clarification of structures via flow charts as recommended would add to the document length as outlined in the submission.

Annex B - 4

MW CDEM Group Plan Review: Officer's Report

1. Information

- Reference number: 4101
- Submitter: Kaike Kereopa
- Date: 4 October 2025
- Officer: Matthew Putt, Senior Emergency Management Advisor; Strategy, Plans, and Reduction (Manawatū-Whanganui Emergency Management Group Office).

2. Purpose

To assess the submission for the Manawatū-Whanganui Civil Defence Emergency Management (MW CDEM) Group Plan and provide a recommendation to the Hearing Panel, as a sub-group of the MW CDEM Group.

3. Summary of submission

This summary outlines urgent concerns regarding erosion-prone whenua, blocked river access and the disestablishment of local river committees. As a certified level 3 Emergency Responder and Uri of the whenua the submitter calls for the removal of systemic barriers that undermine kaitiaki leadership and emergency readiness.

4. Recommendation

No change to the Plan recommended. Submission document can be provided to Horizons Regional Council and Ruapehu District Council to enable these organisations to address concerns raised by submitter as they sit outside the MW CDEM Group Plan.

5. Rationale

The concerns raised by the submitter can be achieved under Objective 1 (A) – page 76 (with Iwi as a CDEM partner), Objective 3 (A and C) with a focus on drawing on mātauranga to inform our understanding of hazards, Objective 4.

Objective 11 (page 82) outlines our commitment to ensuring greater recognition and understanding of the significant contribution of iwi/Māori, ensuring of iwi/Māori perspectives and tikanga are embedded throughout emergency management planning and operations.

Annex B - 5

MW CDEM Group Plan Review: Officer's Report

1. Information

- Reference Number: 4102
- Submitter: Barrie Angland
- Date: 13 October 2025
- Officer: Matthew Putt, Senior Emergency Management Advisor; Strategy, Plans, and Reduction (Manawatū-Whanganui Emergency Management Group Office).

2. Purpose

To assess the submission for the Manawatū-Whanganui Civil Defence Emergency Management (MW CDEM) Group Plan and provide a recommendation to the Hearing Panel, as a sub-group of the MW CDEM Group.

3. Summary of submission

Social media and websites failed due to outages in power, internet, and water.

Alternative communication methods are essential during emergencies.

Radio NZ has withdrawn from Manawatū and now relies on the 567kHz Wellington transmitter to reach the region; it's unclear who can receive it reliably.

Emergency plans must focus on basic, resilient communication and prioritize keeping the community fully informed.

4. Recommendation

No changes recommended based on this submission.

5. Rationale

This submission highlights the importance of traditional radio communication during emergencies, particularly in scenarios where digital platforms such as social media and websites are inaccessible due to power or connectivity outages. While the concern regarding RNZ's AM frequency coverage is noted, it is important to acknowledge that the Region maintains a diverse range of radio communication channels beyond RNZ's 567kHz AM service. As outlined on page 94 of the Group Plan draft, these include a network of local FM and AM broadcasters, community radio stations, and Civil Defence radio partnerships, all of which play a critical role in disseminating timely and reliable information during emergencies. The Group recognises the need to ensure these channels are supported, accessible, and integrated into community preparedness efforts, particularly for isolated or vulnerable populations.

Annex B - 6

MW CDEM Group Plan Review: Officer's Report

1. Information

- Reference number: 4103
- Submitter: Jonathan Procter
- Date: 21 October 2025
- Officer: Matthew Putt, Senior Emergency Management Advisor; Strategy, Plans, and Reduction (Manawatū-Whanganui Emergency Management Group Office)

2. Purpose

To assess the submission for the Manawatū-Whanganui Civil Defence Emergency Management (MW CDEM) Group Plan and provide a recommendation to the Hearing Panel, as a sub-group of the MW CDEM Group.

3. Summary of submission

Natural Hazard Risk Assessment

Raises concern over the reliance on qualitative classifications within the Group Plan's hazard analysis.

Recommends incorporating recurrence rates and impact-based metrics—such as historical fatalities and economic losses—as outlined in Annex 3 of NEMA's 2023 Briefing to the Incoming Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery.

Ruapehu Volcano Risk Framing

Disagrees with the portrayal of Ruapehu Volcano on page 41, suggesting it understates the potential national significance of future eruptions.

Notes that the 1995–1996 eruptions resulted in approximately \$100 million in economic losses and that lahar events have historically caused 151 deaths.

Argues that volcanic hazards should be framed as national risks due to their potential for widespread disruption, not merely as localised issues.

Hazard Classification Consistency

Challenges the logic of treating Ruapehu as a local hazard while other events (e.g., tsunamis, earthquakes) are framed as regional or national threats.

Calls for a consistent, nationally aligned approach to hazard classification and risk prioritisation across all hazard types.

Hikurangi Margin Scenario

Questions the rationale for treating the Hikurangi Margin scenario as a standalone hazard.

Suggests it is more appropriately considered a subset of earthquake and tsunami hazards, given its low probability and lack of distinct classification criteria.

Community Inclusion and Cultural Resilience

Recommends explicit inclusion of Marae in recovery and relief planning, recognising their critical role in community cohesion, cultural leadership, and emergency response.

Encourages equal recognition of Marae alongside other key organisations within the Group Plan's strategic framework.

4. Assessment

This submission raises valid concerns regarding the hazard risk analysis framework used in the development of the MWCDEM Group Plan, particularly its reliance on qualitative classifications. While the process adheres to the NEMA Director's Guideline for hazard risk analysis, it is acknowledged that this methodology is inherently subjective and open to interpretation. To mitigate this, workshops were held with affected stakeholders to reach consensus on risk ratings across all four environments; social, built, economic, and natural weighted against likelihood of occurrence.

5. Recommendation:

The hazard risk rating for Ruapehu Maunga has been revised from Medium to High following prior consultation with the submitter and Ngāti Rangī. No further changes are recommended at this time, noting that one other hazard currently holds a higher overall risk rating for the region. The inclusion of Marae in community response and recovery arrangements is already reflected in the Group Plan on pages 16 and 81.

Natural Hazard Risk Assessment Methodology: The Group Plan's hazard risk analysis follows the NEMA Director's Guideline (DGL), which applies a multi-environmental framework assessing risk across four domains: social, built, economic, and natural. While the process is inherently qualitative, it is informed by expert workshops and stakeholder engagement to ensure a balanced and regionally relevant assessment. The use of recurrence rates and quantified impacts, as suggested in NEMA's 2023 Briefing (Annex 3), is acknowledged as valuable, and future iterations of the Plan may explore integrating more quantitative metrics where feasible. However, the current methodology aligns with national guidance and reflects the best available consensus-based approach.

Ruapehu Volcano Risk Framing: The risk rating for Ruapehu Maunga has been revised from Medium to High following consultation with Ngāti Rangī and the submitter. While the 1995–1996 eruptions caused significant economic disruption (~\$100 million), the majority of losses were concentrated in the tourism sector. Advances in monitoring and early warning systems since the 1953 Tangiwai disaster have significantly reduced the likelihood of similar fatalities. The scenario used in the Plan is based on GNS Science's maximum credible event modelling, which indicates that the most severe impacts would be concentrated in the Ruapehu District and surrounding areas. While the national implications of a major eruption are acknowledged, the regional risk rating reflects the expected direct impacts within the Group's jurisdiction.

Hazard Classification Consistency: The Group acknowledges the importance of consistent framing across hazard types. The classification of hazards considers both geographic extent and consequence across all environments. While volcanic hazards like Ruapehu may have national implications, the Group Plan focuses on regional impacts to inform local readiness and response. This does not diminish the broader significance of such hazards but ensures alignment with the Group's statutory responsibilities.

Hikurangi Margin Scenario Classification: The Hikurangi Margin scenario is treated as a distinct hazard due to its unique characteristics as a subduction zone rupture. Unlike local fault earthquakes, a Hikurangi event would produce prolonged, high intensity shaking across the entire region and generate a significant tsunami affecting both coasts. Although the probability may be lower than other hazards, the potential consequences are far greater,

justifying its separate treatment in the Plan. This approach is consistent with national risk frameworks and reflects the scenario's multi-environmental impact potential.

Inclusion of Marae in Recovery and Relief Planning: The role of Marae in emergency response and recovery is recognised and included in the Group Plan (see pages 16 and 81). Marae is acknowledged as critical community assets that provide shelter, leadership, and cultural support during emergencies. The Group remains committed to strengthening partnerships with iwi and hapū to ensure Marae are fully integrated into planning, response, and recovery frameworks.

6. Rationale

The Group Plan's hazard assessments follow the NEMA DGL framework, which defines risk as a function of likelihood and consequence across multiple environments not solely economic cost. While Ruapehu may present a higher likelihood of eruption than a major earthquake, its projected consequences are more geographically contained. The economic losses from the 1995–1996 eruptions were largely concentrated in the tourism sector, particularly ski field operations, which represent only one of the four environments assessed.

Advancements in monitoring and early warning systems significantly reduce the likelihood of future fatalities from lahar events, such as the 1953 Tangiwai disaster. The scenario used for Ruapehu's hazard assessment was developed by GNS Science as a maximum credible event, with ashfall modelling indicating primary impacts to the Ruapehu District and adjacent areas. Major urban centres such as Palmerston North are expected to be minimally affected, with ashfall predominantly travelling east and posing greater risk to electrical infrastructure.

Regarding the Hikurangi Margin scenario, it has been assessed as distinct from local fault-based earthquakes due to its subduction zone rupture characteristics. Such an event would produce prolonged and intense shaking across the entire region; particularly in the east but also affecting the more populated central area of the region and would likely trigger a significant tsunami affecting both coasts. Although the probability of occurrence is lower than that of a Ruapehu eruption the potential consequences are significantly higher, with impacts expected across all environments and a likely multi-billion-dollar cost.

Annex B - 7

MW CDEM Group Plan Review: Officer's Report

1. Header Information

- Reference number: 4104
- Submitter: Helen Leahy
- Date: 21 October 2025
- Officer: Matthew Putt, Senior Emergency Management Advisor; Strategy, Plans, and Reduction (Manawatū-Whanganui Emergency Management Group Office)

2. Purpose

To assess the submission for the Manawatū-Whanganui Civil Defence Emergency Management (MW CDEM) Group Plan and provide a recommendation to the Hearing Panel, as a sub-group of the MW CDEM Group.

3. Summary of submission

- The submission highlights the critical role iwi and Māori organisations played during the North Island Severe Weather Events (NISWE), often responding more rapidly and effectively than official agencies.
- It references key recommendations from the NISWE Inquiry:
 - **Recommendation 1.2:** Formally recognise and enable the contributions of iwi and Māori in emergency management.
 - **Recommendation 1.5:** Strengthen formal agreements with iwi, Māori, businesses, and community organisations to enhance emergency response.
- The submission identifies systemic issues:
 - A lack of formal, legislated roles for iwi and Māori in emergency management.
 - Instances of distrust and obstruction during the NISWE response.
- It calls for structural change to embed iwi and Māori in emergency planning, decision-making, and response roles.
- Critiques of the Group Plan include:
 - Failure to name specific iwi or acknowledge wāhi tapū.
 - A Treaty framework that is seen as too generic, lacking visible representation of iwi within advisory groups.
 - A correction is noted: the Plan should refer to “observe tikanga and cultural practices,” not “practices 40.”

4. Assessment

Language Correction:

The suggested change to “observe tikanga and cultural practices” is accepted and will be incorporated into the final version of the Plan.

Naming of Iwi and Wāhi Tapū

While iwi can be named in the Plan with the agreement of the Advisory Panel, care must be taken due to the evolving nature of iwi and hapū representation. There is a risk of unintentionally omitting groups or wāhi tapū given the regional scope of the Plan. These

details may be more appropriately addressed in local-level CDEM plans, where relationships and geographic specificity are clearer.

5. Recommendation

Recommendation 1.2 is addressed in the Group Plan on pages 16–19, which outline the role of iwi and Māori in emergency management and the Group’s commitment to partnership.

Recommendation 1.5 is supported at the local level, as outlined on page 81. This includes arrangements with marae and Māori welfare delivery organisations, consistent with Section 33 of the Guide to the National CDEM Plan 2015, which enables reimbursement for welfare services provided during emergencies.

6. Rationale

The Group Plan aligns with the intent of the Ngāti Rangī Treaty settlement (2019), which requires decision-makers under the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 to have regard to Te Mana Tupua and Ngā Toka Tupua. This ensures that Ngāti Rangī’s cultural values and perspectives are integrated into emergency planning and response. Ngāti Rangī have been actively consulted throughout the Group Plan review process, particularly during the current calendar year. A list of changes made to the draft Plan based on this and other iwi engagement is attached.

Annex B - 8

MW CDEM Group Plan Review: Officer's Report

1. Information

- **Reference number:** 4105
- **Submitter:** Karen Rees
- **Date:** 30 October 2025
- **Officer:** Matthew Putt, Senior Emergency Management Advisor; Strategy, Plans, and Reduction (Manawatū-Whanganui Emergency Management Group Office)

2. Purpose

To assess the submission for the Manawatū-Whanganui Civil Defence Emergency Management (MW CDEM) Group Plan and provide a recommendation to the Hearing Panel, as a sub-group of the MW CDEM Group.

3. Summary of submission

Submitter: Karen Rees.

Community Needs in Eketahuna After Storms:

- **Frequent Power Outages:** Caused by wind, fallen trees, and damaged power lines.
- **Subsequent Security Concerns:**
 1. Shops, library, and community centre need extra security personnel.
 2. Incidents of theft during outages due to unsecured doors.
 3. Request for clear job descriptions and contact details of responsible staff (e.g. generator maintenance and fuel supply).
- **Local Response Hub:**
 - Proposal for a central location staffed by local residents.
 - Aim to reduce reliance on council staff who face hazardous travel conditions

4. Assessment

This submission highlights operational-level challenges experienced during recent severe weather events in Eketāhuna, including power outages, flooding, and security vulnerabilities. While the concerns raised are valid and reflect real community impacts, they pertain primarily to local implementation and operational coordination, rather than the strategic scope of the Group Plan. Nonetheless, the submission underscores the importance of ensuring that strategic frameworks enable and support effective local response mechanisms, particularly in isolated or high-risk communities.

Key themes include:

- The need for localised emergency coordination, especially when access by council staff is compromised.
- Gaps in security and asset protection during outages.
- A call for clear roles, responsibilities, and contact protocols for critical infrastructure (e.g. generators).
- The importance of community-led response hubs staffed by local residents.

5. Recommendation

That the content of this submission be presented to the Tararua District Council for their awareness and integration into relevant community engagement initiatives and operational planning, based on the objectives and strategic direction of the Group Plan.

6. Rationale

The desired outcomes from this submission can be met without any changes to the Group Plan 2025-2030 draft.

Annex B - 9

MW CDEM Group Plan Review: Officer's Report

1. Information

- **Reference number:** 4106
- **Submitter:** Kevin Wilkie
- **Date:** 31 October 2025
- **Officer:** Matthew Putt, Senior Emergency Management Advisor; Strategy, Plans, and Reduction (Manawatū-Whanganui Emergency Management Group Office).

2. Purpose

To assess the submission for the Manawatū-Whanganui Civil Defence Emergency Management (MW CDEM) Group Plan and provide a recommendation to the Hearing Panel, as a sub-group of the MW CDEM Group.

3. Summary of submission

The submitter is advocating for enhanced digital capabilities within the Group Plan to better support emergency management. Specifically, they are requesting:

1. Strategic inclusion of Urban Digital Twin (UDT) technology:
 - They want the Group Plan to explicitly support the establishment of a UDT for the region.
 - UDTs are digital replicas of physical environments that can be used for planning, simulation, and real-time response during emergencies.
2. Advocacy for a region-wide LiDAR dataset
 - LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) is essential for building accurate digital twins.
 - They recommend the Group Plan advocate for the completion of LiDAR coverage across the region.
3. Alignment with national recommendations:
 - They reference the Government Inquiry into the Response to the North Island Severe Weather Event, which highlighted:
 - A disconnect between communities and emergency management agencies.
 - The need to put communities at the heart of emergency management.
 - They argue that UDTs can help bridge this gap by improving situational awareness, coordination, and community engagement.
4. Connection to existing content in the draft Group Plan:
 - They note that page 13 of the draft already mentions "Investment in Digital Infrastructure" as a recommended area of response.
 - They suggest this section be expanded or clarified to include UDTs and LiDAR as specific strategic priorities.

4. Assessment

This submission highlights the potential role of artificial intelligence in enhancing community involvement in emergency management. While the concept is promising, the specific application within the current CDEM framework remains unclear based on the example provided. The submitter has indicated their intention to speak to the submission, which may offer further clarification and insight during the hearings.

6. Recommendation

No changes recommended to the draft Plan.

7. Rationale

Objective 12 (page 82) of the Group Plan outlines the MW CDEM Group's commitment to enhancing its emergency response capability through the use of technology, including emerging solutions. The concept of an Urban Digital Twin (UDT) aligns with this objective and can be considered as part of the ongoing investigation into technologies that support affected communities and improve intelligence collection. Therefore, no changes to the draft Plan are recommended at this time.

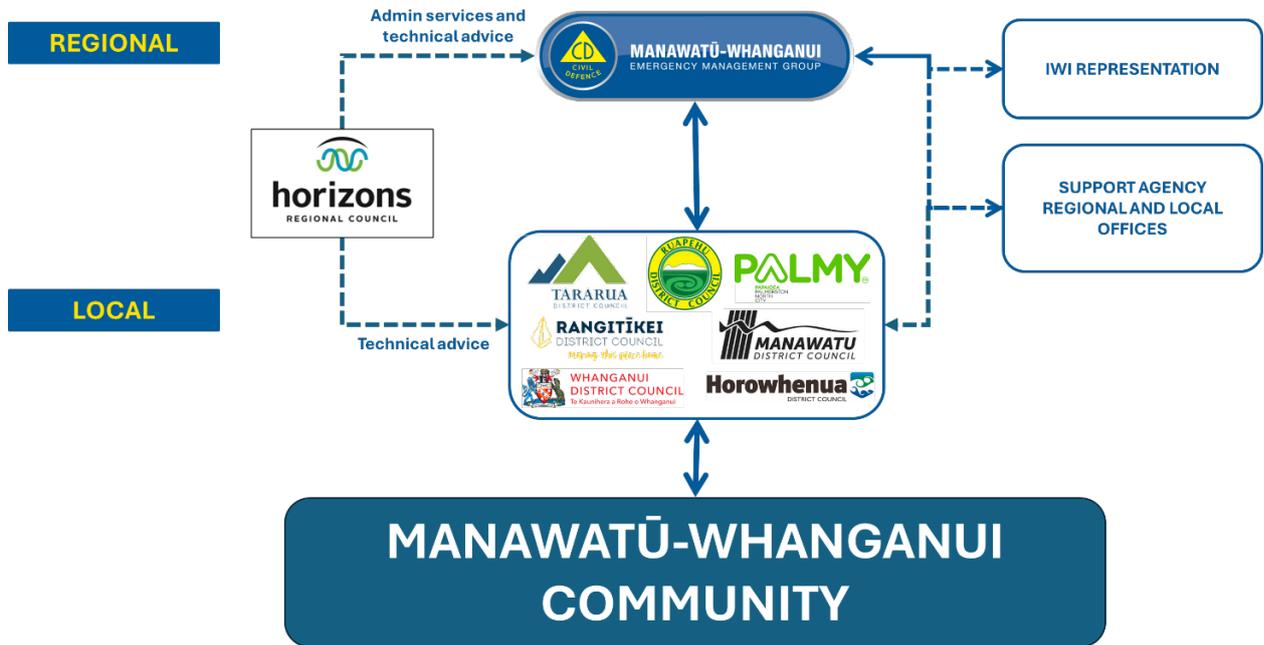
Annex C

Ngāti Rangi Group Plan feedback – suggested changes to Group Plan

Received 29/08/2025

Page	Feedback received	Suggested change to the Plan
12	Add the word “with” to the sentence	Wording to be updated
13	Reference to NISWE Inquiry	Add a paragraph in the introduction regarding system reforms and reviews and reference any specific Māori / Iwi elements in the partnerships section
17	Iwi to be included in the operating model table	This table refers to the management of the response, not membership of the CDEM Group, therefore it does not include iwi, lifelines, other agencies etc, just the Group and TA's. This is maybe confusing, so suggest removing the table and replacing with an info graphic, similar to below.
19	Iwi partnerships section talks of forming partnerships rather than inclusion	This follows the Group's engagement strategy, so maybe requires a wider review than just the Group Plan. Suggest changing the title to reflect the working relationship and re-wording first paragraph to make more inclusive – suggested re-wording below.
28	Spelling of Fielding – Change to Feilding	Change
43, 59	Ruaphu Maunga – Inclusion of volcanic hazards	Suggest lifting this out of its current position and placing within the main hazards, despite the medium level risk (we have regional tsunami in the first table on pg.43, so can add Ruapehu eruption to the list). Amend the wording to note the high consequence upon the Ruapehu District of an eruption and impacts to wahi tapu. Amend wording to reflect importance of the Maunga and remove references to it being a hazard and refer to consequences of a eruption.
53	Reflect on Manaakitanga provided by Iwi in COVID	Suggest adding wording reflecting the response across all partners so it doesn't single out one entity
76	Wording of the readiness objective	Suggest re-wording as per Chay's suggestion to make more inclusive. Suggest change of wording to reflect the principle of Mahi Tahī within CIMS as a core tenant of the objective
98	Recovery wording regarding Te Ao Māori lens	Amend wording as per Chay's suggestion

Group Operating structure (to replace table on page 17)



Iwi section rewording:

Iwi relationships – Mahi Tahī

Nāku te rourou, nāu te rourou, ka ora ai te iwi. (With my food basket and your food basket the people will thrive forever.)

The Manawatū-Whanganui CDEM Group recognises the role Iwi and Hapū play within our region as a key partner to support and ensure we are able to respond effectively at the local and regional level. This includes representation at our regional governance level for decision making, inclusion in planning and preparedness activities, representation in our regional and local emergency facilities and the delivery of community support through marae and other iwi entities in response and recovery.

Recent reviews have shown that the relationship with Iwi and Hapū is critical to effective delivery of emergency management. The CDEM Group is committed to maintaining and developing our working relationships at all levels to ensure we can work effectively in partnership at times of greatest need. Our strength is in our shared capability. Our continued relationship and understanding will only serve to increase the capability of all.