



**National Emergency
Management Agency**
Te Rākau Whakamarumarū

The following item is no longer current:

Direction of the Director and National Controller Civil Defence Emergency Management – Direction to CDEM Groups and Group Controllers for the duration of the COVID-19 response and recovery

The Directions issued by the Director Civil Defence Emergency Management and National Controller under the State of National Emergency ceased to have effect at the time the State of National Emergency lapsed.

The Director Civil Defence Emergency Management and National Recovery Manager has issued a new Requirement under sections 9(2)(ba), and 94N of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002, and clause 29 and Part 9 of the National Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan:

Requirements of the Director Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) and National Recovery Manager for CDEM Groups, Group Controllers and Group Recovery Managers for the duration of the COVID-19 national transition period



Direction of the Director and National Controller Civil Defence Emergency Management – Direction to CDEM Groups and Group Controllers for the duration of the COVID-19 response and recovery

Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 and National Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan Order 2015

On the 25 March 2020, the Minister of Civil Defence declared a state of national emergency under Section 66 of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act.

This allows the use of powers by the Director and National Controller in accordance with sections 9 and Part 5 of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 (CDEM Act), and the National Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan Order 2015, for the purposes of managing the COVID-19 emergency and preventing its exacerbation.

Activation of CDEM Arrangements

Under sections 9 and 85(2) of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 and clause 29 of the National Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan Order 2015 (National CDEM Plan), I, Sarah Stuart-Black, Director and National Controller Civil Defence Emergency Management, direct:

- A. All CDEM Groups to activate their CDEM arrangements in support of the response to COVID-19, in particular:
1. Establish multi-agency Emergency Coordination Centres (ECCs) staffed on a 7 day a week basis planned for the next three months, subject to review
 2. Utilise non-essential council staff to develop a full Coordinated Incident Management System (CIMS) based staffing roster
 3. Establish liaison directly with all District Health Boards (DHBs) either in the DHB or DHB staff in the ECC
 4. Establish a coordination structure with the DHB Coordinator, Medical Officer of Health and the Group Controller
 5. Provide reporting as required to the CDEM and Welfare work streams within the National Crisis Management Centre (NCMC).
- B. All Group Controllers to support DHBs and Primary Health Units (PHUs) in managing the pandemic in the community. Specifically, in accordance with the roles and responsibilities detailed in the New Zealand Influenza Pandemic Plan, every Group Controller to:
1. Work with the local health coordinator and local medical officer of health to coordinate and direct community and civil defence responses, resources and functions under CDEM plans, including by:
 - a. Providing or arranging the provision of suitably trained and competent personnel (including volunteers) and an organisational structure for CDEM Group in its area
 - b. Providing, arranging the provision of, or making available materials, services, information and any other resources necessary to support the health-led response to pandemic
 - c. Responding to and managing the non-health CDEM adverse effects of pandemic in your area, and

- d. Reporting to the CDEM and Welfare work streams within the NCMC on the coordination of CDEM welfare, infrastructure and lifeline utility aspects of the pandemic.

I am of the opinion that these actions are necessary to limit the extent of the emergency.

Welfare

Under sections 9 and 85(2) of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002, clauses 72(3) of the National CDEM Plan, and in accordance with the provisions of the New Zealand Influenza Pandemic Plan, I, Sarah Stuart-Black, Director and National Controller Civil Defence Emergency Management, also direct all CDEM Groups to:

- A. Plan and coordinate the provision of household goods and services and other essential items to people who have been displaced or who are sheltering in place.

Household goods and services include food, water, clothing, bedding, and other items or services necessary for warmth, cleaning, preparing food, or general health and hygiene (*Guide to the National CDEM Plan*, section 14.11, definition of basic goods and services).

In particular, and in order to ensure people are able to access the support provided by CDEM Groups, I direct all CDEM Groups to:

- B. Establish a phone number that people can call if they urgently need assistance with access to essential household goods and services due to their self-isolation for COVID-19.

The phone line needs to be suitably resourced with people who are trained to do welfare needs assessments, and supported by a timely process to meet affected people's needs.

The expected hours of operation are 0700-1900 hours.

I require every CDEM Group to have this facility operational by 0700 hours Tuesday 31 March 2020.

I am of the opinion that these actions are necessary to limit the extent of the emergency.

Obligation to follow direction

I also remind all CDEM Local Controllers that under section 27(2) of the CDEM Act 2002, they are required to follow the direction provided by Group Controllers. This includes following any direction provided on the coordination structure at a regional and local level where required.

Any person who intentionally fails to comply with any direction given under the National CDEM Plan commits an offence under section 95 of the CDEM Act 2002.

This Direction takes effect from 29 March 2020 and remains in force until further notice.

Dated 29 March 2020.



Sarah Stuart-Black

Director Civil Defence Emergency Management
National Controller Civil Defence Emergency Management