

Report **05.591**
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Committee **Civil Defence Emergency Management Group**
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Controllers' Forum

1. Purpose

To update Civil Defence Emergency Management Group (CDEM Group) members about the Controllers' Forum held on 17 October 2005.

2. Background

The CDEM Group Plan lists the Group and Local Controllers who have been appointed to direct and co-ordinate the response to emergencies in the region. Controllers have powers derived directly from the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 and from delegations made by the CDEM Group.

Positive working relationships are obviously going to be a key to a successful response, and it's important that all controllers know each other, and especially that the group controllers know the local controllers. It's also important that controllers participate in professional development courses and training programmes, and that they are supported to do so.

3. Forum

A forum for controllers was held on 17 October 2005. There was an excellent turn out with seventeen controllers present (including alternates) covering all local authorities in the Region. Civil defence officers were also present.

Barbara Gladding, Emergency Management Advisor (Professional Development), Ministry of Civil Defence Emergency Management, spoke to the forum about approaches to professional development and offered assistance from the Ministry. Some short term training opportunities were identified and will be facilitated while we move forward with the development of a more strategic professional development programme.

The forum received a presentation from Brigadier (retired) Roger Mortlock on communication and leadership in disaster.

Further forums are planned for the future.

4. Recommendation

That the CDEM Group:

1. *receive the report; and*
2. *note the contents.*

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