



LOCAL LINES OF ACCOUNTABILITY FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Through the Emergency Management Bill (No 2) 2025 (EM Bill) there will be:

- clear lines of accountability between territorial authority chief executives and Controllers/Recovery Managers appointed within their districts
- an explicit mandate held by local authority chief executives or their delegates to coordinate resources made available by agencies outside a declared state of emergency or transition period.

This information sheet contains information about:

- Local Authority Chief Executives
- Controllers
- Recovery Managers

See **information sheet 2** for information on Local Government Emergency Management Roles and Responsibilities.

New role in emergency management for territorial authority chief executives

What's changing?

The chief executive of a local authority must coordinate the use of personnel, material, information, and other resources made available for the purposes of the EM Bill. The role can only be carried out when there is no state of emergency or transition period in force for the local authority district.

The role may be delegated to any person (including someone who is not employed by the relevant local authority).

Who is affected?

Chief executives of territorial authorities and unitary authorities.

When is this happening?

The new emergency management role for local authority chief executives begins 12 months after Royal assent.

New appointment requirements, responsibilities, and duties for Controllers

What's changing?

The EM Bill creates a line of accountability between territorial authority chief executives and District and Local Controllers.

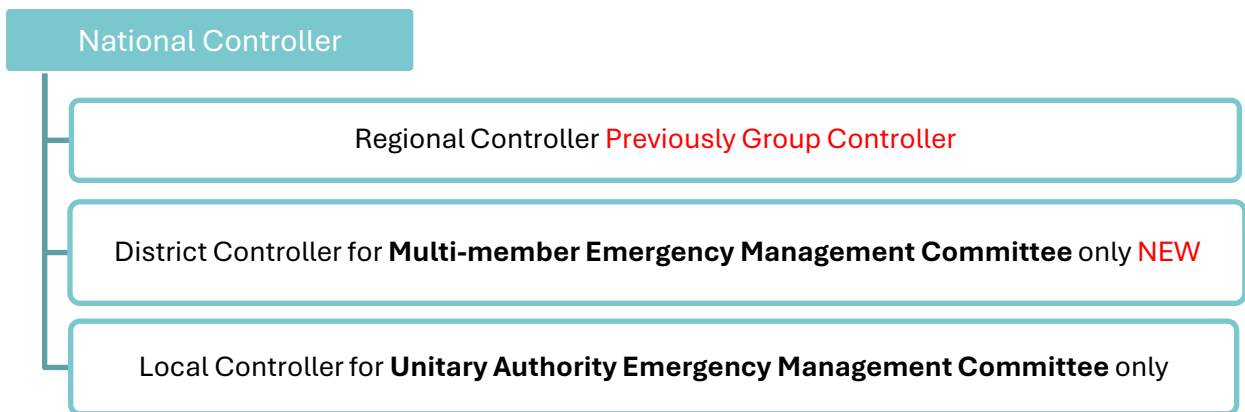
Controllers have a new duty to exercise powers during a state of national emergency or national transition period consistently with the priorities for the use of resources and services determined by the Director-General of Emergency Management, National Controller, or National Recovery Manager.

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The new levels of Controller are:



New appointment requirements and responsibilities for Controllers

EMC = Emergency Management Committee

Regional Controllers (Multi-member EMC)	Appointment: EMC must appoint a suitably qualified and experienced person as Regional Controller. EMC must appoint at least 1 suitably qualified and experienced person to act as alternate Regional Controller.
	Responsibilities: No change from existing Group Controller responsibilities. Timeframe: Under transitional arrangements, existing Group Controllers and their alternates continue in their roles until their appointments end. New appointment requirements apply to their replacements.
Regional Controllers (Unitary authority EMC)	Appointment: EMC may appoint the unitary authority chief executive as Regional Controller, if suitably qualified and experienced. If the chief executive is not appointed they must appoint a suitably qualified and experienced person as Regional Controller. The chief executive must appoint at least 1 suitably qualified and experienced person to act as alternate Regional Controller.
	Responsibilities: No change from existing Group Controller responsibilities. Timeframe: Under transitional arrangements, existing Group Controllers and their alternates continue in their roles until their appointments end. New appointment requirements apply to their replacements.
District Controllers (Multi-member EMC) NEW ROLE	Appointment: Every territorial authority must have a District Controller. EMC may appoint the chief executive of a territorial authority as the District Controller, if suitably qualified and experienced. If the chief executive is not appointed, they must appoint a suitably qualified and experienced person as District Controller. The chief executive must appoint at least 1 suitably qualified and experienced person to act as alternate District Controller.

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	<p>Responsibilities: During a state of emergency a District Controller must co-ordinate the use of personnel, material, information, and other resources that are made available.</p> <p>A District Controller must follow directions given by the Regional Controller during a state of emergency.</p> <p>At any time, the District Controller:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • must perform or exercise any functions, duties or powers delegated from the EMC or that they have under the EM Bill or another Act • may perform any function delegated to them under the EM Bill • may delegate functions, duties, or powers to another suitably qualified and experienced person. <p>Timeframe: Appointments are not required until 12 months after Royal assent.</p> <p>Under transitional arrangements, existing Local Controllers continue in their roles for 12 months after Royal assent.</p>
<p>Local Controllers (Unitary authority EMC) OPTIONAL APPOINTMENT</p>	<p>Appointment: The unitary authority chief executive may appoint 1 or more suitably qualified and experienced person(s) as Local Controller(s).</p> <p>Responsibilities: The unitary authority chief executive may direct the Local Controller to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • perform any functions and duties of, or delegated to, the Regional Controller • exercise the powers of Controllers in the area for which the Regional Controller is appointed, including emergency powers. <p>The Local Controller must follow directions given by the Regional Controller during a state of emergency.</p> <p>The Local Controller:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • must perform or exercise any functions, duties or powers delegated from the EMC or that they have under the EM Bill or another Act • may perform any function deleted to them under the EM Bill • may delegate functions, duties, or powers to another suitably qualified and experienced person. <p>Timeframe: Appointments not required until 12 months after Royal assent.</p> <p>Under transitional arrangements, existing Local Controllers continue in their roles for 12 months after Royal assent.</p>

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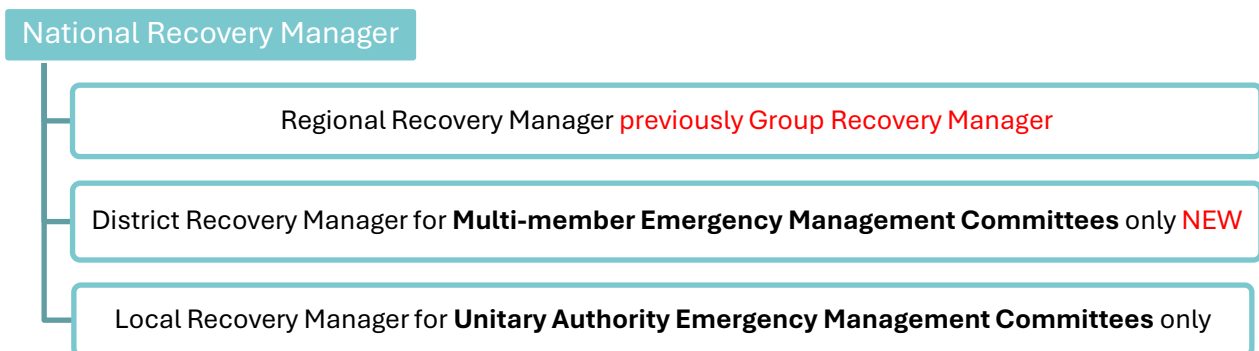
New appointment requirements, responsibilities, and duties for Recovery Managers

What’s changing?

The EM Bill creates a line of accountability between territorial authority chief executives and District and Local Recovery Managers.

Recovery Managers have a new duty to exercise powers during a state of national emergency or national transition period consistently with the priorities for the use of resources and services determined by the Director-General of Emergency Management, National Controller, or National Recovery Manager.

The new levels of Recovery Manager are:



New appointment requirements and responsibilities for Recovery Managers

EMC = Emergency Management Committee

<p>Regional Recovery Managers (Multi-member EMC)</p>	<p>Appointment: EMC must appoint a suitably qualified and experienced person as Regional Recovery Manager.</p> <p>EMC must appoint at least 1 suitably qualified and experienced person to act as alternate Regional Recovery Manager.</p> <p>Responsibilities: No change from existing Group Recovery Manager responsibilities.</p> <p>Timeframe: Under transitional arrangements, the Group Recovery Manager and their alternates continue in their roles until their appointments end. New appointment requirements will apply to their replacements.</p>
<p>Regional Recovery Managers (Unitary authority EMC)</p>	<p>Appointment: EMC may appoint the unitary authority chief executive as Regional Recovery Manager, if suitably qualified and experienced. If the chief executive is not appointed they must appoint a suitably qualified and experienced person as Regional Recovery Manager.</p> <p>The chief executive must appoint at least 1 suitably qualified and experienced person to act as alternate Regional Recovery Manager.</p> <p>Responsibilities: No change from existing Group Recovery Manager responsibilities.</p> <p>Timeframe: Under transitional arrangements, existing Group Recovery Managers and their alternates continue in their roles until their appointments end. New appointment requirements will apply to their replacement.</p>

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<p>District Recovery Managers (Multi-member EMC) NEW ROLE</p>	<p>Appointment: Every territorial authority must have a District Recovery Manager.</p> <p>EMC may appoint the chief executive of a territorial authority to be the District Recovery Manager, if suitably qualified and experienced. If the chief executive is not appointed they must appoint a suitably qualified and experienced person as District Recovery Manager.</p> <p>The chief executive must appoint at least 1 suitably qualified and experienced person to act as alternate District Recovery Manager.</p> <p>Responsibilities: During a transition period the District Recovery Manager must co-ordinate the use of personnel, material, information, and other resources that are made available.</p> <p>A District Recovery Manager must follow directions given by the Regional Recovery Manager during a transition period.</p> <p>At any time, the District Recovery Manager:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • must perform or exercise any functions, duties or powers delegated from the EMC or that they have under the EM Bill or another Act • may perform any function delegated to them under the EM Bill • may delegate functions, duties, or powers to another suitably qualified and experienced person. <p>Timeframe: Appointments are not required until 12 months after Royal assent.</p> <p>Under transitional arrangements existing Local Recovery Managers continue in their roles for 12 months after Royal assent.</p>
<p>Local Recovery Managers (Unitary authority EMC) OPTIONAL APPOINTMENT</p>	<p>Appointment: The unitary authority chief executive may appoint 1 or more suitably qualified and experienced persons as Local Recovery Manager(s).</p> <p>Responsibilities: The unitary authority chief executive may direct the Local Recovery Manager to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • perform any functions and duties of, or delegated to, the Regional Recovery Manager • exercise the powers of the Regional Recovery Manager, including emergency powers. <p>The Local Recovery Manager must follow directions given by the Regional Recovery Manager during a state of emergency.</p> <p>At any time, the Local Recovery Manager:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • must perform or exercise any functions, duties or powers delegated from the EMC or that they have under the EM Bill or another Act • may perform any function delegated to them under the EM Bill • may delegate functions, duties, or powers to another suitably qualified and experienced person. <p>Timeframe: Appointments not required until 12 months after Royal assent. Under transitional arrangements existing Local Controllers continue in their roles for 12 months after Royal assent.</p>

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Key terms | Ngā kupu hira

Royal assent	The date when a Bill is signed by the Governor-General and becomes law (typically the next working day after it receives Royal assent).
Emergency Management Committee	A group of local authority elected representatives who lead emergency management in their areas, including making declarations.
Co-ordinating Executive Group (CEG)	A CEG is a group of senior officials who co-ordinate and support the work of an Emergency Management Committee. It performs the same role under the Emergency Management Bill as it did under the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002.
Transitional arrangements	Specific rules or arrangements in a new statute that assist in transitioning from an old legal regime to a new one (in this case, from the CDEM Act to the EM Act). Also known as transitional provisions.

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