LOCALLEVEL RESPONSE

PUBLIC INFORMATION MANAGEMENT (PIM)

Develops and delivers messages to the public and liaises with the impacted community. Develops messaging for Governance when Strategic Communications is not activated.



RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE

- Setting of PIM direction across the response (if regional and national level not stood up)
- Ensure the Controller and wider IMT are informed of the PIM aspects of the response
- Provision of expert PIM advice to the Controller and other functions
- Provision of authorised information and life, health, and safety messages to the public
- Ensuring messages are accessible (including translation into accessible formats and other languages as required), frequently updated, consistent, and coordinated
- · Management of media
- Organisation of media briefings, preparing spokespeople
- Provision of coordination, direction, support, and/or mentoring to incident level PIM leads
- Management of internal and external communication and channels
- Community engagement and stakeholder liaison

KEY RELATIONSHIPS

- Media
- Spokesperson
- Controller (and deputy), Response Manager
- The IMT and other functions, particularly Intelligence, Planning, Operations, Welfare, and Iwi/Māori Representation
- PIM functions at other EOCs and incident and regional level (if applicable)
- lwi rūnanga, local marae
- Community groups, internal and external stakeholders, partners, and support agencies/organisations
- Mayor/Chair

KEY OUTPUTS

- Warnings (where appropriate)
- Life, health, and safety messages to public
- Media releases, log of responses, organising press conferences and media opportunities, etc.
- Local PIM communications plan
- · Content for website and social media, factsheets
- · Talking points and briefing notes
- PIM Status Reports, briefings, and stakeholder updates
- Input into the Action Plan

CONSIDERATIONS

- Life, health, and safety of the public
- Accuracy, currency, consistency, and relevance of information
- Using verified information only
- Sharing information across agencies to ensure a flow of information between agencies and response levels
- Utilising existing MOUs and resources, e.g. already published content, consistent messaging, templated releases, and communications plans
- Early identification and proactive management of misinformation, potential issues, and threats to reputation
- Mood of the audience: What questions are they likely to ask? What questions are they already asking? Who are the influencers?
- Ensuring information is relevant, suitable, and appropriate for all the audiences (language, culture, accessibility standards), identifying and addressing gaps
- Channel strategy

PUBLIC INFORMATION MANAGEMENT (PIM)

PIM SUB-FUNCTIONS

- Media Liaison
- Online Media Management
- Community Engagement
- Stakeholder and Partner Liaison
- Information and Warnings
- Internal Communications

INITIAL TASKS

- Obtain briefing from the Controller to gain situational awareness / obtain Controller's intent
- Establish PIM function; appoint, brief, and task staff; ensure staff have had an induction (including a Health and Safety induction)
- Connect with Intelligence to obtain ongoing information about the incident and response
- Contribute to the development of the Action Plan; develop a coordinated local PIM response plan
- Map stakeholders and develop Engagement Plan; establish points of contact; connect with local iwi
- Set up a schedule of activities and establish the daily rhythm
- Set up logs (as required) to record decisions and actions
- · Determine PIM requirements and brief to Logistics
- Establish communication channels, e.g. Facebook, website, etc.
- Confirm with the Controller who is authorised to approve information/material for public release
- · Identify appropriate spokespeople

DEMOBILISATION

Refer to *Appendix F Demobilisation* in page 96 of the 3rd edition of the CIMS Manual for more information.

ONGOING TASKS

- Develop, disseminate, and brief key messages to media, PIM functions at other agencies, key partners, and stakeholders, monitor for currency and consistency
- Develop, provide, update, and maintain reports, briefings, press releases, key messages, speaking points, and situation updates (as required)
- Gather, clarify, and confirm information; identify stories of interest to the media; facilitate and manage media access to restricted areas where authorised
- Coordinate media engagement, providing a local perspective to media; arrange media visits and conferences, and liaise with VIPs (when required)
- Monitor media, news reports, and public and media reactions, passing information to the Controller, Intelligence, and IMT
- · Contribute to the planning process
- Record decisions, actions, and other activities
- Brief and support spokespeople for media interviews, public meetings, and stakeholder briefings
- Manage internal and external communications (response staff, communities, online channels, e.g. helplines, Civil Defence Centres), providing information as required and ensuring information is updated frequently
- Liaise with iwi to enable and support direct communication with impacted whānau/hapū
- Support local elected members and Controller with strategic communications advice (if Strategic Communications is not deployed)
- Schedule, set up, and support community meetings and stakeholder briefings
- Resource and support PIM needs at incident level and manage any issues escalated
- Support the Recovery Manager to ensure good communication with impacted communities and stakeholders continues during and after transition
- Manage demobilisation for PIM