

Recovery starts during the response phase and concludes when demands on services have returned to more normal levels and the needs of those affected (directly and indirectly) have been met. It could last months or years.

**Elected representatives have key roles during recovery including:**

- ▶ **Listening to the community** – this may include being the voice of the community, being the eyes and ears ‘on the ground’, gathering the views and concerns from the community and feed them into the recovery process.
- ▶ **Using your local knowledge** – you understand the culture, thoughts/opinions and information that can contribute to local awareness and help identify problems and vulnerabilities.
- ▶ **Supporting those working on recovery** – by encouraging and supporting recovery teams working within the community; working with Public Information Management teams and communicating key messages or providing credible advice.
- ▶ **Political leadership** – ensuring appropriate scrutiny and provision of resources to the recovery team; championing the issues of your community to the local authority and recovery team.



DEPARTMENT OF THE  
PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET  
TE TARI O TE PIRIMIA ME TE KOMITI MATUA



## Elected Members: What you need to know and do **AFTER** an Emergency





Most emergency events are followed by a phase of recovery which may be formalised with the appointment of a Recovery Manager and the announcement of a transition to recovery. While CDEM will still be involved in recovery, the focus will often return to the local authority and other organisations as they implement recovery plans.



The CDEM Act provides the option for Groups to give notice of a Transition Period following an emergency, whether or not a state of local emergency has been declared or not. The purpose of a transition period is to aid recovery by providing powers to appointed Recovery Manager(s) to manage, coordinate, or direct recovery activities.

A Mayor can give notice of a local transition period for the territorial district. If the Mayor is absent, and elected member of a territorial authority may give notice of a local transition period. The person authorised must also have regard to the areas, districts, or wards affected by the emergency and whether the focus is moving from response to recovery, including if the state of emergency is about to expire or be terminated (s94B(5)).

Local transition periods have a maximum duration of 28 days although you may need to extend the transition notice or you can terminate it earlier if it is no longer needed. As with a declaration of local emergency, you will need to ensure the correct paper work is in place during a local transition notice.



There is a process to follow prior to issuing a notice of a local transition period that supports the decision being made for the right reasons – your Recovery Manager will have a check list to help you:

- A transition notice should only be in place if it is necessary to use the powers.
- Invoking the powers to manage, coordinate, or direct recovery activities is:
  - in the public interest; AND
  - necessary or desirable to ensure a timely and effective recovery (s94B(4)).

As with a declaration of a state of local emergency, notice of a transition period should be undertaken by the Mayor/elected representative following consultation with and advice from the local Recovery Manager, Group Recovery Manager (if appropriate), the NEMA Regional Emergency Management Advisor and other partner agencies as appropriate.



**The recovery from an emergency will be multi-faceted and long running involving more agencies and participants than the response phase. It will certainly be costlier in terms of resources and will undoubtedly be subject to close scrutiny form the community and media.**

