



**NZVA**  
New Zealand Veterinary Association  
Te Pae Kīrehe

Policy Unit  
National Emergency Management Agency  
PO Box 5010  
Wellington 6140

12 May 2025

Tēnā koe,

**Submission on options to strengthen New Zealand's overarching emergency management legislation and inform the design of a new Emergency Management Bill**

The New Zealand Veterinary Association Te Pae Kīrehe (NZVA) is the largest membership organisation representing veterinarians in New Zealand. We support members through leadership, education, advocacy, recommended best practice, and wellbeing support.

We are making this submission on behalf of NZVA members. We have been actively engaged with members in areas affected by emergencies and extreme weather events in recent years and have kept members informed about our submission and the proposed Emergency Management Bill.

We previously made a submission on the Emergency Management Bill in 2023.

In essence we are advocating for:

1. acknowledgement in legislation that animals are sentient beings
2. including a requirement for animals to be prioritised above property in legislation
3. acknowledgement in legislation that animal welfare needs are included as part of the responsibilities of emergency response teams, at the level of the controller
4. inclusion in legislation of provisions ensuring that veterinary professionals deployed as part of an official emergency response are appropriately compensated for their time and contribution, consistent with the approach taken in responses to disease incursions such as foot and mouth disease (FMD).

Yours sincerely,

Kevin Bryant  
Chief Executive Officer  
New Zealand Veterinary Association Te Pae Kīrehe



# Submission template: Strengthening New Zealand's emergency management legislation

The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) is seeking feedback on options to strengthen New Zealand's emergency management legislation.

The deadline for submissions is **5pm, 13 May 2025**.

You can find the full discussion document and more information about the legislative reform process on NEMA's website. Your feedback will inform decisions about the proposals. We appreciate your time and effort to respond to this consultation.

[Emergency Management Bill consultation](#)

## How to make a submission

To make a submission, you will need to:

1. Fill out your name, email address and organisation on the next page. If you are submitting on behalf of an organisation, please ensure you have the authority to represent its views.
2. Fill out your responses to the questions in this document. You can choose to answer some or all of the questions. Where possible, please provide evidence to support your views. For example, references to independent research, facts and figures, or your experiences.
3. If your submission has any confidential information:
  - a. Please state this in the email accompanying your submission, setting out clearly which parts you consider should be withheld, and the grounds under the Official Information Act 1982 (Official Information Act) that you believe apply. NEMA will take this into account and will consult with submitters when responding to requests under the Official Information Act.
  - b. Indicate this in your submission. Any confidential information should be clearly marked within the text of your submission (preferably as Microsoft Word comments).
  - c. Note that submissions are subject to the Official Information Act and may, therefore, need to be released in full or in part. The Privacy Act 2020 also applies.

4. Once you have completed this form, you can send it by:

- a. email (as a Microsoft Word document) to [EmergencyManagementBill@nema.govt.nz](mailto:EmergencyManagementBill@nema.govt.nz)

**OR**

- b. post to:

Policy Unit  
National Emergency Management Agency  
PO Box 5010, Wellington 6140

## Submitter information

Any information you provide will be stored securely.

### Your name, email address, and organisation

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Organisation: (if applicable)	New Zealand Veterinary Association Te Pae Kīrehe (NZVA)

- ☐ The Privacy Act 2020 applies to submissions. Please tick the box if you **do not** want your name or other personal information to be included in any information about submissions that NEMA may publish.
- ☐ NEMA may publish submissions or a summary of submissions to its website, [civildefence.govt.nz](https://civildefence.govt.nz). If you **do not** want your submission or a summary of your submission to be published, please tick the box and type an explanation below:

I do not want my submission published on NEMA's website because...

### Does your submission contain confidential information?

- ☐ I would like my submission (or parts of my submission) to be kept confidential and have stated my reasons and the grounds under section 9 of the Official Information Act that I believe apply, for consideration by NEMA.

I would like my submission (or parts of my submission) to be kept confidential because...

### Use of information

Submissions will be used to inform NEMA's policy development process and will inform advice to Ministers. Your submission (including identifying information) may also be shared with other government agencies working on policies related to emergency management. NEMA may contact submitters directly if we need clarification on their submission or would like further information from them.

# Consultation questions

These questions relate to the issues and options raised in the discussion document *Strengthening New Zealand's emergency management legislation*. You can find the full discussion document on [NEMA's website](#).

**You do not need to answer all questions.**

## Objectives for reform

The Government's proposed objectives for reform are to:

- strengthen community and iwi Māori participation in emergency management
- provide for clear responsibilities and accountabilities at the national, regional, and local levels
- enable a higher minimum standard of emergency management
- minimise disruption to essential services
- ensure agencies have the right powers available when an emergency happens.

*Refer to pages 8–9 of the discussion document to answer the question in this section.*

### 1. Have we identified the right objectives for reform?

☒ Yes      ☐ No      ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

## Objective 1: Strengthening community and iwi Māori participation

### Issue 1: Meeting the diverse needs of people and communities

We have identified options to ensure the emergency management system better meets the diverse needs of communities, with a particular focus on those who may be disproportionately affected during an emergency.

*Refer to pages 10–13 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

### 2. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?

☐ Yes      ☐ No      ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**3. Are there other reasons that may cause some people and groups to be disproportionately affected by emergencies?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**4. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**5. What would planning look like (at the local and national levels) if it was better informed by the needs of groups that may be disproportionately affected by emergencies?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**6. Are there any other options that should be considered?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

## **Issue 2: Strengthening and enabling iwi Māori participation in emergency management**

We have identified options to recognise the contributions made by iwi Māori in emergency management, to the benefit of all people in New Zealand.

*Refer to pages 13–16 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

**7. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?**

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**8. Have we accurately captured the roles that iwi Māori play before, during and after emergencies?**

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**9. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**10. How should iwi Māori be recognised in the emergency management system?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**11. What should be the relationship between Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Groups and iwi Māori?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**12. What should be the relationship between Coordinating Executive Groups and iwi Māori?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**13. What would be the most effective way for iwi Māori experiences and mātauranga in emergency management to be provided to the Director?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**14. Are there any other options that should be considered?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**Issue 3: Strengthening and enabling community participation in emergency management**

We have identified options to improve communities' ability to participate in emergency management. This includes making it easier for individuals, businesses, and other community organisations to offer resources to the "official" emergency response.

*Refer to pages 16–18 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

**15. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?**

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**16. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

## 17. Are there any other options that should be considered?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

## Issue 4: Recognising that people, businesses and communities are often the first to respond in an emergency

We have identified options to address barriers that may stop people, businesses, and communities from acting during an emergency.

*Refer to pages 18–19 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

## 18. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?

☒ Yes      ☐ No      ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

The NZVA recommends Option 3 be enshrined in legislation, and that Government officially recognises veterinary services as an essential service during emergencies, as it does with disease incursion plans for COVID-19 and the Foot and Mouth Disease Response and Recovery Plan.

## 19. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?

Please explain your views.

The cost/risk of not having veterinary services available in an emergency response is significantly higher than the cost of paying for these services to be provided as part of the response. This opportunity cost can be measured in terms of biosecurity, loss of international market confidence, unnecessary injury to/loss of animal life, and increased insurance costs from claims. Ensuring essential veterinary services are provided means that communities and government can have confidence that animals (and the wellbeing of their owners) are looked after in the best way possible during a response. Having these services paid for also creates the option of surge capacity being available in a response.

## 20. Are there any other options that should be considered?

Please explain your views.

The NZVA recommends that veterinary services are funded as part of the emergency response funding through Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM). The NZVA recommends an Animal Welfare Emergency Management (AWEM) Reimbursement Fund is established to enable AWEM support agencies to effectively deliver essential animal welfare services during emergencies and aid in the recovery process.

## Other problems relating to this objective

### 21. Should we consider any other problems relating to community and iwi Māori participation?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

## Objective 2: Providing for clear responsibilities and accountabilities at the national, regional, and local levels

### Issue 5: Clearer direction and control during an emergency

We have identified options to make it clearer who is in charge of the operational response to an emergency.

*Refer to pages 20–25 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

#### 22. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

#### 23. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

#### 24. Are there any other options that should be considered?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

#### 25. Do you think more fundamental changes are needed to the way direction and control works during the response to an emergency? If so, why?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

### Issue 6: Strengthening the regional tier of emergency management

#### Issue 6.1: Resolving overlapping CDEM Group and local authority roles and responsibilities

We have identified options to ensure it is clear what CDEM Groups and each of their local authority members are responsible for.

*Refer to pages 26–28 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

#### 26. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**27. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**28. Are there any other options that should be considered?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**29. Do you think more fundamental changes are needed to the way emergency management is delivered at the local government level (for example, the CDEM Group-based model)? If so, why?**

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**Issue 6.2: Providing for clear and consistent organisation and accountability for emergency management**

We have identified options to ensure CDEM Groups are organised effectively, with clearer lines of accountability.

*Refer to pages 28–31 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

**30. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?**

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**31. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**32. Are there any other options that should be considered?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**Issue 6.3: Strengthening the performance of Coordinating Executive Groups**

We have identified options to strengthen how Coordinating Executive Groups provide advice to and implement the decisions of their CDEM Groups.

*Refer to pages 31–32 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

**33. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?**

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**34. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**35. Are there any other options that should be considered?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

## **Issue 7: Keeping emergency management plans up to date**

We have identified options to make it easier to update the National CDEM Plan and CDEM Group plans, reflecting changes to roles and responsibilities.

*Refer to pages 33–34 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

**36. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?**

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**37. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**38. Are there any other options that should be considered?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

## **Other problems relating to this objective**

**39. Should we consider any other problems relating to responsibilities and accountabilities at the national, regional, and local levels?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

## Objective 3: Enabling a higher minimum standard of emergency management

### Issue 8: Stronger national direction and assurance

#### Issue 8.1: Strengthening the Director's mandate to set expectations and monitor performance

We have identified options to enable a wider range of mandatory standards to be set, and strengthen the Director's ability to provide assurance about the performance of the emergency management system.

*Refer to pages 36–37 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

#### 40. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

#### 41. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

#### 42. Which aspects of emergency management would benefit from greater national consistency or direction?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

#### 43. Are there any other options that should be considered?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

#### Issue 8.2: Strengthening the mandate to intervene and address performance issues

We have identified options to better ensure those with legal emergency management responsibilities are meeting them sufficiently.

*Refer to pages 37–39 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

#### 44. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**45. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**46. Are there any other options that should be considered?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

## **Issue 9: Strengthening local hazard risk management**

We have identified options to strengthen the way CDEM Groups and their members manage the risk of hazards in their areas, including by using CDEM Group plans more effectively.

*Refer to pages 39–42 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

**47. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**48. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**49. What is the right balance between regional flexibility and national consistency for CDEM Group plans?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**50. What practical barriers may be preventing CDEM Group plans from being well integrated with other local government planning instruments?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**51. Are there any other options that should be considered?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**52. Do you think more fundamental changes are needed to enable local authorities to deliver effective hazard risk management? If so, why?**

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**Issue 10: Strengthening due consideration of taonga Māori, cultural heritage and animals during and after emergencies**

**Issue 10.1: Considering taonga Māori and other cultural heritage during and after emergencies**

We have identified options to ensure the impacts of emergencies on taonga Māori and other cultural heritage is considered appropriately.

*Refer to pages 43–45 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

**53. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?**

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**54. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**55. Are there any other options that should be considered?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**Issue 10.2: Considering animals during and after emergencies**

We have identified options to ensure the impacts of emergencies on pets, working animals, wildlife, and livestock is considered appropriately.

*Refer to pages 45–47 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

**56. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?**

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

The NZVA strongly supports the suggestions made in relation to considering animals during and after emergencies. This is reflected in our previous submission on the Emergency Management Bill (Bill No. 225-1), dated 3 October 2023.

**57. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?**

Please explain your views.

The NZVA supports Option 3, which recommends strengthening planning expectations through secondary legislation. We believe it is important for these expectations to be enforceable, to ensure they can be consistently considered and applied during and after an emergency response.

There is a sense among veterinary professionals that animals are not seen as a priority during emergency responses, and that animal welfare is treated as separate from human welfare – rather than intertwined.

In the early stages of the Cyclone Gabrielle response, for example, CDEM did not accept animal feed and supplies from veterinary clinics as critical supplies for isolated communities.

This included CDEM refusing requests from veterinarians to deliver dry cow therapy to dairy farmers.

**Resources and guidance**

We recognise there will be a cost to develop and implement secondary legislation and supporting guidance and training. The NZVA has done considerable work to create emergency management guidance and resources for the veterinary profession. In 2024, we released a handbook and template to help veterinary businesses develop a personalised emergency management plan for their workplace and team.

Following Cyclone Gabrielle, we knew we needed a robust framework to help us support veterinary professionals in the event of another emergency. We commissioned BML Consulting to conduct an independent review of our response to the cyclone, including debrief sessions with NZVA staff, industry representatives and veterinary professionals in Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti.

Based on feedback from these debrief sessions, we developed a handbook and planning template to help NZVA members prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters or emergencies that may impact their business, staff, clients, patients and community. We also developed a detailed emergency management plan and strategy for the NZVA.

We would be happy to share these resources to support the development of guidance and training on animal welfare during and after emergency responses.

**58. Noting that human life and safety will always be the top priority, do you have any comments about how animals should be prioritised relative to the protection of property?**

Please explain your views.

We believe that animal welfare should be prioritised above protection of property. The Animal Welfare Act 1999 recognises animals as sentient beings, meaning they can experience emotions that are meaningful to them, not unlike humans.

New Zealand was the first country in the world to capture this in legislation, a fact that we as a country have proudly promoted internationally. Being seen as a country that upholds the highest standards of animal sentience has certainly aided our reputation and trade activities overseas.

It seems logical that our emergency management legislation should follow and support this leadership position.

**Animal sentience**

In August 2015, the Animal Welfare Act was revised “to reform the law relating to the welfare of animals and the prevention of their ill-treatment”. In particular, the Act was revised:

(i) to recognise that animals are sentient:

(ia) to require owners of animals, and persons in charge of animals, to attend properly to the welfare of those animals: ...

The National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAV) explains sentience as:

*The National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC) understands animal sentience to mean that animals have emotions, feelings, perceptions, and experiences that matter to them. These can be negative (such as pain or boredom) as well as positive (such as pleasure or comfort). We don't know whether animals' emotions, feelings, and experiences are similar to those of humans. We also don't know if they are felt with the same intensity. But they matter to individual animals and have an impact on their welfare.*

The NZVA's definition of sentience, which encourages prioritisation of positive states and welfare enhancement, is consistent with scientific knowledge and current public expectations of 'good practice'.

It also aligns with the stated objectives of the NZVA 2030 strategy, which recognise that the wellbeing of animals, humans and the environment are inseparable. This acknowledgement establishes a responsibility for those in charge of animals to treat them in a way that prevents unnecessary pain or distress, and to provide opportunities for them to experience positive emotions.

**Relationship between humans and animals**

The separation of human and animal welfare in the Emergency Management Bill is a major concern. Many veterinary professionals argue that a failure to understand interdependency between human and animal welfare creates unintended divisions and results in ineffective emergency responses.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, it became evident that there is a direct correlation between humans and animals, and that animals play an important role in human wellbeing. The human-animal bond is a mutually beneficial and dynamic relationship that is influenced by behaviours essential to health and wellbeing. This includes emotional, psychological and physical interactions between people, animals and the environment. A veterinarian's role in the human-animal bond is to maximise the potential of this relationship between people and animals.

There is a lot of literature supporting the importance and relevance of the human-animal bond, including an article by Robin Chadwin DVM, MPVM titled *Evacuation of Pets During Disasters: A Public Health Intervention to Increase Resilience*. In this article, Chadwin states:

Pet owners may be stranded at home, unwilling to leave their pets behind. Others refuse evacuation orders or attempt to re-enter evacuation sites illegally to rescue their animals. Psychopathologies such as grief, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder are associated with pet abandonment during an evacuation. Health care workers may refuse to work if their animals are in danger, leaving medical facilities understaffed during crises. Zoonotic disease risk increases when pets are abandoned or left to roam, where they are more likely to encounter infected wildlife or unowned animals than they would if they were safely sheltered with their owners.

The Human Animal Bond Research Institute (HABRI) is internationally recognised for its support of scientific research into the human-animal bond. They have found that:

*Positive human-animal interactions appear to be related to changes in physiological variables in both humans and animals, such as reduced heart rate and blood pressure. Research has demonstrated an association between pet ownership and enhanced social support, emotional well-being and general well-being. Pet ownership has also been found to play a role in helping people manage long-term mental health conditions.*

Similarly, a report on the animal welfare impact of the September 2010 earthquake in Christchurch states:

*It is clear from the Canterbury earthquake that the integration of animal welfare organisations and veterinary professionals with wider civil defence emergency management will be essential for managing future disasters.... As new guidelines are published by NAWEM, further uptake of animal emergency planning is likely to occur and this will see an increased demand for contributions by veterinary professionals to local civil defence emergency management. The uptake of companion animal emergency management by CDEM Groups would be strengthened if statutory mandate gave effect to the new NAWEM guidelines. Whatever the future New Zealand disaster; pet owners, farmers, veterinarians, animal welfare officers and emergency managers need to*

*collaborate to create resilient communities, with the understanding that animals too, are part of these communities.*

During Cyclone Gabrielle and the North Island flooding events in 2023, we heard stories of people refusing to evacuate homes without their pets, farmers sneaking past cordons to tend to their animals, and horse owners putting themselves in danger to save their horses.

## **59. Are there any other options that should be considered?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

## **Other problems relating to this objective**

## **60. Should we consider any other problems relating to enabling a higher minimum standard of emergency management?**

Please explain your views.

### **Cost to veterinary professionals and businesses**

Successful policy implementation and emergency response requires sufficient and appropriate resources, including financial, human, technology, supplies and equipment. Access to resources was a key issue for the veterinary profession during the response and recovery phases of Cyclone Gabrielle.

The NZVA recommends that veterinary services are funded as part of the emergency response funding through Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM). We recommend an Animal Welfare Emergency Management (AWEM) Reimbursement Fund is established to enable AWEM support agencies to effectively deliver essential animal welfare services during emergencies and aid in the recovery process.

The New Zealand CDEM funding framework does not currently include costs associated with AWEM response and recovery. Organisations with appointed AWEM roles and responsibilities are required to retain funding and resources to maintain their capacity and capability outlined in the legislation.

Human welfare arrangements are delivered by central and local government agencies in a business-as-usual capacity. However, organisations delivering animal welfare services during an emergency are generally working in non-routine operating parameters.

These organisations rely primarily on volunteer, private business and non-government organisations during an emergency, with the exception of local authorities. These arrangements, based on good-will, limit the availability of resources and create a significant risk to the organisations' ability to operate after the event.

Furthermore, the increased frequency and severity of emergencies in New Zealand has the potential to cause burnout in responders and communities, further depleting already limited resources.

Veterinary businesses assume a financial burden when addressing animal health requirements and providing animal welfare services during an emergency. They have emphasised they cannot afford to bear the financial risk associated with delivering animal welfare services and addressing human wellbeing needs in isolated communities if they cannot seek reimbursement for costs incurred.

In the Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Response and Recovery Plan, there is provision for veterinary services to be funded to deliver services in the event of an FMD outbreak. As such, a precedent for veterinary services to be funded during an emergency exists. The NZVA contends that there is little difference in providing veterinary services during a natural disaster emergency, compared to a disease incursion emergency.

## Objective 4: Minimising disruption to essential services

### Issue 11: Reducing disruption to the infrastructure that provides essential services

#### Issue 11.1: Narrow definition of “lifeline utility”

We have identified options to extend emergency management responsibilities to a broader range of infrastructure that provides essential services.

*Refer to pages 50–52 and Appendix C of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

#### 61. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

#### 62. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

#### 63. If we introduced a principles-based definition of “essential infrastructure”, are there any essential services that should be included or excluded from the list in Appendix C of the discussion document?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

#### 64. If you think other essential services should be included in the list in Appendix C, what kinds of infrastructure would they cover?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

#### 65. Are there any other options that should be considered?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

#### Issue 11.2: Strengthening lifeline utility business continuity planning

We have identified options to ensure lifeline utilities have planned effectively for disruption to their services.

*Refer to pages 52–54 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

**66. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?**

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**67. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**68. Are there any other options that should be considered?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**Issue 11.3: Barriers to cooperation and information sharing**

We have identified options to strengthen cooperation and information sharing between lifeline utilities, CDEM Groups, and other agencies.

*Refer to pages 54–57 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

**69. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?**

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**70. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**71. Because emergencies happen at different geographical scales, coordination is often needed at multiple levels (local and national). Do you have any views about the most effective way to achieve coordination at multiple levels?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

**72. Are there any other options that should be considered?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

## Issue 12: Strengthening central government business continuity

We have identified options to ensure central government organisations have planned effectively for disruption to their services. This includes options to expand the range of central government organisations recognised in the Act.

*Refer to pages 57–60 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

### 73. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

### 74. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

### 75. Are there any other options that should be considered?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

## Other problems relating to this objective

### 76. Should we consider any other problems relating to minimising disruption to essential services?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

## Objective 5: Having the right powers available when an emergency happens

### Issue 13: Managing access to restricted areas

We have identified options to improve the way cordons are managed.

*Refer to pages 61–63 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

#### 78. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

#### 79. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

#### 80. Are there any other options that should be considered?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

### Issue 14: Clarifying who uses emergency powers at the local level

We have identified options to ensure emergency powers sit with the most appropriate people at the local government level.

*Refer to pages 63–65 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

#### 81. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

#### 82. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

#### 83. Are there any other options that should be considered?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

## Issue 15: Modernising the process to enter a state of emergency or transition period

We have identified options to remove the requirement for a physical signature to declare a state of emergency or give notice of a transition period.

*Refer to pages 65–66 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

### 84. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

### 85. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

### 86. Are there any other options that should be considered?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

## Issue 16: Mayors' role in local state of emergency declarations and transition period notices

We have identified options to make mayors' role in local state of emergency declarations and transition period notices more explicit.

*Refer to pages 66–68 of the discussion document to answer the questions in this section.*

### 87. Do you agree with how we have described this problem?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure / no preference

Please explain your views.

Insert response

### 88. Do you have any comments about the likely impacts (benefits, costs, or risks) of the initial options we have identified? Do you have any preferred options?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

### 89. Are there any other options that should be considered?

Please explain your views.

Insert response

## Other problems relating to this objective

**90. Are there any circumstances where Controllers or Recovery Managers may need other powers to manage an emergency response or the initial stages of recovery more effectively?**

Please explain your views.

Insert response

## Other comments

**91. Do you have any other comments relating to reform of New Zealand's emergency management legislation?**

Insert response