

To: Region representatives – Aerial Strategy Discussion Document
From: Russell Wood; DCE – Organisational Strategy and Capability Development
Date: October 2020
Action: For action

Context

Aerial capability is one of many key elements of Fire and Emergency response, used to resolve incidents, protect and preserve lives, property and the environment. Aerial capability is made up of aerial appliances, trained personnel and supporting operations and procedures. It is used to perform a range of functions and both fire and non-fire incidents to meet operational need, address known risks and meet community expectations for response to generally larger scale emergency incidents.

Background

Fire and Emergency's target lifespan for aerials are between 20 and 25 years, therefore an aerial strategy tends to be long-term. The last aerial appliance strategy, adopted in 2003 informed the purchase of the 32 metre 'Bronto' aerial ladder platforms (type 5 and type 6) and heavy pump aerial appliances (type 4). New Zealand's population has grown by 1 million people since 2003, community needs and risk profiles have changed as have our number and diversity of incidents. With the release of Our National Strategy 2019-2045 in late 2019, now is an appropriate time to review our aerial strategy to ensure our capabilities are future-proofed and that capability appropriately matches local needs and risks.

Purpose

To initiate the thinking for this future strategy, a working group was established in 2019 to develop a discussion document to provide analysis and rationale on key elements that support aerial capability. The views of the working group are reported in the attached discussion documents and used as a basis to illicit input, comment and feedback from a range of personnel across Fire and Emergency and various of our partner agencies.

Action

Your Region Manager has put you forward to represent your region on the aerial appliance strategy development, thank you in advance for your time. We have provided a 2-month engagement period to allow you adequate time and multiple avenues to capture rich and extensive input from key region personnel. We ask that you confirm with your Region Manager the appropriate mechanisms to capture this feedback, for example informally via phone or formally through existing forums/meetings.

Feedback approach, process and timeline

You will find a high-level process and timeline at Appendix A. The timeframe to gather feedback from the regions is between October and December 2020. We ask that you collect input from a cross section of your region, specifically, Area Managers, Assistant Area Managers, Principal Rural Fire Officers and Senior Station Officer roles and collate this into the response template (refer attachment). The response template includes questions from each of the sections of the discussion document/Executive Summary and the opportunity to provide additional commentary

Given the size of the discussion document, we consider the best approach for capturing comment would be to utilise the **Executive Summary**, not by disseminating the full discussion document which is for your reference. I am looking to schedule 1-2 'Live Team events' during November to speak to this initiative and will engage you in this process.

We ask that you return your consolidated feedback to the following email address by the 15th December 2020: aerialstrategy@fireandemergency.nz. If you have any issues or questions about approach, process or timelines, please contact Rebecca Scott; Chief Advisor DCE on 0274713028.

Once again thank you for your time, we appreciate your support with the future development of the aerial strategy.

Russell Wood

DCE – Organisational Strategy and Capability Development



Appendix A

Aerial Appliance Strategy – Discussion document

Feedback Process and Timeline

