

(RE)BUILDING THE PLANE, WHILE FLYING IT

Flooding event – Edgecumbe 2017



Civil defence framework v's wellbeings



- CD Act and statutory powers
- Community looks to local government for support and leadership
- Mayor, elected members and community leaders provide assurance
- Four wellbeing approach



The Event





Stop bank breaches in Edgecumbe and Poroporo cause widespread flooding causing 1,900 people to be evacuated from their homes



1 hectare of river bank erosion deposited 24,000 cubic metres of soil into the Waimana river



Nearly 3,500 tonnes of sediment has been taken to landfill from EQC section clearing operations



More than 7,000 tonnes of waste has been sent to landfill from clean-up in Edgecumbe



1,400 hectares of farm land was under water for 10-14 days



Significant roading damage isolated some rural communities for over a week



The Ministry of Social Development provided assistance to over 3200 people



Over 17 tonnes of whiteware and steel have been recycled

Impacts from the Event



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50% of families were back in their homes eight months after the event (by Christmas)



4,086 cows were trucked out of the area in the first 48 hours after the breach in Edgecumbe



Over 300 homes needed repair to be habitable again



House insurance status varied for yellow stickered homes. 54% rebuilt through insurers, 30% cash settled, 5% were uninsured, and 11% had unknown insurance status



\$500k was distributed to businesses (\$200k) and farmers (\$300k) through the Business Recovery Grant and the BOP Primary Sector Recovery Grant



15 homes were severely damaged and needed to be removed demolished or removed



Around 260 free building consent applications for flood repairs have been processed by Council

Impacts from the Event



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What worked

- Navigators working with impacted individuals and whanau
- Open office including central government, EQC, Federated Farmers, Rural Support, Iwi, Chamber of Commerce etc
- Flexible responses e.g. liveable homes
- Value of longer term community planning post recovery

Some learnings

- Know your community. Work with community leaders, Iwi and stakeholders
- Central government to support, with flexibility
- Planning under uncertainty
- Never enough communication
- Statutory powers are minor in comparison to the price tag of recovery
- Capturing recovery “lessons”

More information

Visit our website to view our [Recovery toolbox](#)



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