



WHAKARATONGA IWI

**FIRE**  
**EMERGENCY**

NEW ZEALAND

# CRISIS RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

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# From Port Hills to Tasman fires

## Today I want to:

- Briefly touch on the key lessons from Port Hills
- Look at how Fire and Emergency has partnered with other agencies to address the issues that were seen at Port Hills
- How this translated into a more seamless response for the Tasman fires
- How we can continue to work together to support our local communities and build resilience



## Lessons learnt from Port Hills

- No agreed understanding of terminology and roles across agencies
- Various fire agencies not working together consistently, causing confusion
- Better communication and engagement with public, particularly homeowners, needed
- Better management of cordons
- More focus on community needs and support to be better prepared and resilient



Photo credit: Nick Rayney

## Working to improve

- Establishment of Fire and Emergency was a big step towards addressing issues that were seen during Port Hills
- Adopted a single incident management system and undertake regular training with partner agencies
- Building better working relationships with partner agencies like local councils so we can better support communities
- Establishing Local Advisory Councils (LACs)



## Putting our learnings to the test

- Tasman fires – different interactions across agencies than Port Hills
- Emergency services working closely with local, regional and national agencies – bringing together a cohesive IMT
- Positive Interactions with iwi and local residents, able to safely evacuate residents and prevent them from returning until it was safe
- Better communication, created 'one source of truth', better engagement with media – got info out faster



## Continue to better collaborate

- It's not just fires we respond to
- April 2018 – Auckland storm, we worked with a number of agencies and local council to do 9,500 door-to-door welfare checks of people in their homes
- Continue annual training exercises with partner agencies
- Continue to look for ways to partner and share info across agencies, e.g. working with Corrections
- LACs district boundaries will mirror Civil Defence Emergency boundaries

