

21 February 2020

Alan Thompson
NZ Resident

Dear Alan,

Request for information

IR-01-20-2005

Thank you for your online submission dated 21 January 2020 requesting information surrounding the management of the Whakaari/ White Island eruption.

You requested:

1. With respect to the definition in CIMS, was NZ Police the “lead agency” for the response to the disaster?
2. Confirmation that NZ Police implemented the NZ CIMS (currently version 2) in the management of this disaster as required by Government.
3. The names of the services, agencies and organisations who were appointed into positions within the Incident Management Team (IMT) as prescribed by CIMS until demobilisation was completed.
4. The total number of formal/written Incident Action Plans (IAPs) as prescribed by CIMS that were signed off by the Incident Controller (IC) for the period of the response.
5. Copies of each of the IAPs for the first 5 days of the Whakaari/White Island response.

Your request has been considered in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982, and my response is as follows:

In regards to point 1: New Zealand Police were not the lead agency in the Whakaari/White Island eruption. The National Emergency Management Agency - Civil Defence was the lead agency from the 9 December until the end of the operation.

Police National Headquarters

180 Molesworth Street, Thorndon, Wellington SX11149
Telephone: (04) 474 9499. www.police.govt.nz

In regards to point 2: I can confirm that New Zealand Police, as a service operating to support the lead agency, used its prescribed command and control practices which are aligned to fit in with the CIMS framework.

In relation to points 3, 4 and 5: These requests have been transferred to the National Emergency Management Team - Civil Defence due to the fact that they were the lead agency.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision if you are not satisfied with Police's response to your request.

Yours sincerely,



Superintendent Andrew Sissons
National Manager Response & Operations