

Southland CDEM Group Plan

Frequently Asked Questions



1. What is the CDEM Group Plan?

The Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Group Plan sets out how Southland prepares for, responds to, and recovers from emergencies. It's a high-level strategy that guides councils, iwi, emergency services, lifeline utilities, and community groups for the next five years.

2. Why are we consulting on it?

By law (under the CDEM Act 2002), every CDEM Group Plan must go through public consultation before it is finalised. This ensures the plan reflects what matters to the people who live and work in Southland.

3. Who can make a submission?

Anyone! We want to hear from residents, iwi, businesses, schools, NGOs, lifeline providers, community groups, and individuals. Every perspective helps shape a stronger, more inclusive plan.

4. How do I make a submission?

- Email consultation@cdsouthland.nz
- Paper forms at council offices and libraries
- By attending drop-in sessions or hui and leaving your feedback there

5. When is the consultation open?

The consultation runs for five weeks, from 6 October to 10 November 2025.

6. What happens to my submission?

All submissions will be collected, read, and analysed. Common themes and key ideas will be summarised in a report for decision-makers. If you tick that you'd like to be heard, you may be invited to speak at hearings.

7. Will my submission make a difference?

Yes. Feedback helps refine the final Plan and ensures it reflects the needs of Southlanders. After consultation, we'll publish a "You Said – We Did" summary so you can see how input shaped the final Plan.

8. Can I present my views in person?

Yes. If hearings are required, people who request to speak will be invited to attend. There will also be drop-in sessions, hui, and an online Q&A where you can ask questions and share your perspective.

9. What if I need the Plan in another format?

We can provide large print, easy-read, version of the Plan. Contact us at 0800 76 88 45 to request these.

10. When will the final Plan be ready?

The revised Plan will go to the CDEM Joint Committee for adoption in early December 2025 and then be submitted to the Minister for Emergency Management for review. It will be published before the end of the year.

11. Who do I contact for more information?

You can email consultation@cdsouthland.nz or phone 0800 76 88 45. Updates will also be posted on the EMS website and facebook page.

