

Disaster Management and pier directorate

This directorate has two main divisions, pier and disaster management.

Public information, education and relations (PIER)

Rather than wait for disasters to strike, PIER focuses on pre-incident training and preparedness geared towards training the public to avoid all types of emergencies and disasters, and cope with them when they happen.

The division also aims to minimise the amount of risk factors and situations to which people may be exposed by creating safer living and working environments. PIER is also responsible for keeping the City informed of the EMS's activities. It has established strategically placed Be Safe Centres to enable communities to get and receive the information they need.

Disaster Management

The objective of the disaster management division is to minimise loss of life, injury and loss or damage to property, and to restore essential services as quickly as possible by means of an integrated disaster management approach.

For functional purposes, the division has divided Johannesburg into southern and northern segments, and an operations manager has been assigned to monitor the two areas.

Following a shift from a primarily reactive to a more proactive approach, a five-phase disaster management programme has been designed to prevent, mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from the effects of all disasters.

The programme involves institutional capacity, risk assessment, risk reduction, response and relief. Disaster management is a co-ordination function whereby personnel has to ensure that departments have contingency plans and are ready to respond to any hazards that happen in their departments.

There are guidelines that must be followed when plans are drawn up, which are available from the division.

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Disaster Management Centre number for all disaster related enquiries from monday to friday during office hours which is 011 286 6012/13