

# Medical response stand-down

## Introduction

### When to use

This document describes what is expected when Ambulance issue a stand-down notification before Fire and Emergency New Zealand crews arrive at a medical response event. This may be a total stand-down, or a requirement to attend to a Safe Forward Point (SFP).

This includes the requirement not to enter premises when a stand-down is received by the responding crews as they arrive.

### Background

If ambulance crews arrive before Fire and Emergency crews, they may assess the patient needs and decide they no longer need Fire and Emergency support.

This may also occur when the ambulance clinical triage process establishes that the incident is downgraded and therefore no longer meets the criteria for co-response or first response.

If this happens St. John or Wellington Free Ambulance will request the ComCen to issue a stand-down alert for Fire and Emergency crews.

### Reasons for stand-down

The list below shows some examples of the reasons a medical response would be either stood down, or a redirection to a safe forward point Safe Forward Point (SFP) given.

- Ambulance staff are on scene, or via clinical care, have assessed the patients' condition, and determined that the Fire and Emergency skill set is no longer required. This may be because the patient is obviously deceased, or what was initially believed to be a purple response is not.
- The patient has refused the attendance of Fire and Emergency staff under the Health and Disability Code of Rights for Patients.
- An appropriate health practitioner is on scene and has been in discussion with Ambulance Coms regarding the patient condition and appropriate response.
- Responders safety may be impacted or under threat on arrival at the scene, this may result in stand-down or redirection to a Safe Forward Point.

## Procedure

### Requirements

Where a stand down request has been transmitted, responding crews are to stop their response immediately. This requirement to stop the response also means we should not enter premises when a stand-down is received by the responding crews, as they arrive.

**Note:** Any request to stand-down will be accompanied with a generic reason to inform crews why this has happened.

## Related information

### Policies

[G2 POP Operational first aid policy](#)

### Document information

Owner	National Manager Response Capability
Steward	Specialist Response Manager
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### Record of amendments

Date	Brief description of amendment
December 2020	Initial version