Helping New Zealanders harness the power of the Internet.
15 March 2019 was one of New Zealand’s darkest days.

The attack on the Christchurch Muslim community was a terrorist act. It was horrific and has shaken our country to the core.
An emergency response by .nz

This extraordinary and unique set of circumstances has required us to develop an emergency response to keep the .nz domain name space safe.
An exceptional response, when all of these are at play

- There has been a violent terrorist attack in New Zealand
- The national security alert level has been set at “high”
- There is content the Chief Censor has deemed “objectionable material” under the Film Video Publication and Communications Act 1993 relating to the attack in circulation on the Internet
- There are domain names that have been or could yet be registered in the .nz ccTLD contemporaneous with or recently following the attack
- Some of these domain names may be assessed by Department of Internal Affairs or CERT NZ to be primarily intended to propagate the “objectionable material”
- The authorities involved in enforcing the legislation have sought the Domain Name Commission’s assistance in limiting access to some domain names
- The terms and conditions of registration of a .nz domain name require the registrant to not use the name for unlawful purposes, and registrars may cancel names where this is not followed.
Our emergency response

● In the wake of the attacks, we were in regular touch with the Department of Internal Affairs.

● We sent emails to the all IANA contacts including APTLD colleagues

● We wrote to registrants who registered domain names associated with the Christchurch event to guard against the distribution of the terrorist content

● We monitored domain name registrations daily

● We issued an interim six-month policy to suspend domain names in exceptional and emergency circumstances

● We did all we could to deal with the exceptional circumstance.
Thank you.

Brent Carey
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