



# **MINUTES**

## **SHIRE OF JERRAMUNGUP**

### **LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (LEMC)**

**14 OCTOBER 2024**

This page has been left intentionally blank

**Shire of Jerramungup**  
**Table of Contents**  
**Meeting of the Local Emergency Management Committee**  
**Monday, 14 October 2024**

<b>1.0</b>	<b>DECLARATION OF OPENING, ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>RECORD OF ATTENDANCE .....</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1	ATTENDANCE.....	4
2.2	APOLOGIES .....	4
<b>3.0</b>	<b>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>MEMBERSHIP UPDATES .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>CORRESPONDENCE .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>7.0</b>	<b>REPORTS / UPDATES.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>8.0</b>	<b>ROUND TABLE .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>9.0</b>	<b>NEXT MEETING .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10.0</b>	<b>CLOSURE OF MEETING .....</b>	<b>9</b>

# **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE CAMERON BUSINESS CENTRE MEETING ROOM ON MONDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2024, COMMENCING AT 12.02PM.**

## **1.0 DECLARATION OF OPENING, ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS**

The meeting was opened at 12.02pm by the Chairperson.

## **2.0 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE**

### **2.1 ATTENDANCE**

Cr Joanne Iffla, President, Shire of Jerramungup (Chairperson)

Cr Julie Leenhouders, Deputy Shire President, Shire of Jerramungup

Anthony Armstrong, Jerramungup VFES

Jeremy Wisewould, Jerramungup VFES

Daniel Biddulph, Bushfire Risk Mitigation Coordinator, Shire of Jerramungup

Sergeant Stuart Kerr, WA Police – Jerramungup

Alex Jones, Chief Bushfire Control Officer, Shire of Jerramungup

Graham Taylor, District Officer, Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)

Matt Prophet, Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions (DBCA)

Danielle Wisewould, St John Ambulance

Vivienne Gardiner, Department of Communities

Dean Fasolo, Community Paramedic, St John Ambulance

Kevin Hopper, WA Country Health Service (WACHS)

Charmaine Solomon, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Jerramungup

Martin Cuthbert, Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Jerramungup

Charlotte Powis, Great Southern District Emergency Management Advisor, DFES (TEAMS)

John Collins, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development DPIRD (TEAMS)

Janna Cheshire, Project Officer, Shire of Jerramungup

Glenda Forbes, Executive Administration Officer, Shire of Jerramungup (Minute Taker)

### **2.2 APOLOGIES**

Darren Prior, Department of Fire and Emergency Services

### **3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

#### **3.1 LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 10 JUNE 2024**

**MOVED: Danielle Wisewould**

**SECONDED: Stuart Kerr**

**That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Local Emergency Management Committee held on 10 June 2024 be CONFIRMED.**

**CARRIED**

### **4.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

**4.1** Bremer Airstrip project – Update provided at point 7.4.

**4.2** Nursing update - Shire President, Acting CEO and DCEO met with Director of Nursing/Health Service Manager for the East Great Southern, Kevin Cropper, on the 20 June 2024 to discuss the current nursing situation within the Shire of Jerramungup. Kevin attended the LEMC meeting and advised:

- They are trying to provide nursing cover when there are community events.
- They have plans in place to manage an emergency.
- Still a transient workforce in both Jerramungup and Bremer Bay. There are no gaps in service at the moment, and staffing will be increased at Bremer Bay during the summer. They are considering what staffing should look like at Bremer Bay into the future.
- Aged care has now been transferred to Juniper.

**4.3** Road Safety Audit – The Shire has arranged for road safety audits to be undertaken by a qualified assessor on the following roads due to various safety concerns raised:

- Lancaster Road adjacent to the school
- Derrick Street full length
- Borden-Bremer Bay Road adjacent to the caravan park

**4.4** LEMA update (discussed at point 7).

### **5.0 MEMBERSHIP UPDATES**

#### **5.1 Updates to LEMC Contact List and WHATSAPP Group**

Major review is currently underway for the Shire of Jerramungup Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA). The final draft was emailed out to members on Friday, 11 October for review. LEMA review discussed further at Point 7.

### **6.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

**6.1** Correspondence sent to Mr Anthony Armstrong

**6.2** Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee – Maintaining power supply

**6.3** Australian Warning System now LIVE

**6.4** BOC Communique

**6.5** National Terrorism Threat Level

**6.6 National Warnings Webinar** - the consolidated slide deck from the webinar was distributed with the agenda, including presentations by the below:

- Joe Buffone, National Emergency Management Agency
- Amisha Mehta, Queensland University of Technology
- Simon Louis, Bureau of Meteorology
- Kath Ryan, Australian Warning System
- Rob Rogers, National Council for fire and emergency services in Australia and New Zealand

## **7.0 REPORTS / UPDATES**

### **7.1 Shire of Jerramungup Standalone request for Community Emergency Services Manager**

In August 2024 the Shires of Jerramungup and Ravensthorpe submitted a request for a Standalone CESM. On 30 September 2024 the DFES Superintendent informed the Shires of Jerramungup and Ravensthorpe that our application to separate the current CESM MOU and establish independent CESMs for both Shires was approved by the Commissioner.

The Shire is confident these standalone CESM roles will better equip both Shires to handle natural risks.

The Shire of Jerramungup CESM position has been advertised with the closing date being 30 October 2024.

### **7.2 Major Review - Shire of Jerramungup Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA)**

The Shire has undertaken a major review of the Local Emergency Management Arrangements. The draft LEMA was presented for consideration and endorsement from the Committee.

Noted that:

- The LEMA is to be reviewed by the DEMC before consideration by Council.
- Current information regarding resources and contacts to be provided by all.
- Vivienne to investigate Gnowangerup Brethren rapid response catering and whether it could be included.
- Include Department of Communities Emergency Response number.
- Terminology in relation to welfare to be updated.
- On call numbers after hours to be included.
- Recovery Plan to be reviewed in conjunction with LEMA.
- Vince from DBCA will be moving to a new role from 1 January 2025 and will be replaced by Greg Williams.
- The draft, including changes made, to be circulated to LEMC members prior to forwarding to DFES.

**MOVED: Anthony Armstrong**

**SECONDED: Matt Prophet**

**That the Local Emergency Management Committee accept the draft review of the LEMA, with changes as discussed.**

**CARRIED**

### **7.3 Structure Fire - Roderick Street Aged Care units**

Advance Housing has advised that their insurer has awarded the contract to RBD Building & Maintenance. They have since attended the site, fenced the area, and made units 1- 4 secure. RBD are currently arranging a programme of works and a schedule of trades, they are hoping to commence repairs in the next few months, with a completion date of late 2025.

### **7.4 Bremer Bay Airstrip Project Update**

The delivery of the new Bremer Bay cross runway is contingent upon the issue of both state and federal clearing permits. Work towards securing those permits is ongoing and has been complicated by the presence of threatened environmental communities and the identification of areas of dieback within the airport reserve. The environmental values and risks associated with the project has required additional studies and mitigation strategies to be developed which has pushed out the timelines for the applications to be finalised and then advertised which is necessary before any approvals can be granted.

The additional information required to finalise the application is being readied for submission to the relevant agencies and advertising will then be initiated and completed by end of November, after which the Shire will be advised of the outcome and if positive the Shire will consider the next phase of the project which will involve preparation of and calling for tenders for the construction works.

The anticipated issue of the Clearing Permit will represent a major break point in the project whereby the Shire will undertake further analysis and review of the project to determine whether it proceeds to the next phase as proposed or reviews the scope and extent or progression of the project.

### **7.5 DFES Great Southern District Emergency Management Advisor Report May – July 2024**

Please see attached report 7.5 a) from Great Southern District Emergency Management Advisor Charlotte Powis.

### **7.6 Department of Communities Report**

Vivienne Gardiner commenced as the Department of Communities Regional Coordinator Emergency Relief and Support – Great Southern in July 2024. Please see attached report 7.6.

### **7.7 Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development**

Please see attached report 7.7 a) presented by John Collins from the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

John Collins left the meeting at 1.04pm.

## **8.0 ROUND TABLE**

### **8.1 St John WA – Danielle Wisewould**

- Annual Review Meeting was held on Friday, 11 October 2024. Danielle is no longer the Chairperson. Dawn Chadwick from Wellstead has taken on the position for the next 12 months. A new Secretary and Treasurer have also been elected.
- A new Community Paramedic has been appointed – Dean Fasolo.

**8.2 Jerramungup VFES – Anthony Armstrong**

- A new DFES Area Officer has been appointed – Roy Parsons.

**8.3 Bushfire Risk Mitigation Coordinator – Daniel Biddulph**

- Bushfire risk mitigation is basically finished for this year. Burns and mechanical works have been carried out.
- The application for funding for next year's mitigation has been submitted. A number of lots around Jerramungup townsite have been included.
- A Fireline Construction course for machine operators will be conducted in early November.

**8.4 Chief Bush Fire Control Officer – Alex Jones**

- Winter was pretty quiet, with only three 000 calls.
- A new radio has been installed at East Stirling Rural.
- Alex wished everyone a safe harvest.

**8.5 District Officer DFES – Graham Taylor**

- Currently in the position of DO Esperance Urban, filling in for Steve Peterson.

**8.6 DFES Great Southern District Emergency Management Advisor – Charlotte Powis**

- Provided an updated report – August to October 2024 – attached.
- The State Hazard Plan Fire is under review, and initial feedback from stakeholders has been included. It is now open for public consultation until 9 December.
- DFES has established a State Recovery Team to assist Local Governments who need support in this area. Still working through how this looks in a practical sense. Webinars and engagement sessions will be run over coming months.
- The issue of telecommunications in relation to power outages in Bremer Bay as per correspondence was raised at the DEMC meeting. There are a number of concerns across the region and DEMC has written to the SEMC requesting an update.
- There is Commonwealth Mobile Network funding available, particularly for sites that need bolstering in an emergency. Charlotte to email information to Charmaine.

**8.7 WA Police – Sergeant Stuart Kerr**

- Approval has been given for a fourth police officer to be stationed in Jerramungup, however housing still needs to be secured.
- Police Post in Bremer Bay will be established for the holiday season, housing is required for officers during this time.

**8.8 DBCA – Matt Prophet**

- Staff have been going through safety drills, fire preparedness and have done checks of vehicles and equipment.



**8.9 Department of Communities – Vivienne Gardiner**

- Available for emergency relief and support.
- Have staff in Katanning, Albany and Esperance, however do rely on Local Governments to kickstart evacuation centres.
- Offering to conduct training with people who might open evacuation centres.
- Audit of Bremer Bay Sports Club needs to be carried out.

**8.10 Community Paramedic – Dean Fasolo**

- Keen to get involved with various areas of training.

**8.11 WA Country Health Service – Kevin Hopper**

- Aged care is now supported by Juniper.

**8.12 Shire of Jerramungup CEO – Martin Cuthbert**

- Point Henry fire hazard inspections are in progress. Bush Fire Brigades will be updated.

**8.13 Shire of Jerramungup DCEO – Charmaine Solomon**

- Finalising split with Shire of Ravensthorpe in relation to CESM.

**9.0 NEXT MEETING**

The next LEMC meeting is to be held Monday, 9 December 2024 at the Bremer Bay VFES Facility.

**10.0 CLOSURE OF MEETING**

The Chair closed the meeting at 1.22pm

**LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISOR REPORT  
May to July 2024**

**STATE NEWS**

The last meeting of the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) was held 8 May 2024 with the next meeting scheduled for 7 August 2024. SEMC Communiques can be found [here](#).

**STATE CONSULTATION REQUESTS**

**Review - State Hazard Plan Fire – DFES**

The Department of Fire and Emergency (DFES) is progressing a comprehensive review of the State Hazard Plan - Fire. This strategic level plan provides an overview of arrangements for the management of fire emergencies in Western Australia.

For the initial phase of the review, DFES is seeking feedback on the existing [State Hazard Plan - Fire](#) from agencies with responsibilities within the Plan, including Local Government.

For further information and to provide feedback go to the [State Hazard Plan - Fire consultation webpage](#).

This initial phase of consultation closed on **Friday 31 May 2024**.

WALGA asked Local Governments to provide a copy of their feedback to inform WALGA comments on the Plan via [email](#) by **27 May 2024**.

Feedback received will inform DFES' development of a draft State Hazard Plan - Fire and proposed amendments which will be provided for broad consultation with emergency management stakeholders during June and July 2024. WALGA will prepare a submission on the Plan on behalf of the sector.

**Review - State Recovery Arrangements in the EM Framework – DFES**

The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) is undertaking a review of state level recovery coordination and governance arrangements provided in the State Emergency Management Framework.

The purpose of the review is to better define when and how the state government will provide recovery coordination support to local governments and communities following emergencies. This will include clarifying the role, membership, responsibilities and accountability of key state level recovery coordination positions and groups and the DFES Resilience and Recovery Portfolio.

The review will not change the role and responsibilities currently held by local government under the Emergency Management Act 2005 and State Emergency Management Framework, however it will clarify the circumstances and arrangements for state support to local governments and/or involvement of a state appointed recovery coordinator.

Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements are not a focus of this review.

**Local Government Focus Group Sessions**

As part of the review, DFES will conduct 2-3 focus group sessions in June with local government representatives that have recent disaster recovery experience. The purpose of the focus group sessions is to test the policy options and obtain preliminary feedback to inform the review.

All local governments and the emergency management sector will have the opportunity to review the proposed changes and provide feedback via a formal three-month consultation period later this year. The consultation period will include a program of webinars and engagement sessions for local government.

Following the consultation period, proposed amendments will be provided to the Community Resilience and Recovery Subcommittee for endorsement and to SEMC for approval.

For further information, please contact Simone Clarke, DFES State Recovery, at [simone.clarke@dfes.wa.gov.au](mailto:simone.clarke@dfes.wa.gov.au)

### **Review – State Support Plan- Animal Welfare in Emergencies**

Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development is undertaking a comprehensive review of [State Support Plan – Animal Welfare in Emergencies](#). The purpose of the State Support Plan - Animal Welfare is to provide the community of Western Australia, including emergency services and the animal management sector, with a document that integrates arrangements for animal welfare with the State's formal management arrangements to ensure that animals are planned for and their welfare is appropriately addressed in any emergency.

The DFES State Emergency Management Policy Branch is now seeking broad stakeholder feedback on the proposed amendments and welcomes other questions or comments you have in relation to this Plan via [Engage WA Emergency Management](#).

**The consultation period is open now until the 12 August 2024.**

### **WA Emergency Management Sector Adaptation Plan Discussion Paper**

The State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) is developing the Emergency Management Sector Adaptation Plan (EM-SAP) to support Local Governments advance climate change adaptation and emergency management goals together.

The EM-SAP will be one of seven sector-based plans delivered to help implement the [Western Australian Climate Adaptation Strategy](#). An [EM-SAP Discussion Paper](#) has been released to gather input from EM stakeholders about sector-specific adaptation actions.

WALGA coordinated a targeted consultation with Local Governments to inform this pivotal SEMC initiative. WALGA held an **EM-SAP Information Webinar on 14 February** and **Interactive Workshops for Local Governments on 20, 21 and 26 February** to collaboratively explore the questions posed in the [EM-SAP Discussion Paper](#).

Broader community consultation on the discussion paper has now closed with the delivery of the final EM SAP expected in mid-2024

## **STATE ADVICE**

### **Amendments to State Emergency Management documents**

On 6 March 2024, the SEMC approved the comprehensive review of the State Hazard Plan – Crash Emergency which provides an overview of arrangements for the management of crash emergencies in Western Australia. The Plan can be viewed via the [SEMC website](#).

At the March meeting, the SEMC also approved an extension for the comprehensive review of:

- State Hazard Plan – Energy Supply Disruption (to August 2024)
- State Hazard Plan – Human Biosecurity (to December 2024).

### **Amendment to Traffic Management during Emergencies Guideline**

The SEMC Executive Officer has approved a statement of fact change to the Traffic Management During Emergencies Guideline in support of the Wooroloo Bushfire Review Recommendation 8: *DFES should consider establishment of road clearing capability to complement bushfire response, with the sole purpose of clearing roads to provide safe return of residents as soon as possible after fire.*

The latest version of the [Traffic Management During Emergencies Guideline](#) and [details of the amendment](#) are available on the SEMC website.

For any queries, please email [semc.policylegislation@dfes.wa.gov.au](mailto:semc.policylegislation@dfes.wa.gov.au)

### **The 2023 Emergency Preparedness Report**

The 2023 Emergency Preparedness Report has now been released. This report is a snapshot in time of the level of emergency management capability and preparedness we have, as a state, to manage before, during and after emergency events. It highlights our strengths, weaknesses and areas for improvement statewide, and combines the input from about 170 agencies.

#### [2023 Emergency Preparedness Report](#)

### **Local Emergency Management Committee Handbook and useful tools**

The [LEMC handbook](#) provides local governments with a summary of the actions and best practice principles as required under section 38 – 40 of the Emergency Management Act 2005, State Emergency Management Policy, procedures, and guidelines.

The LEMC Handbook provides a summary of the WA emergency management arrangements, key roles, and responsibilities and best practice advice for the administration of LEMC.

The Handbook also includes sample LEMC Terms of Reference and Meeting Agenda templates, which can be downloaded from the SEMC website.

### **Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements**

Natural disasters or terrorist acts can result in large-scale expenditure in the form of emergency and recovery assistance. To assist with this financial burden, the Australian and Western Australian governments have joint arrangements in place to provide financial assistance in certain circumstances. These arrangements are referred to as the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements Western Australia (DRFAWA) and are administered by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) on behalf of the WA State Government.

Recovery from disasters is a shared responsibility between individuals, households, businesses, communities and governments. The arrangements are designed as a safety net when costs to undertake recovery activities from an eligible disaster become significant.

For assistance to be made available under the DRFAWA, the event must meet all three of the following criteria:

1. The event was one or a combination of the ten specified disasters including bushfire, earthquake, flood, storm, cyclone, storm surge, landslide, tsunami, meteorite strike, tornado; or the event was a terrorist act.
2. A coordinated, multi-agency response was required.
3. Eligible expenditure relating to emergency assistance, damage to essential public assets and/or other eligible assistance provided in relation to the event exceeds \$240,000 across the affected local government areas.

For more information go to <https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/recovery-funding>



For any queries, please email [drfawa@dfes.wa.gov.au](mailto:drfawa@dfes.wa.gov.au) or call 1800 920 659.

## DISTRICT NEWS

The next Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee meeting is scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

## LOCAL NEWS

### LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Please check the due date for your five-yearly LEMA reviews and allow a minimum of six months to complete the LEMA review process. Funding opportunities are available to assist with LEMA reviews.

#### **The Local Emergency Management Arrangements Review**

The Improvement Program and implementation approach has now been finalised and endorsed by the SEMC at their December 2023 meeting. More information can be found at: <https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/state-emergency-management-committee/lema-improvement-program>

Given the timeframes of the program please don't delay in preparing any LEMA that are due or nearly due for their 5-year review.

**In March 2024, Simone Ruane (who coordinated WALGA's LEMA Review Project), was appointed the role of Project Lead for the LEMA Improvement Program and commenced project planning.**

#### **District Emergency and Local Emergency Management Committees Review**

In May 2022 SEMC meeting, members approved a review of the roles of District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC) and Local Emergency Management Committees (LEMC).

The review has concluded and was tabled at the December SEMC meeting. For more information go to:

<https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/state-emergency-management-committee/review-district-and-local-emergency-management-committees>

### GRANT PROGRAM UPDATES

The State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) oversees the distribution of grant funding to support activities that reduce disaster risk and enhance WA's resilience to disasters.

Information on funding opportunities can be found [here](#).

#### **The National Disaster Risk Reduction (NDRR) grant program**

The National Disaster Risk Reduction (NDRR) grant program is established under a National Partnership Agreement (NPA) on Disaster Risk Reduction (2019-2024). It seeks to proactively reduce the risk and limit the impact of disasters associated with natural hazards on Western Australian communities and economies.

#### **All-West Australians Reducing Emergencies (AWARE) grant program.**

The All-West Australians Reducing Emergencies (AWARE) grant program for 2024-25 will **open at 8 am, 20 May 2024 and close at 12 noon, 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024.**

Funding:

- The 2024 round has a total allocation of \$200,000.

- Projects could apply for between \$2,500 – \$35,000 (no GST applied), including local level risk assessment projects.
- Applicants must contribute at least 25 percent of the total project cost in cash and/ or in-kind.

Eligible project types:

- Furthering the emergency risk management process
- Facilitating capability-based exercises
- Assistance in reviewing Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA)
- Delivering emergency management training, events, or forums

How to apply:

- All applications must be submitted through the [online portal](#) available on the [SEMC Website](#).
- A sample application is available on [SEMC Website](#) for reference only.

Successful AWARE grant recipients from previous rounds can be found at:

<https://www.wa.gov.au/system/files/2022-11/AWARE-recipients-2022-23.pdf>

Further information on AWARE grant programs is available at <https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/state-emergency-management-committee/apply-grant-the-all-west-australians-reducing-emergencies-aware-program>

### **The Disaster Ready Fund (DRF)**

The Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) is an Australian Government initiative that will deliver up to \$200 million in funding over five years from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2028, to fund projects that support natural disaster resilience and risk reduction.

**The Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) – Round Two applications closed on Wednesday 20 March 2024.**

Please contact [semc.grants@dfes.wa.gov.au](mailto:semc.grants@dfes.wa.gov.au) for further information on the grant programs.

## 2024 SEMC MEETING SCHEDULE

- 7 August 2024
- 2 October 2024
- 4 December 2024

**Complied by: Charlotte Powis**  
**District Emergency Management Advisor**  
**Great Southern**  
**Department of Fire and Emergency Services**



**LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISOR REPORT  
August to October 2024**

**STATE NEWS**

The last meeting of the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) was held 8 May 2024 with the next meeting scheduled for 7 August 2024, followed by the 2 October 2024. SEMC Communiques can be found [here](#).

**STATE CONSULTATION REQUESTS**

**Review - State Hazard Plan Fire – DFES**

The Department of Fire and Emergency (DFES) is progressing a comprehensive review of the State Hazard Plan - Fire. This strategic level plan provides an overview of arrangements for the management of fire emergencies in Western Australia.

Initial feedback was requested from internal DFES stakeholders and agencies with roles and responsibilities within the State Hazard Plan. All local governments were requested to join this initial consultation period.

The amended Plan is now available for broad emergency management stakeholder review and feedback.

For further information and to provide feedback go to the [State Hazard Plan - Fire consultation webpage](#).

**Please submit your feedback by close of business Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024.**

**Review - State Recovery Arrangements in the EM Framework – DFES**

The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) is undertaking a review of state level recovery coordination and governance arrangements provided in the State Emergency Management Framework.

The purpose of the review is to better define when and how the state government will provide recovery coordination support to local governments and communities following emergencies. This will include clarifying the role, membership, responsibilities and accountability of key state level recovery coordination positions and groups and the DFES Resilience and Recovery Portfolio.

The review will not change the role and responsibilities currently held by local government under the *Emergency Management Act 2005* and State Emergency Management Framework, however it will clarify the circumstances and arrangements for state support to local governments and/or involvement of a state appointed recovery coordinator.

Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements are **not** a focus of this review.

**Local Government Focus Group Sessions**

As part of the review, DFES have conducted 2 focus group sessions in June with local government representatives that have recent disaster recovery experience. The purpose of the focus group sessions was to test the policy options and obtain preliminary feedback to inform the review.

All local governments and the emergency management sector will have the opportunity to review the proposed changes and provide feedback via a formal three-month consultation period later this year. The consultation period will include a program of webinars and engagement sessions for local government.



Following the consultation period, proposed amendments will be presented to SEMC for consideration.

### **Review – State Support Plan- Animal Welfare in Emergencies**

Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development is undertaking a comprehensive review of [State Support Plan – Animal Welfare in Emergencies](#). The purpose of the State Support Plan - Animal Welfare is to provide the community of Western Australia, including emergency services and the animal management sector, with a document that integrates arrangements for animal welfare with the State's formal management arrangements to ensure that animals are planned for and their welfare is appropriately addressed in any emergency.

The DFES State Emergency Management Policy Branch is now seeking broad stakeholder feedback on the proposed amendments and welcomes other questions or comments you have in relation to this Plan via [Engage WA Emergency Management](#).

### **The consultation period closed the 12 August 2024.**

SEMC have also approved an extension for the comprehensive review of:

- State Hazard Plan – Energy Supply Disruption (to August 2024)
- State Hazard Plan – Human Biosecurity (to December 2024).

## **STATE ADVICE**

### **Amendments to State Emergency Management documents**

DFES has completed the periodical comprehensive review of the State Hazard Plan – Hazardous Materials Emergencies (HAZMAT). The term 'hazardous materials' was removed from the title to reduce the confusion between the definition of a 'hazardous substance' within the *Emergency Management Act 2005* and the definition of 'hazardous materials' in the *Fire Brigades Act 1942*, and the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1988*. The plan is now known as State Hazard – HAZMAT.

DFES has amended the State Hazard Plan - Fire and State Hazard Plan - Severe Weather following further implementation of the Australian Warning System framework across cyclone, flood and storm warnings.

Consequential amendments to the Local Recovery Guideline and resources were redesigned to increase accessibility of the documents and bring the documents in line with the West Australian Government's accessibility and inclusivity standard. Please note the DFES State Recovery Team has initiated a comprehensive review process to further review this guideline as more substantial amendments were required to meet the current recovery needs. Local governments do not need to amend their current plans to match these revised documents.

The WA Police Force has amended the State Hazard Plan – Hostile Act, and State Hazard Plan – Terrorist Act to incorporate the consequential statement of fact amendments as a result of removing chemical, biological, and radiation (CBR) emergency from State Hazard Plan – HAZMAT. As described in State Hazard Plan – HAZMAT, DFES will continue to provide a HAZMAT (chemical, radiological or other substance) capability to hostile act or terrorist act incidents managed by the WA Police Force.

### **The 2023 Emergency Preparedness Report**

The 2023 Emergency Preparedness Report has now been released. This report is a snapshot in time of the level of emergency management capability and preparedness we have, as a state, to manage before, during and after emergency events. It highlights our strengths, weaknesses and areas for improvement statewide, and combines the input from about 170 agencies.



## **Local Emergency Management Committee Handbook and useful tools**

The [LEMC handbook](#) provides local governments with a summary of the actions and best practice principles as required under section 38 – 40 of the Emergency Management Act 2005, State Emergency Management Policy, procedures, and guidelines.

The LEMC Handbook provides a summary of the WA emergency management arrangements, key roles, and responsibilities and best practice advice for the administration of LEMC.

The Handbook also includes sample LEMC Terms of Reference and Meeting Agenda templates, which can be downloaded from the SEMC website.

## **Australian Warning System (AWS)**

Western Australia has adopted national consistency for cyclone, storm and flood warnings through the [Australian Warning System \(AWS\)](#). The wet weather hazards join bushfire and heatwave in using the AWS colours, icons and warning levels. Warnings also feature an action statement in the headline, giving clear advice to the community about how to stay safe.

## **Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements**

Natural disasters or terrorist acts can result in large-scale expenditure in the form of emergency and recovery assistance. To assist with this financial burden, the Australian and Western Australian governments have joint arrangements in place to provide financial assistance in certain circumstances. These arrangements are referred to as the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements Western Australia (DRFAWA) and are administered by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) on behalf of the WA State Government.

Recovery from disasters is a shared responsibility between individuals, households, businesses, communities and governments. The arrangements are designed as a safety net when costs to undertake recovery activities from an eligible disaster become significant.

For assistance to be made available under the DRFAWA, the event must meet all three of the following criteria:

1. The event was one or a combination of the ten specified disasters including bushfire, earthquake, flood, storm, cyclone, storm surge, landslide, tsunami, meteorite strike, tornado; or the event was a terrorist act.
2. A coordinated, multi-agency response was required.
3. Eligible expenditure relating to emergency assistance, damage to essential public assets and/or other eligible assistance provided in relation to the event exceeds \$240,000 across the affected local government areas.

For more information go to <https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/recovery-funding>

For any queries, please email [drfawa@dfes.wa.gov.au](mailto:drfawa@dfes.wa.gov.au) or call 1800 920 659.

## **DISTRICT NEWS**

The next Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee meeting is scheduled for 16<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

Two regional bushfire exercises will be held in the lead up to this bushfire season. Great Southern was held in August. The Upper Great Southern exercise will be held in October to test Incident Management Team (IMT) capability and readiness prior to the high threat period.

### LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Please check the due date for your five-yearly LEMA reviews and allow a minimum of six months to complete the LEMA review process. Funding opportunities are available to assist with LEMA reviews.

#### **The Local Emergency Management Arrangements Improvement Program**

Building on the previous work of the LEMA Review, the LEMA Improvement Program will continue working toward the goal of a more capable and resilient community, through a local approach to emergency management. To deliver on the commitment of a sector-led LEMA improvement process, the WA Local Government Association (WALGA) is partnering with SEMC. WALGA will work on behalf of local government, making sure that the sector is consulted, and their feedback guides the reform of local emergency management.

The projects that make up the LEMA Improvement Program will be fulfilled in phases. Phase 1 has commenced, with the following key activities underway:

- LEMA pilot program development
- Recruitment for a resource to undertake the local government emergency management policy work
- Setting up governance structures and groups.

***Given the timeframes of the program please don't delay in preparing any LEMA that are due or nearly due for their 5-year review.***

#### **District Emergency and Local Emergency Management Committees Review**

In May 2022 SEMC meeting, members approved a review of the roles of District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC) and Local Emergency Management Committees (LEMC).

For more information go to:

<https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/state-emergency-management-committee/review-district-and-local-emergency-management-committees>

### GRANT PROGRAM UPDATES

The State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) oversees the distribution of grant funding to support activities that reduce disaster risk and enhance WA's resilience to disasters.

Information on funding opportunities can be found [here](#).

## 2024 SEMC MEETING SCHEDULE

- 7 August 2024
- 4 December 2024
- 2 October 2024

**Complied by: Charlotte Powis**  
**District Emergency Management Advisor**  
**Great Southern**  
**Department of Fire and Emergency Services.**



# Department of Communities

## Emergency Relief and Support

### LEMC Report Great Southern – 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2024-25

#### Regional Relief and Support Officer – Great Southern

1. Vivienne Gardiner commenced as the Regional Coordinator Emergency Relief and Support – Great Southern in July 2024. Vivienne is based in Albany and her contact details are: 0403 906 639 or [vivienne.gardiner@communities.wa.gov.au](mailto:vivienne.gardiner@communities.wa.gov.au)
2. Vivienne is currently updating the contact information in the Local Emergency Relief and Support Plans (LERSP). If there are any updates, you wish to be included please contact her.
3. The audits of the Primary Evacuation Centres for each Shire were undertaken in 2023 any outstanding audits will be completed prior to the high threat period in December.
4. The Emergency Evacuation Centre Training has been revised. Vivienne is currently scheduling training and is keen to schedule training sessions with the respective Local Governments. Where possible, training will be held in the designated evacuation centres to provide hands-on experience.
5. Exercising - please ensure that any exercises that occur that the Department of Communities are invited. We would be happy to consider an inject to this exercise if it is appropriate. Vivienne has participated in several exercises including a bushfire exercise in Ravensthorpe in late September.
6. Several LGs in Western Australia (WA) were successful in applying for Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) to support the improvement of their facilities used as evacuation centres. Communities had the opportunity to review LGs applications for the Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) provided to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES). All applications were considered suitable to progress for further consideration in the DRF process.

**In an emergency, please contact the Emergency Relief and Support On-Call number:**

**0418 943 835**

# LEMC & DEMC report – July 2024

## Contents

<b>LEMC &amp; DEMC report – July 2024</b> .....	<b>1</b>
Responses – declared incidents .....	2
National alerts and investigations .....	4
Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFAWA) .....	4
Other preparedness/recovery activities .....	6
Animal Welfare in Emergencies.....	6
Training .....	7
DPIRD Internal opportunities.....	7
External opportunities .....	7
Feedback .....	8

- DPIRD's role in emergency management**
- DPIRD is the Hazard Management Agency (HMA) for animal and plant pests and disease incursions. Refer to the [State Hazard Plan: Animal and Plant Biosecurity](#) for information on DPIRD's legislated roles and responsibilities.
  - DPIRD is the executor of the State Support Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies. This includes livestock, horses, and companion animals. Refer to the [State Support Plan: Animal Welfare in Emergencies](#) for information on DPIRD's legislated roles and responsibilities.
  - DPIRD may from time to time provide support to other agencies where requested. This includes administering some components of the [Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA](#).

## Responses – declared incidents

DPIRD is currently managing 6 level 1 and 2 incidents in relation to plant pests/diseases and aquatic pests/diseases. Nil animal pest/disease incidents.

Pest or disease (level)	Status	Affected areas	Required actions
African Black Sugar Ant (2)	A pest of national significance, and all known infestations are under eradication	Maddington, Welshpool, Fremantle, Wattleup, Forrestdale, Hazelmere, Maida Vale, Jandakot, Balcatta, Kenwick, Narrogin	Refer to information, including how to identify the pest, on the <a href="#">African black sugar ant page</a> of DPIRD's website.  Report any suspected infestations to our Pest and Disease Information Service (PaDIS) via the <a href="#">MyPestGuide App</a> or contacting 08 9368 3080.

<p>Browsing ant (2)</p>	<p>A national eradication program is underway to tackle the Perth, Darwin and Brisbane infestations.</p>	<p>Perth Airport, Belmont, Kewdale, Welshpool.</p> <p>Infestations also are also present in Darwin and Brisbane.</p>	<p>Refer to information, including how to identify the pest, on the <a href="#">Browsing ant</a> of DPIRD's website.</p> <p>If you suspect a sighting, do not move ants on goods or vehicles. They are often moved in shipping containers, soil, mulch, fertiliser, and other plant material.</p> <p>Report any suspected infestations to our Pest and Disease Information Service (PaDIS) via the <a href="#">MyPestGuide App</a> or contacting 08 9368 3080.</p>
<p>Polyphagous shot hole borer (PSHB) (2)</p>	<p>DPIRD's largest biosecurity response currently. An extensive eradication program is currently underway and covers much of the Perth metro area.</p>	<p>25 LGAs are affected by PSHB. Refer to the quarantine area notice on the <a href="#">PSHB page</a> of our website for the full list.</p>	<p>A quarantine area notice (QAN) is in place for 25 LGAs. The movement of wood and plant material outside of the quarantine is prohibited.</p> <p>PSHB poses a significant risk to our urban tree canopy. It is important that impacted LGAs stay up to date with the latest information. Refer to our <a href="#">PSHB page</a> for detailed information.</p> <p>Report any suspected infestations to our Pest and Disease Information Service (PaDIS) via the <a href="#">MyPestGuide App</a> or contacting 08 9368 3080.</p>
<p>Red dwarf honeybee (RDHB) (2)</p>	<p>A pest of national significance. DPIRD is working to eradicate the pest.</p>	<p>Burrup Peninsula (Karratha)</p>	<p>Learn how to spot colonies on our <a href="#">red dwarf honeybee page</a>.</p> <p>A quarantine area notice (QAN) is in place for the Burrup Peninsula to support eradication. Bee keepers with hives, equipment, or those who have collected swarms are not permitted to move them outside the quarantine area.</p> <p>Members of the public and workers in the area are encouraged to report sightings. Those working in ports or dealing with imported goods are encouraged to report sightings.</p> <p>Report any suspected infestations to our Pest and Disease Information Service (PaDIS) via the <a href="#">MyPestGuide App</a> or contacting 08 9368 3080.</p>

<p>Carpet sea squirt (2)</p>	<p>An invasive marine pest that can overgrow native species and increase biofouling of commercial and recreational vessels.</p> <p>In early 2024, eradication of this pest was determined to be no longer feasible. DPIRD will continue to actively manage the pest, with the aim to minimise spread through WA.</p>	<p>Australian Marine Complex – common user facility</p> <p>Quarantine area notice revoked on 15/03/2024.</p>	<p>Learn about the pest, and how to prevent the spread, on our <a href="#">carpet sea squirt page</a>.</p> <p>Boaters, fishers, and divers can assist in stopping the spread of marine pests and diseases by keeping boats, trailers, wetsuits, and equipment clean.</p>
------------------------------	--	--	--

## National alerts and investigations

Responses to outbreaks of H7 high pathogenicity avian influenza is currently underway in Victoria, New South Wales, and the ACT. Note that this is not the H5 strain that are currently causing concern globally. DPIRD is monitoring the situation and undertaking preparedness activities. DPIRD is also providing personnel and resources to support jurisdictions with confirmed outbreaks. Poultry producers and owners are encouraged to view our [avian influenza page](#) for information on preparedness and detection.

## Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFAWA)

The **Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFAWA)** provides a range of measures designed to help those within disaster affected communities. Full details are available on the [DPIRD website](#), [current rounds page](#), and [DFES recovery funding](#) . Below are active DRFAWA grants:

Grant	Eligible LGA	Description
<p>AGRN1044 Ex TC Ellie - Environment Heritage and Culture Flexible Grants Category D</p>	<p>Shires of Broome, Derby-West Kimberley, Halls Creek, Wyndham-East Kimberly</p>	<p>To provide funding for projects that are focused on recovering environments, heritage, and cultural assets that were impacted by the floods associated with ex-tropical cyclone Ellie.</p> <p><b>Submissions close 31/12/24.</b></p>

<p>AGRN1113 Tropical Low and Associated Flooding in WA (21-27 January 2024) Category B</p>	<p>Shires of East Pilbara, Laverton, Leonora, Meekatharra, Menzies, Sandstone, Wiluna</p>	<p>Assistance for primary producers – to support producers who need assistance due to damage from an eligible disaster. Covers professional advice, freight subsidy, interest rate subsidy, and fencing subsidy.</p> <p><b>Submissions close 12/09/2024</b></p>
<p>AGRN1118 TC Lincoln and Associated Flooding in WA (19-25 Feb 2024) - Category B</p>	<p>Shires of Carnarvon and Halls Creek</p>	<p>Assistance for primary producers – to support producers who need assistance due to damage from an eligible disaster. Covers professional advice, freight subsidy, interest rate subsidy, and fencing subsidy.</p> <p><b>Submissions close 02/10/2024</b></p>
<p>AGRN1120 - Storms &amp; Assoc Flooding (7 March 2024 Onwards) - Category B</p>	<p>Shires of Coolgardie, Dunda, Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Laverton, Leonora, Menzies, Ngaanyatjarraku, Wiluna</p>	<p>Assistance for primary producers – to support producers who need assistance due to damage from an eligible disaster. Covers professional advice, freight subsidy, interest rate subsidy, and fencing subsidy.</p> <p><b>Submissions close 30/09/2024</b></p>
<p>AGRN1123 Tropical Low and Associated Flooding in the Shire of East Pilbara (4-11 March 2024) - Category B</p>	<p>Shire of East Pilbara</p>	<p>Assistance for primary producers – to support producers who need assistance due to damage from an eligible disaster. Covers professional advice, freight subsidy, interest rate subsidy, and fencing subsidy.</p> <p><b>Submissions close 30/09/2024</b></p>
<p>AGRN1124 Storm and Tornado in the City of Bunbury in WA (10 May 2024) - Category B</p>	<p>City of Bunbury</p>	<p>Assistance for primary producers – to support producers who need assistance due to damage from an eligible disaster. Covers professional advice, freight subsidy, interest rate subsidy, and fencing subsidy.</p> <p><b>Submissions close 16/11/2024</b></p>



AGRN1130 - Storm in the South West Region of WA (1-2 June 2024)	City of Bunbury and Shire of Dardanup	Assistance for primary producers – to support producers who need assistance due to damage from an eligible disaster. Covers professional advice, freight subsidy, interest rate subsidy, and fencing subsidy.  <b>Submissions close 20/12/2024</b>
---	---------------------------------------	--

## Other preparedness/recovery activities

- DPIRD continues to develop their training pathway to build inhouse training capabilities.
- DPIRD’s Incident and Emergency Management Branch continues to monitor the Avian Influenza outbreaks in the Eastern States. Preparedness activities have begun including planning with our Animal Biosecurity and Welfare teams, and procurement of necessary equipment as a precaution.

## Animal Welfare in Emergencies

DPIRD is the executor of the State Support Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies (AWiE). Please note the following important notices regarding AWiE for district and local representatives:

- **Local governments are encouraged to have a Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies (PAWE) in place. It is an important part of all-hazard planning as research has shown that animals will influence people’s decision-making and behaviour during emergencies.** Refer to the [animal welfare](#) section of our website for resources, support, and contacts. Local governments can reach out to our Incident and Emergency Management Branch if they require advice and support for the development of their PAWE (contact [iemb@dpiird.wa.gov.au](mailto:iemb@dpiird.wa.gov.au) ).
- DPIRD’s Incident and Emergency Management Branch is undertaking preparedness and response activities where activated under the [State Support Plan - Animal Welfare in Emergencies](#).

## Training

### DPIRD Internal opportunities

DPIRD is in the process of developing its emergency management training pathway. Stay tuned for information on courses as they become available.

#### **Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System (AIIMS) Awareness**

An in house facilitated course which covers the principles, processes, and applications of the Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System (AIIMS). The AIIMS system is the framework used by most emergency management agencies. Register for a session via [Progi](#) or contact [iem.learninganddevelopment@dpird.wa.gov.au](mailto:iem.learninganddevelopment@dpird.wa.gov.au). Please note due to licensing requirements this is only available to DPIRD staff.

**Progi modules** – we recommend completing the below Progi eLearning modules:

- Introduction to Western Australian Emergency Management Arrangements
- District and Local Emergency Management Committee Representation
- Animal Welfare in Emergencies (AWiE)
- Overview of DPIRD National Biosecurity Emergency Management Responsibilities
- Overview WA Impact Statement and Recovery Arrangement

#### **Further information**

If you would like further information on training opportunities, or have any suggestions please contact [iem.learninganddevelopment@dpird.wa.gov.au](mailto:iem.learninganddevelopment@dpird.wa.gov.au).

### External opportunities

#### **Animal Health Australia (AHA) and Plant Health Australia (PHA) online training:**

Free online programs are available to staff through the [AHA](#) and [PHA](#) websites. Staff are encouraged to complete these courses relating to the preparedness, arrangements, and biosecurity for emergency animal diseases or plant pests and diseases.

## Feedback

**Continuous improvement** is a key principle of the [State Emergency Management Arrangements](#). If you have any feedback regarding to content of this report, or anything else relating to your role as DEMC/LEMC representative, please complete below and send this back to the sender of this report.

*Include your feedback here*

### Important Disclaimer

The Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and the State of Western Australia accept no liability whatsoever by reason of negligence or otherwise arising from the use or release of this information or any part of it.

Copyright © State of Western Australia (Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development), 2024.