



# SEMC Communiqué

The SEMC met on 5 October 2018. The Key discussion areas from the meeting are summarised below.

## PRESENTATION – 2018 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS REPORT

- The *Emergency Preparedness Report* is prepared annually by the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC). Delivery of the Emergency Preparedness Report fulfils the SEMC functions under section 14a of the *Emergency Management Act 2005*.
- Mr Andrew Sanders, Director Risk, Capability and Analysis, DFES provided a presentation on the key findings within the *Report*. The presentation and *Report* was well received by the SEMC members.
- The key themes of the *Report* relate to inevitability, foreseeability and responsibility. The *Report* has been informed by the input of almost 170 individual agencies.
- SEMC endorsed the *Report* for publication and submission to the Minister for Emergency Services.

## TRANSPORTATION OF HAZARDOUS GOODS

Following SEMC Resolution 62/2018, DFES has undertaken further analysis of the greater hazardous material transportation issue and has recognised that assistance will be required from the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS), as the legislative authority and others, to help prepare a more comprehensive paper on this matter.

## CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The SEMC:

- Approved the minutes of recent SEMC ordinary and out of session meetings.
- Noted a paper concerning establishing a whole-of-government network of personnel for incident management resulting from Recommendation 7 of the “Report of the Special Inquiry into the January 2016 Waroona Fire”.
- Noted the progress of the implementation of the Ferguson Report recommendations and opportunities for improvement.
- Noted the extension of Interim State Hazard Plan – Fire review to May 2019.
- Noted the extension of State Hazard Plan – Human Biosecurity review to May 2019.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICER UPDATE

### ***Risk:***

- The risk team have continued State Risk project work, including local level roll outs, with over 100 local governments having the pre-briefs and commencing the process.

### ***Capability:***

- At the July 2018 meeting, the Response Capability Subcommittee supported the Water Corporation’s request to be a user and contributor to State Crisis Information Management System (WebFusion). The joint Commonwealth/State Annual Preparedness Briefing was held on 4 September 2018, with 39 attendees from WA (across various organisations/agencies) and 8 attendees representing the Commonwealth.

### ***Recovery:***

- DFES Recovery Directorate has been established and the new structure has been endorsed by the FES Commissioner. The new structure provides increased and improved capacity to support and build capacity of local government and stakeholders to improve recovery outcomes. Increased resources also provide the additional support to implement and manage both disaster-funding arrangements in WA- WANDRRA and DRFA-WA.
- The new Disaster Relief Funding Arrangements (DRFA) are due to commence on 1 November 2018.
- DFES Recovery staff are undertaking presentations across the State to local governments and state agencies to communicate the upcoming changes.

### ***Assurance:***

- Discussions with the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) concerning the OAG managing assurance activities on a fee for service basis continue.
- Emergency Management Lessons Management framework - A discussion paper was circulated for consideration by agencies to provide commentary by 31st October 2018 to SEMC.Policylegislation@dfes.wa.gov.au. Feedback will be collated and the final proposal

presented to the Response Capability Subcommittee for endorsement at the 14th November 2018 meeting prior to submission to SEMC for approval in December 2018.

***Governance:***

- Development of the State Emergency Animal Welfare Plan continues with the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. Feedback has been received and is being collated. It is anticipated that the plan will be presented for SEMC approval in December 2018.
- As of September 2018, of the 40 recommendations and opportunities for improvement, 34 Ferguson Report recommendations and opportunities for improvement were completed, and 6 are in progress.

***Investment:***

**Mitigation Activity Fund (MAF)**

- The first round of MAF funding for 2018-19 competitive grants was announced 14 September, providing \$3.3 million to the local governments for the delivery of eligible treatments across regional WA.
- An additional competitive grant round will be called in October, seeking to support activities that build the fire management capacity and overall resilience of regional communities for local governments.

**National Partnership Agreement (NPA)**

- The next round of Natural Disaster Resilience Program (NDRP) competitive grants, based on existing carry-over funding to June 2018, are to be called in October 2018.

***Other:***

- National Fire Danger Rating System – A funding program to build and maintain a new national system is underway.
- Emergency Alert - Negotiations are continuing to maintain the existing system and implement an updated system continue at the national level.
- Emergency - Public Safety Mobile Broadband (PSMB) - Negotiations to secure appropriate spectrum for advanced data and voice systems in support of public safety communications continue at the national level.
- The 2018 East Asia Summit (EAS) International Disaster Assistance Workshop was held from 8-10 May 2018 in Perth, WA. The aim of the Workshop was to explore the application of the Toolkit for requesting and offering international disaster assistance in response to a catastrophic disaster in a non-ASEAN EAS participating country, and to further strengthen rapid disaster response arrangements across the region. The workshop was regarded as a great success.

## **LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

The SEMC acknowledged and noted 8 local emergency management arrangements from the following local governments:

1. Shire of Meekatharra
2. Shire of Morawa
3. Shire of Murchison
4. Shire of Perenjori
5. Shire of Laverton
6. Shire of Bruce Rock
7. Shire of Victoria Plains
8. Shire of Moora

## **SEMC MEETINGS**

The next SEMC meetings is scheduled for 7 December 2018.

For SEMC related information or enquiries, please email [info@semc.wa.gov.au](mailto:info@semc.wa.gov.au).