



SEMC Communiqué

The State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) met on 13 December 2019. The key discussion items and resolutions from the meeting are summarised below.

Presentations

- Mr Paul Harrison, National Emergency Manager for Telstra, along with his colleagues, presented to the SEMC on Telstra's emergency management capability and processes. Following discussion Telstra undertook to work with Hazard Management Agencies to improve communications during emergencies and outages.

General Update

- SEMC received briefings on matters of interest including the fires in New South Wales and Queensland, the Yanchep Fire, Red Imported Ant Outbreak, the Heatwave and the Wivenhoe Dam decision.
- State Emergency Management Committee noted the [Fuel Reduction Activities in Western Australia. Summary of 2017-18 report](#). Highlights of the report include:
 - A total of 9.1 million hectares of planned burning; and
 - 65 thousand hectares and more than 1800 kilometres of other fuel reduction activities.
 - An increased number of local governments and agencies actively engaged in bushfire mitigation activities.
- SEMC noted Local Emergency Management Arrangements from six Shires:
 - Shire of Chapman Valley
 - Shire of Three Springs
 - Shire of Mingenew
 - Shire of Upper Gascoyne

- Shire of Wyalkatchem
- Shire of Dowerin
- SEMC approved a SEMC Agenda Item Submission Handbook which will soon be published on the website. This has been collated to support members, agencies and committees as they provide information to SEMC for decision making, compliance or noting purposes. It is hoped the Handbook will assist stakeholders understand how to best communicate with SEMC and support information flows from Subcommittees, Reference Groups and DEMCs.
- SEMC endorsed the development of a WA Implementation Plan for [the National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework](#). The implementation plan will meet the requirements of the Commonwealth and be scalable to support future investment and allow granularity to be added as implementation occurs. Consultation will commence in early 2020 to support the development.
- Cyber Security was supported to be progressed to a State Hazard Plan to allow for consultation with relevant Controlling Agencies, the Western Australian Local Government Association and other relevant stakeholders.
- The Western Australian Local Government Association brought to the SEMCs attention some of the issues identified through feedback from WALGA members regarding the current Local Emergency Management Arrangement (LEMA) process. SEMC approved a sector led review of the LEMA. Scoping will commence early 2020.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER UPDATE

The Executive Officer update summarised key outcomes since the last meeting that impact on emergency management within Western Australia.

- The SEMC Chair and Executive Officer, supported by Dr Heather Taylor and Ms Stephanie Underwood, attended a public hearing for the Climate Health WA Inquiry. A transcript will be made available [here](#).
- The SEMC approved a review of the State Risk Project prior to commencing phase 5. The project was commenced in 2013 and was designed to gain a comprehensive and consistent understanding of the risks faced at state, district and local levels. The review will assess how to move forward with the knowledge and data collated.

SEMC MEETINGS

The next SEMC meetings is scheduled for 6 March 2020.

For SEMC related information or enquiries, please email info@semc.wa.gov.au.