

LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

13 JUNE 2023

These minutes were confirmed by Local Emergency Management Committee as a true and correct record of proceedings by the Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting held on 28/11/23


Presiding Member:  Date: 28/11/23

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1.06.23 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ATTENDANCE

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 5.30pm.

Committee Members (Voting)

Tamara Lilly	Councillor (Chair)
June Harwood	Baptistcare – Kalkarni
Brad Fredericks	Brookton Police
Merilyn Marchesi	Brookton CWA
Anna Erickson	DPIRD (via teams)
Rodney Thornton	RoadWise (WALGA)
Adam Whitford	Department of Fire and Emergency Services
Michele Duxbury	Department of Communities
Karen Tabner	Brookton District High School
Cliff Fishlock	Brookton – St Johns Ambulance

Staff (Non-Voting)

Gary Sherry	Chief Executive Officer
Sandie Spencer	Local Recovery Coordinator/Executive Governance Officer
Jason Carrall	Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM)

Apologies received

Katrina Crute	Shire President
Phillip Crute	Brookton - St Johns Ambulance
David Johnstone	Brookton Police

2.06.23 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

LEMC 6.23-01

LEMC RESOLUTION

MOVED A. Whitford SECONDED J. Harwood

That the minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee meeting held in the Shire of Brookton Council Chambers, on 14th March 2023, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

CARRIED

3.06.23 PRESENTATIONS

4.06.23 STANDING ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED AT EACH MEETING

4.06.23.01 UPDATE OF CONTACTS AND RESOURCES REGISTER

Member agencies are required to review the document and provide details of required updates before next meeting.

- Any changes required for the current contacts and resources register?

4.06.23.02 CHANGE OF POSITION/LEAVE AND ACTING ARRANGEMENTS – NOTIFICATION

1. Delegates & Proxy's:

Organisation	Delegate	Proxy
Baptistcare	June Harwood	Nil
WAPOL	David Johnstone	Brad Fredericks
Dept. Communities	Michele Duxbury	Joanne Spadaccini
Brookton Bushfire Brigade	CBFCO - Murray Hall	D/CBFCO - Travis Eva
BDHS	Karen Tabner	Kris Dewson-Hall
St Johns	Bronwyn Herne	
St Johns - Brookton	Phillip Crute	Cliff Fishlock
DFES	Adam Whitford	Blake Halford
DPIRD	Anna Erickson	
RoadWise	Rodney Thornton	Nil
SilverChain	Jo-Ann De Marchi	
Brookton VFRS	Scott Atkins	William Wilkinson
Shire of Brookton	SP - Katrina Crute	
Brookton CWA	Merilyn Marchesi	

4.06.23.03 INCIDENT SUPPORT GROUP ACTIVATIONS

Nil.

4.06.23.04 RISK PROFILE CHANGE

Nil.

4.06.23.05 LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Nil.

4.06.23.06 LOCAL RECOVERY PLAN

The Local Recovery Plan Draft to be distributed at September meeting.

4.06.23.07 REPORT AND/OR DEBRIEF ON ANY LEMC EXERCISE(S)

Development and Approval of next financial year LEMC exercise scheduled (to be forwarded to relevant DEMC)

5.06.23 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil.

5.06.23.01 LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS – CORRESPONDENCE

Nil.

6.06.23 GENERAL BUSINESS

6.06.23.01 25 MARCH 2023 – STORM DAMAGE - DISASTER RECOVERY FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS

The State Government has announced that the Shires of Beverley and Brookton are eligible for assistance through the jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA). The Shires were impacted by an intense storm and associated flooding in late March this year and can now access disaster recovery funding.

Under these DRFA arrangements, assistance can be provided to eligible impacted individuals, small businesses, primary producers, state agencies and local governments. Assistance includes support for temporary living expenses, housing repairs, concessional loans for small businesses and farmers, freight subsidies and help for Councils to undertake emergency road repairs.

Staff are now able to prepare an application for recovery funding to the DRFA. This work will be completed by a contractor. Staff will investigate if there are any benefits in working with the Shire of Beverley.

With approval of this application, Council can commence the process of repairs, again by external contractors.

7.06.23 ATTENDEE REPORTS AROUND THE ROOM

- **Adam Whitford – DFES**
 - Nil.

- **Jason Carrall – CESM**
 - Mitigation work is 95% work completed.
 - Golf Club
 - Forestry mulching – club house
 - Fire breaks
 - Burn will be carried over to next round.
 - Tip
 - Firebreaks
 - Forestry mulching around tip face.
 - Designated green waste pile.
 - All bridges have been completed – fuel loads were extensive.
 - Application has been submitted for next round of Mitigation funding.
 - West Brookton Bush Fire Brigade Shed – tender is out.
 - Training calendar is out – response has been poor.
 - LG's – standard of training before access to fireground.

- **Merilyn Marchesi – Brookton CWA**
 - Salvation Army Food Truck visit to Brookton. This was a fabulous experience, however there was little response from the community. Apologies for not inviting LEMC members.
 - Serve 50 people within half hour of set up.
 - All dietary requirements are catered for.
 - Woolworths donates food. Alternatively use Spudshed and Cost Co.
 - All left over food is donated to a soup kitchens.

- **Rodney Thornton – RoadWise**
 - Fatigue video.
 - Road Safety Performance Local Government Roads 2016 – 2020 Wheatbelt Region.
 - 70% fatalities – resulted from a simple mistake.
 - Road safety treatments with local governments and Main Roads.

- **Cliff Fishlock – Brookton – St Johns Ambulance**
 - Nil.

- **June Harwood – Baptistcare**
 - New CEO and integrated with ACT & NSW.

- **Brad Fredericks – WAPOL**
 - No applicants for Brookton position.

- **Anna Erickson – DPIRD**
 - Report - attachment 7.06.23.01

- **Karen Tabner– Brookton District High School**
 - Report - attachment 7.06.23.02



Department of
**Primary Industries and
 Regional Development**

Incident and Emergency Management

Agency Name:	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development		Date: May 2023
Report prepared by:	Helen Kent	Position:	Emergency Preparedness Coordinator – Incident & Emergency Management Branch
LEMC and DEMC report – May 2023			
<p>1. Declared incidents – DPIRD is managing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eight (8) declared level 1 and 2 incidents in relation to plant pests/diseases and aquatic pests/diseases • Nil animal pest/disease incidents <p>Queensland fruit fly</p> <p>The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) is working to stem the spread of the significant invasive pest, Queensland fruit fly (Qfly), after a recent confirmed detection in Bayswater.</p> <p>A level 2 incident was called on 1 March 2023 after several male Qfly were detected in a residential part of Bayswater, Perth. No Qfly have been detected in commercial areas or outside of the Perth metropolitan area at this time.</p> <p>Quarantine Area</p> <p>The Quarantine Area (QA) covers a 15 km radius from the Qfly detection points and includes Perth, Belmont, Gosnells, Kalamunda, Vincent, Joondalup, Swan, Wanneroo, Melville, Canning, Bayswater, South Perth, Subiaco, Stirling, Nedlands, Bassendean, Belmont, Claremont, Victoria Park, Cambridge and Mundaring. Please find the full Quarantine Area Notice this webpage https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/plant-biosecurity/biosecurity-alerts-queensland-fruit-fly-updates.</p> <p>The QA is divided into two main zones: the Corrective Action Zone and the Export Assurance Zone.</p>			

Corrective Action Zone

The Corrective Action Zone is the 1.5 km area surrounding each detection point.

Residents located within this zone are required to comply with the following QA requirements:

- Qfly host fruit cannot be removed from or moved within any part of the Corrective Action Zone, unless treated or processed (cooked, frozen or solarised).
- All ripe or ripening host fruit on plants or trees must be picked, and all fallen host fruit must be removed every three days.
- Fruit can be eaten, or must be treated, bagged and then binned in residential waste bins.
- Residents must provide DPIRD personnel access to their premises to inspect and bait host plants twice a week until further notice

Export Assurance Zone

The **Export Assurance Zone** covers the area in a 15 km radius from the detection point - the area of the QA that is not part of the Corrective Action Zone. The area will act as a buffer zone to further prevent further spread of the pest.

The requirements for the management of Qfly host fruit for this area are less stringent but commercially grown Qfly host fruit cannot move either within the QA or outside the QA unless it is treated.

Qfly is one of the most serious pests of fruit and vegetables in Australia, attacking over 300 species of fruit and vegetables and impacting a range of horticulture industries and access to valuable markets. While Qfly has been found in other areas of the country, Western Australia has remained free of the pest.

Further information is available at: [Queensland fruit fly \(Qfly\) updates | Agriculture and Food](#)

Carpet sea squirt (*Didemnum vexillum*)

Carpet sea squirt (CSS) is a highly invasive marine invertebrate animal that can overgrow and smother native species. It can overgrow rocks, shellfish, sea sponges and man-made structures such as wharves, jetty pylons, pontoons, buoys and vessels.

A level 2 incident was declared on 25 January 2023 in response to the detection of CSS in WA.

On 17 March 2023 a Quarantine Area Notice was put in place for the waters adjacent to the Australian Marine Complex Common User Facility at Henderson South.

The aim of the QAN is to:

- Manage the movement of vessels into the QA to minimise the spread of the pest.

- Strengthen the requirements for biofouling inspections and treatments for vessels that regularly operate in the Quarantine Area or have been in the Quarantine Area for a period of six days or more.

CSS has the potential to impact oyster and mussel aquaculture, marine environments, dive tourism industries as well as increasing maintenance costs for commercial and recreational vessels.

The aquatic pest has been detected in two locations in WA; Garden Island and at a marine facility in Henderson. The detection at Garden Island was the first confirmed detection in Australia.

[Biosecurity alerts: Carpet sea squirt | Agriculture and Food](#)

Polyphagous shot-hole borer

Polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB) *Euwallacea fornicatus* is a beetle native to Southeast Asia. The beetle attacks a wide range of plants by tunnelling into trunks, stems and branches.

DPIRD has been responding to the confirmed detections of an exotic beetle Polyphagous Shot-Hole Borer in the Perth metropolitan area.

Response activities include:

- Conducting surveillance to determine the distribution of PSHB
- Containing the pest to prevent further spread to non-infested regions within Western Australia
- Providing advice and information to residents, industry and other stakeholders
- Ensuring that all response activities are conducted safely, consistently and efficiently

To stop the spread, a Quarantine Area Notice (QAN) is in place to support the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development's ongoing surveillance program to determine the spread of the pest.

The Quarantine Area covers 25 local government areas. The new areas added to the expanded QAN on 21 March 2023 are:

- Beckenham, Canning Vale, Huntingdale, Kenwick, Langford, Maddington and Thornlie in the City of Gosnells
- Duncraig, Greenwood, Marmion, Sorrento and Warwick in the City of Joondalup
- Alexander Heights, Girrawheen, Koondoola and Marangaroo in the City of Wanneroo
- Ballajura, Beechboro, Bennett Springs, Dayton, Hazelmere, Kiara, Lockridge, Malaga, Middle Swan, Midland, Viveash, West Swan and Woodbridge in the City of Swan

- Forrestfield, High Wycombe, Perth Airport and Wattle Grove in the City of Kalamunda

Link to information about [Polyphagous shot-hole borer | Agriculture and Food](#)

2. State alerts and investigations

DPIRD is investigating four (4) pests or diseases.

3. National alerts & investigations

DPIRD and other state jurisdictions continue to monitor reported outbreaks of:

- **African Swine Fever** – countries in the Asia Pacific which have reported African Swine Flu since August 2018: China, Mongolia, Viet Nam, Cambodia, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Myanmar, The Philippines, Republic of Korea, Timor-Leste, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, India, Malaysia, Bhutan, Thailand, Nepal and Singapore
Link to information about African Swine Fever – situation update in Asia and Pacific: <https://www.fao.org/animal-health/situation-updates/asf-in-asia-pacific/en>
- **Lumpy Skin Disease** – Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand and Malaysia
- **Foot and Mouth Disease** – Indonesia

Information regarding Foot and Mouth Disease prevention is available on the WA government website: [Foot-and-mouth disease advice for Western Australians \(www.wa.gov.au\)](#)

Information is also available on the DPIRD website: [Foot-and-mouth disease: prevention and preparedness | Agriculture and Food](#)

Important to note that there are, currently, no known incidences of these diseases in Australia.

4. Ex TC Ellie (Kimberley Floods) – January 2023

DPIRD is providing support to affected communities, in relation to its areas of responsibility, in the recovery from the January flooding in the west Kimberley.

- The State Support Plan – Animal Welfare in Emergencies was formally activated on 9 January 2023 and remained activated until 3 May 2023 to provide support to the local government in relation to the coordination of animal welfare.

Recovery:

- Wheatbelt Development Commission CEO, Rob Cossart, has been appointed as the State Recovery Coordinator for the Kimberley floods.
- The State recovery structure, across the four recovery environments of Social, Economic, Built and Natural environment, has been formalised with appropriate State Government agencies leading the domains:
 - Social: Department of Communities
 - Economic: DPIRD
 - Built: Department of Treasury and Main Roads WA
 - Natural environment: DWER
- The Shire of Derby West Kimberley has established its local recovery group and relevant subcommittees which are:
 - Media
 - Getting Home
 - Cadjebut Airport
 - Pastoral
 - Social/Wellbeing
- DPIRD has provided a departmental representative on the Shire of Derby West Kimberley's local recovery group and relevant subcommittees.
- Dedicated DPIRD web page for affected primary producers outlining available assistance: [Kimberley flood recovery | Agriculture and Food](#)

Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA (DRFAWA):

Support measures are designed to assist in meeting the needs of primary producers whose assets or primary production business has/have been affected by a disaster for which DRFAWA has been invoked.

Category B - Assistance measures for primary producers may include grants for:

- Professional advice
 - Reimbursement of fees (maximum \$1,500) to obtain professional advice directly related to addressing issues arising from the declared natural disaster event
- Freight subsidy (reimbursement)
Primary producers can claim a maximum of 50% of the costs to the producer of transporting any of the following items as a direct result of a natural disaster:

- Livestock;
 - Fodder or water for livestock; or
 - Building or fencing equipment or machinery.
- Fencing (for livestock producers only)
Primary producers can claim 100% of the costs associated with any of the following:
 - restoration/replacement of fencing (to pre-disaster standard) where the fencing has been deliberately dismantled or damaged due to counter disaster operations activities undertaken in order to combat the eligible natural disaster event; and/or
 - reimbursement of the costs of materials only (to pre-disaster standard) to repair/replace boundary fencing damaged/lost as a direct result of the eligible natural disaster event. The measure is only available where the fencing adjoins a major road/rail transport corridor and where the roaming of livestock may present a danger to the travelling public (i.e., the aim being to preserve public safety).

The applicant must demonstrate to DPIRD's satisfaction that at the time of the natural disaster event the property was being used to hold or agist livestock.

- Expression of interest for interest subsidy on a new loan to recover
An interest rate subsidy may be available to primary producers for new loans:
 - to repair/replace assets lost or damaged / repair damage caused by the natural disaster event
 - for carry on purposes to implement the next season's production program
 - or to replace livestock lost in the disaster for which the assistance measures under the DRFAWA have been activated

Link to further information regarding available funding and relevant conditions: <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/emergency-response/disaster-recovery-funding-arrangements>

Category D – Exceptional circumstances:

Freight Assistance Program

- Purposes: The Commonwealth and WA State Government jointly funded Freight Subsidy Program is to assist with the ongoing exceptional freight requirements for businesses impacted by ex Tropical Cyclone Ellie (DRFA AGRN1044).
- Eligible applicants: Businesses located in, or delivering to, the four (4) DRFAWA activated local government districts which are the Shire of Broome, Shire of Derby West Kimberley, Shire of Halls Creek and the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley
- Funding duration: All claims must be submitted no later than two (2) months after a suitable road connection is re-established. Claims may be backdated for all freight movement that occurred on, or after, 1 January 2023

- DPIRD is the designated delivery agency for this funding

FAQs including details of eligibility: [Publications \(dfes.wa.gov.au\)](https://dfes.wa.gov.au)

DRFAWA Cat B and D assistance, the Department has approved as at 27 April 2023:

DRFA Measures	Under assessment	Approved	Approved \$
Category B	2	1	\$37,830.00
Category D	35	33	\$35,296.26

5. Severe Tropical Cyclone Seroja (Recovery funding)

DPIRD, through its Rural Business Development Unit, is managing Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA assistance to primary producers impacted by TC Seroja.

DRFAWA Cat B and C assistance the Department has approved as at 27 April 2023:

DRFA Measures	Under assessment	Approved	Approved \$
Category B	14	29	\$ 465,513.95
Category C	23	111	\$2,254,594.10

6. Staff emergency management training:

DPIRD has an ongoing schedule to deliver emergency management training and exercising in both metropolitan and regional areas.

The non-accredited training focusses on both the Department's Hazard Management Agency responsibilities in relation to animal and plant biosecurity and its support role to other HMAs in relation to animal welfare during emergencies.

Animal Health Australia and Plant Health Australia online training:

DPIRD staff are encouraged to undertake suitable online training which is available on the Animal Health Australia (AHA) and Plant Health Australia (PHA) websites.

Links to AHA and PHA:

[Home - Animal Health Australia](#)

[Plant Health Australia](#)

7. Animal welfare in emergencies grants program 2023

Grants are available for local government officers to attend the Animal Welfare in Emergencies training at the Muresk Institute. This training is administered by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and aims to enhance local government officers' skills and knowledge in safely dealing with animals during an emergency. The training focuses on livestock health, fauna handling, containment and transport, and includes a workshop about how to develop local animal welfare in emergencies plans.

Link to Animal Welfare in Emergencies training brochure: [FINAL 2023 incident response flyer-\(1\).pdf \(walga.asn.au\)](#)

Training dates:

June 7 - 9

June 14 -1 6

August 9 - 11

August 16 - 18

Applications open Thursday, 27 April 2023 and **close 4pm, Friday 19 May 2023.**

Link to application form: [Emergency Management | WALGA | WALGA](#)

8. DPIRD participation in fire and natural hazards during the natural hazard high season 2022 - 2023

Southern bushfire season – October to April

North West tropical cyclone season – November to April

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development has provided support to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services as the hazard management agency for bushfire, tropical cyclone, flood and storm which are the predominant natural hazards of the southern and northern natural hazards high season.

From 1 November to 31 March, annually, DPIRD appoints an On Call Coordinator.

On Call Coordinator hours of operation:
Monday to Sunday: 0700 – 2000

On Call Coordinator number: 9368 3132

In addition to the On Call Coordinator role, DPIRD appoints regionally-based on call officers for the DPIRD Christmas and New Year ‘close down’ period and up to the Monday of the third week of January.

Incidents and emergencies response and recovery which DPIRD was involved in during the 2022-2023 natural hazards high season

Namban Bushfire – 23 November 2022:

Local government: Shire of Moora

State Incident Level: 1

DPIRD field staff provided advice regarding the assessment of injured stock

Donnybrook-Balingup Complex Fire (Sandhill and Noggerup fires) – 10 January 2023:

Local government area: Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup

DPIRD activities:

- Supported the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup in the coordination of animal welfare including the assessment of injured stock
- Assistance to the Controlling Agency in relation to essential fruit pickers being able to access orchards to undertake picking on behalf of orchardists
- Contributed to the Controlling Agency’s Impact Statement
- DPIRD officer appointed to assist with recovery activities for which DPIRD has responsibility and expertise

Ex Tropical Cyclone Ellie (Kimberley floods) – 6 January 2023:

Local government area: Shire of Derby West Kimberley (Shires of Broome, Halls Creek and Wyndham East Kimberley in relation to freight in and out of the region)

State Incident Level: 3

State Support Plan – Animal Welfare in Emergencies formally activated

DPIRD activities:

- Representation on the DFES All Hazards Liaison Group and the State Emergency Coordination Group
- Representation on the Incident Support Group and the Kimberley Operational Area Support Group
- Animal welfare needs assessment and advice and support in relation to mitigation activities
- Contributed to the Controlling Agency's Impact Statement
- Representation on the Shire of Derby West Kimberley Local Recovery Group and relevant subcommittees
- DPIRD is the lead agency for the State Economic Domain and appointed liaison officers to sit on the State Social, Infrastructure and Natural Environment domains

Ravensthorpe Complex Fires – 23 February 2023:

Local government area: Shire of Ravensthorpe, Shire of Coolgardie, Shire of Esperance

State Incident Level 2

DPIRD activities:

- Representation on the operational area support group
- Provision of advice to the Controlling Agency regarding agricultural properties
- Contributed to the Controlling Agency's Impact Statement

Tropical Cyclone Ilsa – 9 April 2023:

Local government areas: Shire of Broome, Shire of East Pilbara and Town of Port Hedland

State Incident Level: 2

DPIRD activities:

- Representation on the DFES All Hazards Liaison Group and the State Emergency Coordination Group
- Representation on the Kimberley Operational Area Support Group
- Contributed to the Controlling Agency's Impact Statement in relation to agricultural impacts
- Representation on the Shire of East Pilbara Local Recovery Coordination Group

DPIRD's role in emergency management

DPIRD plays an important role in emergency management in Western Australia.

- Hazard Management Agency (HMA) for animal and plant biosecurity with responsibilities across prevention/mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. Link to State Hazard Plan – Animal and Plant Biosecurity: [State Hazard Plan Animal and Plant Biosecurity \(www.wa.gov.au\)](http://www.wa.gov.au)
- Provision of support to other HMAs by:
 - coordinating animal welfare for other hazard emergencies including during bushfires, cyclones and floods;
 - contributing to the Controlling Agency's impact statement in relation to impacts to primary producers, and other economic impacts through its regional development commissions across the state
 - managing eligible assistance for primary producers under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA and providing advice to primary producers in relation to this funding
 - providing professional expertise to primary industry producers and small business in a regional context

Animal Welfare in Emergencies

Local governments are encouraged to develop a plan for animal welfare in emergencies (PAWE) which forms part of the local emergency management arrangements (LEMA).

For tools and resources to assist local governments to develop a local PAWE [click here](#) and for assistance in completing the PAWE template, speak to your LEMC or DEMC representative/s.

Agency: Department of Communities (Communities)				
Date: From – April 2023 to June 2023 inclusive				
INCIDENTS:				
Date	Type of Incident	Location of Incident	Other Agencies Involved	Comments/Outcomes
EXERCISES AND TRAINING: Please see notes below.				
Date:	Title	Objectives	Comments/Outcomes	
24 MAY	Evacuation Centre Training		Mt Barker Primary Evacuation Centre	
11 JULY	Evacuation Centre Training		Dumbleyung Town Hall	
Additional Comments/Suggestions:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TC Ilsa On 12 April 2023, Communities was activated as the support organisation providing emergency relief and support for Severe Tropical Cyclone Ilsa. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Severe Tropical Cyclone Ilsa crossed the coast as a Category 5 system, around midnight on Thursday 13 April 2023, with an estimated intensity of 213 kmph. ○ On Thursday 13 April, Communities opened four evacuation centres, which were closed on the 14 April 2023. ○ In total, Communities accommodated 68 people in evacuation centres, and ○ Supported 10 people to return to country. ○ Communities will continue to respond to requests for assistance as required. This will be managed through Communities staff on the ground and the Disaster Response Hotline. • Kimberley Floods The Department of Communities (Communities) is providing emergency welfare services to residents impacted by the Kimberley Floods from January 2023. As of 26 April 2023: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As of 26 April 2023: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 17 people are in Communities' supported commercial accommodation in Broome and Derby. ○ 88 people are in Phase 1 Temporary Accommodation utilising Humanihuts in Fitzroy Crossing and Bungardi community, and in the Derby Hostel. ○ Since the Disaster Response Hotline (DRH) opened on the 11 January 2023 until COB 24 April 2023, Communities has responded to a total of 1,792 calls. ○ Communities has assisted 171 residents to apply for the Premier's Grant via the DRH and hubs in Broome, Derby and Fitzroy Crossing. • Review of the State Support Plan – Consultation feedback for the State Support Plan – Emergency Welfare has closed. Communities is currently reviewing feedback. • Capability Audit – Communities has procured Nous Group to conduct an audit of Western Australia's emergency relief and support capability. 				

- Local Emergency Welfare Plans (LEWP's) are always being reviewed, if you see any information that is not current, please advise michele.duxbury@communities.wa.gov.au
- Training: Please advise if you would like training conducted for local government staff, this can be an introduction to opening an evacuation centre, to cover the first couple of hours as Communities staff are on route. Happy to work with Shires to ensure little impacts to normal operations. Please e-mail michele.duxbury@communities.wa.gov.au to request training. Happy to discuss at any time.

Aim

To increase the understanding of the arrangements, planning, pre-planning, roles and responsibilities for community evacuation.

Capabilities

The focus of this exercise is to explore the capability of;

Emergency Response: Evacuation: 6.3. Agencies have the resources and skills to undertake both directed and voluntary evacuation of both people and animals.

During exercise discussion the capability of **Governance: EM Plans** will also be addressed.

Exercise Objectives

1. To raise awareness of roles and responsibilities, existing procedures and protocols that exist to for community evacuations.
2. To raise awareness regarding the importance of evacuation pre-plans.
3. To discuss existing processes and plans and identify any improvements that could be actioned to improve the emergency management arrangements within the Shire.

Special Idea 1 – Count Down to Impact

An *Emergency Warning* has been issued for a bushfire about to impact the community. An emergency evacuation has been called for...

Questions

(Discussion with the group as a whole)

1. How was the evacuation process activated?
 - Incident Controller - activates
2. Who requests the evacuation
 - Incident Management Team
3. Who is in charge of any evacuation?
 - Department of Communities will activate through the chain.
4. How will the decision to evacuate residents be communicated to the public? What key messages should communications include?
 - Shire SMS
 - Social Media
 - DFES SMS activation and communication platforms.
5. Can people be forced to evacuate? If so how and what are the implications?
 - No.
 - WAPOL

Special Idea 2 – Planning the Evacuation

You have been tasked to be part of the team planning the evacuation.

1. List of the types of information you will need to know to plan the evacuation.
 - Vulnerable community members
 - IMT liaison
 - Road closures
 - Direction of fire
 - Weather
 - Local government events
2. List some of the resources you will need to undertake the evacuation.
 - LEMA Contact list and plan.
 - LG to open evacuation centre.
 - WAPOL.
 - First Aid Post – St John Ambulance
 - Local suppliers.
3. What sources will you use to obtain the information needed to plan the evacuation.
 - LEMC Plan
 - IMT liaison with LG
4. List some of the challenges with the evacuation
 - Emotional people.
 - Communication.

Special Idea 3: Next Steps

1. Given your discussions in this evacuation phase; who do you think is responsible for evacuation planning, and what are some key components that should be considered?

Summary and outcomes

Hot Debrief.

What key outcomes stood out to you today? Consider the dot points below;

- Were there any new effective ideas or strategies discussed that you think could be actioned?
- Were any significant gaps identified that you think should be actioned or noted for the future?
- Did this exercise reinforce any existing procedures or strategies that you feel could be highlighted and given greater priority?

*** Don't forget to include any COVID 19 specific issues.*

A brief report of outcomes to be tabled at your next LEMC meeting. Any queries or further suggestions please don't hesitate to contact me on the contact details as below.

9.06.23 FOR INFORMATION

9.06.23.01 DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR FLOOD-IMPACTED AREAS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S WHEATBELT - MEDIA STATEMENT – 23 MAY 2023

Communities in Western Australia's central Wheatbelt region affected by an intense storm and associated flooding in late March this year can now access disaster recovery funding.

The shires of Beverley and Brookton are eligible for assistance through the jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

Under these arrangements, assistance can be provided to eligible impacted individuals, small businesses, primary producers, state agencies and local governments.

Assistance includes support for temporary living expenses, housing repairs, concessional loans for small businesses and farmers, freight subsidies and help for Councils to undertake emergency road repairs.

The storm brought persistent heavy rainfall, hail and wind causing flooding, debris and damage to roads and other assets across the impacted region.

Federal Minister for Emergency Management, Murray Watt, said the assistance would help communities quickly get back to normal.

"Many local roads were closed due to flooding or damage, which can be really disruptive to communities, particularly in the regions," Minister Watt said.

"This latest activation means the local council, business owners, farmers and individuals can now access support to help with the recovery process."

Western Australian Minister for Emergency Services, the Hon Stephen Dawson MLC, thanked all the agencies, local governments and community members who were involved in the response.

"I'd like to acknowledge the efforts of the government agencies, local governments and emergency service volunteers who worked together to ensure local communities were kept safe during this weather event," he said.

"Main Roads worked closely with the shires of Brookton and Beverley to coordinate the safe closure and reopening of impacted local roads and ensure the removal of debris and emergency road repairs were promptly carried out.

"The financial support announced today will assist the eligible Wheatbelt shires to cover the costs associated with removing debris and clean-up, as well as the repairs required to restore important local road networks."

**9.06.23.03 \$38 MILLION IN FUNDING TO BOOST NATURAL DISASTER RECOVERY IN WA
– MEDIA STATEMENT – 5 APRIL 2023**

- Multi-million-dollar programs to ensure WA can recover and rebuild from natural disasters faster
- 70 full-time staff to form State's biggest recovery team
- Funding to aid community recovery in the Kimberley following ex-Tropical Cyclone Ellie

Western Australia's ability to respond to and recover from natural disasters will be strengthened with \$38.3 million set aside in the State Budget to fund WA's biggest-ever dedicated recovery team.

The funding recognises the increasing frequency and severity of natural disasters in WA, with flooding in the Kimberley, Severe Tropical Cyclone Seroja in the Mid-West and major bushfires in the Perth hills and regional WA in the past two years.

Emergency Services Minister Stephen Dawson today announced a \$24.9 million investment which will enhance the Department of Fire and Emergency Services' ability to provide support following a natural disaster. Twenty-nine permanent full-time positions will be created to establish a sustainable State recovery capability.

A further \$13.4 million has been committed to fund a taskforce which will manage and support recovery in the Kimberley in the wake of flooding caused by ex-Tropical Cyclone Ellie.

This funding will employ 20 full-time staff for two years while a further 12 full-time staff will be employed for 12 months.

Comments attributed to Emergency Services Minister Stephen Dawson:

"This significant increase in resources from the McGowan Government will provide the biggest dedicated recovery team Western Australia has ever had.

"It will enable DFES to meet the increased demand for State recovery by having more people on the ground, which will help communities recover and rebuild faster.

"The State Government is committed to making sure communities are flexible and resilient, making it easier for them to bounce back and recover from these devastating weather events."

9.06.23.03 INDEPENDENT REVIEW UNDERWAY TO STREAMLINE NATIONAL DISASTER RECOVERY FUNDING – MEDIA STATEMENT – 3 FEBRUARY 2023

Emergency Services Minister Stephen Dawson has welcomed the Commonwealth's decision to commission an independent review into Australia's Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) to ensure the scheme meets the expectations of Western Australians.

The review - led by former National Bushfire Recovery Agency head Andrew Colvin APM OAM - will determine the strengths and weaknesses of the current system to help bolster WA's resilience to hazards like bushfires, cyclones or floods.

Communities recently impacted by disasters will be encouraged to have their say on what did and didn't work in accessing recovery funding through the current arrangements.

DRFA provides a range of practical assistance measures to support communities through the challenging recovery period.

State Governments are responsible for administering the DRFA assistance measures, with the Commonwealth reimbursing the State for up to 75 per cent of eligible costs.

Expected to be completed by 2024, the review seeks to address recommendations from the 2021 Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements.

The Royal Commission recommended a review of the DRFA to help identify roadblocks to applying and help streamline processes that slow down recovery payments.

Supporting continual efforts to improve WA's emergency management capabilities, the review will also examine what is needed to build Australia's resilience to an increasing number of extreme disaster events.

Several WA-led projects are already underway to strengthen the State's resilience to disasters including the establishment of a State Disaster Recovery working group, implementing a Community Disaster Resilience Strategy and developing an improvement plan for Local Emergency Management Arrangements.

Comments attributed to Emergency Services Minister Stephen Dawson:

"Disaster recovery is a complex and challenging process - everyone's recovery journey is different.

"This review is an important step forward in identifying what the State and Commonwealth can do to create a more efficient and simplified recovery funding model that works for all Australians.

"In many cases, the work has already started on several important projects that are set to have a major impact on the way our State manages disaster recovery.

"I thank Minister Watt for listening to concerns brought by the State Government and commissioning this review."

10.06.23 NEXT MEETING & CLOSURE

- Tuesday 12th September 2023 – 5:30pm

The Cr Lilly declared the meeting closed at 6:50pm.