



SEMC Communiqué

The SEMC met on the 10 May 2016.

The meeting began with an update from the State Recovery Controller Dr Ken Michael on the ongoing recovery efforts underway in the Yarloop, Harvey and Waroona communities. Dr Michael outlined the complex process of undertaking the clean-up, in particular the need to seek agreement from individual property owners. He reported that recovery was proceeding according to schedule largely due to the good cooperation evident across many agencies and organisations involved.

Key discussion areas from the 10 May meeting:

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE REVIEW PROJECT

The SEMC Secretariat completed phases 3 and 5 of the Policy and Governance Review Project. The SEMC was pleased with the rationalisation of the policy and plan documents. The improved usability and readability will benefit all EM stakeholders.

The SEMC approved the new suite of State EM documents including:

- State EM Policy
- State EM Plan,
- State EM Procedures
- State EM Guidelines
- State EM Glossary
- Current Westplans (statements of fact changes to align with new suite of documents)

The SEMC acknowledged that the 15 current State Emergency Management Policies (e.g. SEMP 2.4) and the eight Support Westplans are included within the suite of State EM documents. These policies and plans will be

removed from circulation. The new suite of State EM documents will be available on the [SEMC website](#) from 24 May 2016.

The SEMC Secretariat is currently project planning for phases 4, 6 and 7 of the project.

STATE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO NATIONAL CAPABILITIES

On 11 February 2016 the SEMC noted and The Australia New Zealand Emergency Management Committee (ANZEMC) meeting in April 2016 highlighted two agenda items relating to the development and implementation of national emergency management capabilities. There is an expectation that states will make a financial contribution to these projects—Register.Find. Reunite and the National Fire Danger Rating System.

The SEMC agreed that Western Australia needs to evaluate all the national capability development and implementation projects, evaluate funding considerations for these two projects, research the benefits and think about how Western Australia's contributions will be funded in future years.

LOCAL AND DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE SUPPORT

The SEMC Secretariat's Regional Services team's work in improving the effectiveness of local and district emergency management committees is progressing well. They have completed three major milestones under the 2015-18 SEMC Strategic Plan.

The SEMC noted:

1. the development of the Local Emergency Management Arrangements Guideline and Model
2. the District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC) forum
3. the development of the DEMC Administrative Guidelines.

The new guidelines will be available on the SEMC website, as part of the new suite of State EM documents, on 24 May 2016.

The Emergency Management Amendment Bill was submitted to the Minister on 13 January 2016 for progression through Parliament.

STATE RISK PROJECT UPDATE

The District roll out for 2016 is gaining momentum. Focus areas for 2016 will be Pilbara, Metropolitan, Midwest-Gascoyne and will continue in the Goldfields-Esperance and the South West.

State level workshops are also continuing in 2016. The assessment of hazards such as air-crash, rail-crash passenger, rail-crash freight, hazmat and animal and plant biosecurity commencing in May.

The current status of the State Risk Project is:

- State-level – 18 scenarios (complete)

- District level – 21 scenarios (complete)
- 106 agencies engaged
- 750 attendees at workshops
- 2550 records in database

The plan for 2016 includes 10 scenarios planned for the State level workshops and 26 scenarios planned for the District level workshops.

The State Risk Project team is also working on the development of the Treatment Framework and the Local Government Risk Assessment Roll out program. The team presented the Committee with a range of potential options for the next phase of the project.

The SEMC noted the comprehensive Local Emergency Risk Management Consultation report and endorsed the preferred model being the hybrid option involving the cooperation of the SEMC Secretariat's Risk and Regional Services teams and WALGA.

This model proposes that all parties will jointly plan, publicise and implement the risk assessment process leveraging the respective skills of each agency/section.

SEMC SECRETARIAT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

• Special Inquirer My Euan Ferguson completed the Waroona Bushfire Special Inquiry on 29 April 2016. The report is now with the Public Sector Commissioner.

• The Strategic Bushfire Stocktake is progressing, with a University of WA cost-benefit analysis due for incorporation shortly.

• The SEMC endorsed the removal of Westplan Dambreak from the SEMC website until its status has been confirmed.

• The EM Amendment Bill 2016 was introduced to Parliament on 23 February 2016 and is available on the [Parliamentary website](#). The SEMC Secretariat awaits further direction in relation to the progression of the Bill.

OTHER UPDATES

A range of projects and updates were discussed and noted by the SEMC:

• Update from Main Roads on Yallingup and College Grove relating to Recommendation 8 from the 2011 Margaret River Bushfire.

• The pending signing of the two-year extension of the National Partnership Agreement for Natural Disaster Resilience for 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2017.

The SEMC noted the allocation of remaining funding and agreed to consider the proposal out of session upon receiving a detailed plan and cost breakdown.

• Approved the revocation of Westplan-Freight Subsidy

SEMC WEBSITE

The SEMC has a newly designed website, which includes a new layout aimed at making the site user-friendly and easier to navigate.

The new website provides information about the SEMC and its committees, emergency management, funding and quick access to the SEMC publications and EM resources.

Special features include The Hub and SEMC portals. The Hub aims to build and share emergency management and hazard knowledge.

Users can learn about hazards from a Western Australian context. The natural hazards section features detailed factsheets and educational videos.

The SEMC portal offers all members from the SEMC, District Emergency Management Committees and Subcommittees the ability to access secure pages that hold documents, items and updates relevant to their meetings.

The SEMC encourages its readers to visit the website and familiarise themselves with wealth of emergency management information that is available. Visit www.semc.wa.go.au.

SEMC MEETINGS

The SEMC meetings scheduled for 2016 are 2 August, 4 October and 6 December.

For further information, please contact the SEMC Secretariat on (08) 9482 1700.