



# SEMC Communiqué

The State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) met on 6 March 2020. The key discussion items and resolutions from the meeting are summarised below.

## Presentation

- The Chair and Executive Officer of the Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee presented the Committees report 'Great Southern 2029 – A snapshot of the horizon for the Great Southern Emergency Management District'. The report undertaken by the Committee provides a snapshot of the Great Southern Emergency Management District given the current trends and risks. The purpose the report is to guide and shape emergency management planning over the next 10 years. The Great Southern District Emergency Management Advisor Adam Smith is available to discuss the process and findings of the report on [adam.smith@dfes.wa.gov.au](mailto:adam.smith@dfes.wa.gov.au).

## General Update

- Significant discussion was held around the status and impacts resulting from COVID19. SEMC are committed to learning from this pandemic and many members are involved in the response.
- An update on the Community Disaster Preparedness Project highlighted the significant body of work and a project undertaken by the Recovery and Community Engagement Subcommittee in direct response to the outcomes of the Preparedness Report.
- Endorsement of the proposed changes to the [Emergency Management Regulations](#) (now enacted) to:
  - prescribe 'heatwave' as a hazard, with the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Health as the hazard management agency (HMA)
  - prescribing DFES as a combat agency for fire suppression,
  - clarify the marine search and rescue hazard (regulation 15(b))

- prescribe 'hostile act' (including escape lawful custody) as a hazard, with the Commissioner of Police as the HMA
- replace the State Human Epidemic Controller and State Health Coordinator with the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Health as the HMA
- update names of several agencies/HMAs
- more information on these changes can be found [here](#)
- The State Emergency Management Committee received a revised copy of the Emergency Preparedness Report for 2019 which is undergoing final consultation.
- The use of \$0.242M of royalties for regions funding mitigation activity fund to address identified bushfire risks emanating from Unallocated Crown Land throughout the Mid-West region of Western Australia was endorsed by SEMC.
- The Committee noted the revised local emergency management arrangements provided by the
  - City of Bunbury
  - Shire of Manjimup
  - Shire of Kellerberrin
- A SEMC Style Guide was approved for use in publications to ensure consistency. This will be circulated to all impacted parties and collateral maintained by the SEMC Business Unit – this can be accessed through [info@semc.wa.gov.au](mailto:info@semc.wa.gov.au)
- A submission manual to assist in the development of agenda papers was approved and will be published on the SEMC website. Two weeks will now be allocated for SEMC members to review papers.

## 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, Deputy Chair and Executive Officer delivered a presentation at the Shire of Brookton at the request of the Minister. This presentation focused on existing local government activities that can be used to support emergency management and the responsibilities of local governments in emergency management. Communication with the Shire is ongoing to explore and address issues raised.
- An updated was provided on the WA Implementation Plan for the National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework. Three workshops were held with a concerted effort to include non-traditional emergency management stakeholders. The WA Implementation Plan is scheduled to be finalised this financial year. This will also inform the implementation plan for the recently signed [National Partnership Agreement on Natural Disaster Risk Reduction](#).

## SEMC MEETINGS

The next SEMC meetings is scheduled for 08 May 2020.

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