

Kimberley DEMC meeting highlights

A meeting of the Kimberley District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC) was held on the 14th of June 2016. This communique summarises the key points of the meeting for non-members.

Kimberley Risk Treatments

Following on from a series of risk workshops completed last year as part of the State Risk Project, the committee has now turned their attention to treatment of identified risks. Dr. Heather Taylor of the SEMC presented to the DEMC detailing the current progress and future direction of the project. Dr. Taylor also facilitated a discussion with DEMC members to identify ownership of individual risks and discussed potential treatment options.

Further work on treatments in the Kimberley is likely to involve discussions with individual agencies and groups to reduce their risk.

Locator Beacons

A recent search and rescue operation near Halls Creek highlighted the need for locator beacons for volunteers. The police advised the committee that many people in the town volunteered to assist in the search and that this left the police in a difficult position as allowing others to search without beacons would potentially result in further people becoming lost. Discussions will continue between the police and other government agencies that routinely use locator beacons about the possible establishment of an emergency cache of beacons.

SEMC District Advisor

The SEMC is currently recruiting a District Advisor for the Kimberley and Pilbara Districts. While the recruitment process is underway Helen Kent is acting in the role. Helen can be contacted by email at kimberley.pilbara.da@semc.wa.gov.au or by phone 08 9158 3204.

Helen has previously acted in the role of District Advisor for the South West and has experience working in local government. She has a good understanding of emergency management at the local and district levels.

New SEMC Website

The SEMC has launched its new website www.semc.wa.gov.au. New features include The Hub which contains information about the 27 prescribed hazards, a tool box of materials for local governments and a portal for DEMC members to access meeting information.