



AGENDA

**BUSH FIRE ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

31 MARCH 2026



SHIRE OF WAGIN

Agenda of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting to be held at the Eric Farrow Pavillion on Tuesday, 31 March 2026 commencing at 7:00pm

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1. OFFICIAL OPENING

Section 67 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* provides that a local government may at any time appoint such persons as it thinks fit as a bush fire advisory committee for the purpose of advising the local government regarding all matters relating to the preventing, controlling and extinguishing of bush fires, the planning of the layout of fire-breaks in the district, prosecutions for breaches of this Act, the formation of bush fire brigades and the grouping thereof under group brigade officers, the ensuring of co-operation and co-ordination of bush fire brigades in their efforts and activities, and any other matter relating to bush fire control

A committee appointed under this section shall include a member of the council of the local government nominated by it for that purpose as a member of the committee, and the committee shall elect one of their number to be chairperson.

At the 27 February 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting, Council established a Bush Fire Advisory Committee under section 67 of the *Bushfires Act 1954*. At the 3 April 2024 Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting, Cr Phil Blight was elected as chairperson for a two-year term.

In accordance with Council Resolution 5509 at the 28 October 2025 Council Meeting Cr Phillip Blight has been appointed as the Presiding Member of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES

3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

3.1. MINUTES FROM THE BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 2 APRIL 2025

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting held on 2 APRIL 2025 be confirmed

4. RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL ON APPOINTMENTS

The Bush Fire Advisory Committee has an important role making recommendations to Council on various appointments of Bush Fire Control Officers, Fire Control Officers and Brigade Captains.

4.1. BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS

Section 38 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* provides that a local government may from time to time appoint Bush Fire Control Officers.



It is recommended that the Bush Fire Advisory Committee make recommendations to Council for appointment of Bush Fire Control Officers for the period up to 30 April 2027.

Bush Fire Control Officers:

- X White
- S Angwin
- B Becker
- C Clifton
- C Goldsmith
- R Goldsmith
- L Lucas
- I McDougall
- A Rowell
- W Brockway
- C Piesse
- S Robinson
- T Storer
- G Thompson
- P Ward

4.2. CHIEF BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICER AND DEPUTY CHIEF BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICER

Section 38 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* provides that a local government may from time to time appoint Bush Fire Control Officers and appoint a person holding that office to be the:

- Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
- Deputy Chief Bush Control Officer

It is recommended that the Bush Fire Advisory Committee make recommendations to Council for appointment of the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control for the period up to 30 April 2027.

- Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
- Deputy Chief Bush Control Officer

4.3. SHIRE OFFICE – TOWN FIRE PERMITS

Council has historically appointed three Shire Officers as Bush Fire Control Officers for the purpose solely of issuing Town Fire Permits.

It is recommended that the Committee recommend that the following Shire Officers be appointed by Council as Bush Fire Control Officers for the purpose solely of issuing Town Fire Permits for the period up to 30 April 2027:

- Z Enright
- D George
- D Stephens



4.4. BRIGADE CAPTAINS

Clause 2.2(c) of the Shire of Wagin Bush Fire Brigades Local Law 2023 provides that Council is to appoint a Captain of each brigade. It is recommended that the Committee make a recommendation to Council on the Captain of each Brigade being:

- Badjarning
- Ballaying
- Cancanning
- Lime Lake
- Piesseville
- Wedgecarrup
- Wagin Town

4.5. CHIEF FIRE WEATHER OFFICER

Section 38(8) of the Act provides that a local government may appoint to the office of fire weather officer such number of senior bush fire control officers as it thinks necessary.

It is recommended that the Committee make recommendation on the appointment of Chief Fire Weather Officer:

- Chief Fire Weather Officer

4.6. FIRE WEATHER COMMITTEE

Section 38(14) of the Act provides that a local government may appoint a committee for the purpose of advising and assisting a fire weather officer. It is recommended that the Committee make recommendations on the appointment of the following Fire Weather Committee appointments:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

4.7. DUAL FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS

It is recommended that the Committee make recommendations to Council on the following Dual Fire Control Officer appointments:

- Dumbleyung
 - _____



- _____
- Narrogin
 - _____
 - _____
- Woodanilling
 - _____
 - _____
- Williams
 - _____
 - _____
- West Arthur
 - _____
 - _____
- Wickepin
 - _____
 - _____

4.8. CLOVER BURNING PERMIT OFFICER

It is recommended that the Committee recommend that Council appoints the following appointment as Clover Burning Permit Officer:

Clover Burning Permit Officer _____

5. REPORTS

5.1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS

5.1.1 CONSIDERATION OF CLOSURE OF WAGIN REFUSE SITE DURING HARVEST AND VEHICLE MOVEMENT BANS

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Bush Fire Advisory Committee determine whether it supports the introduction of a default practice whereby the Wagin Refuse Site is closed whenever a Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban is in place.



BACKGROUND/COMMENT

The Shire is seeking the viewpoint of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee regarding the need for the Wagin Refuse Site to close during Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans.

In recent times out of an abundance of caution, the Refuse Site has been closed by the Wagin Administration. This has resulted in some negative reactions for patrons wishing to use the tip during the HVMBs.

Practices in neighbouring local governments vary:

- Shire of Dumbleyung – Waste facilities automatically close during a HVMB.
- Shire of Lake Grace – Similar practice; facilities close during HVMBs.
- Shire of West Arthur – Facilities do not automatically close, and operations continue unless otherwise determined.
- Shire of Narrogin – The tip face is closed, and no green waste disposal is permitted; however, the transfer station remains open, allowing limited waste disposal while reducing fire risk.

The Wagin Refuse Site includes green waste areas, putrescible waste areas, and general movement across unsealed surfaces, which can present ignition risks when heavy vehicles or machinery are involved.

Officers from the Shire are leaning to introducing a default position where the tip is closed during a HVMB.

Given public concern, fire risk, and varied regional practice, it is appropriate for the Bush Fire Advisory Committee to consider whether a consistent, clearly communicated position should be adopted.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

5.2. CHIEF BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICER REPORT

5.3. DEPUTY CHIEF BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICER REPORT

5.4. BRIGADE REPORTS

5.4.1. BADJARNING

5.4.2. BALLAYING

5.4.3. CANNING



5.4.4. LIME LAKE

5.4.5. PIESSEVILLE

5.4.6. WEDGECARRUP

5.4.7. WAGIN TOWN

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

7. CLOSURE