



MINUTES

LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

20 JUNE 2023



DISCLAIMER

No responsibility is implied or accepted by the Shire of Wagin for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council or committee meetings.

The Shire of Wagin disclaims any liability for any loss whatsoever and howsoever caused arising out of reliance by any person or legal entity on any such act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council or committee meetings.

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In particular and without detracting in any way from the broad disclaimer above, in any discussion regarding any planning application or application for a licence, any statement or intimation of approval made by any member or officer of the Shire of Wagin during the course of any meeting is not intended to be and is not taken as notice of approval from the Shire of Wagin

The Shire of Wagin advises that anyone who has any application lodged with the Shire of Wagin shall obtain and should only rely on **WRITTEN CONFIRMATION** of the outcome of the application, and any conditions attaching to the decision made by the Shire of Wagin in respect of the application.

Ian McCabe
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

GIFTS DISCLOSURE INFORMATION

The Gifts Register contains the disclosures of gifts that have been made by Elected Members, the Chief Executive Officer and Employees in their official capacity.

To adhere with the changes to gift disclosure regulations in the *Local Government Legislation Amendment Act 2019*, passed by Parliament on 27 June 2019, the Shire of Wagin provides gift disclosure information in the interests of accountability and transparency.

Elected Members and the Chief Executive Officer are required to disclose gifts which are valued over \$300 or are two or more gifts with a cumulative value over \$300 (where the gifts are received from the same donor in a 12 month period) within 10 days of receipt [Sections 5.87A & 5.87B *Local Government Act 1995*].

The Act and Regulations require the Chief Executive Officer to publish an up to date version of the Gifts Register on the Shire's website after a disclosure is made. To protect the privacy of individuals, the register published on the website does not include the address disclosed by an individual donor and will instead include the town or suburb.

1. Economic Development	2. Buildings and Infrastructure	3. Community Services and Social Environment	4. Town and Natural Environment	5. Council Leadership
1.1 Increase in the number and diversity of businesses in the town and district.	2.1 Improve road conditions on all Shire and State roads.	3.1 Keep the family-friendly country lifestyle, community spirit, safe community with low crime rate.	4.1 Upgrade main street appearance for the amenity of residents and encourage travellers and tourists to stop.	5.1 Support and provide incentives for more businesses and retail opportunities.
1.2 Support more job/ training opportunities, and entities especially for young people.	2.2 Monitor heavy vehicle movements through the townsite.	3.2 Retain the school and hospital and grow health, Doctor services, allied health and aged care services.	4.2 Improve town approach and entry statements.	5.2 Foster Communication with the community.
1.3 Increase tourism and promotion of town and heritage.	2.3 Improvement in condition and appearance of the main streets of the Town and improved signage.	3.3 Housing, Job and training especially for young people.	4.3 Maintain and improve natural environment and recreation areas	5.3 Plan services and activities based on sustainability, affordability and resources.
1.4 Facilitate Broadband and other associated electronic media infrastructure	2.4 Continue to upgrade Footpaths in town.	3.4 Progress the Wagin Community Recreational Hub	4.4 Improved waste management in town and Shire.	5.4 Encourage and acknowledge volunteering.
1.5 Explore affordable accommodation for workers.	2.5 Refine Infrastructure to support arts, culture, entertainment and library services.	3.5. Youth focus on services and recreation development including coordination of effort across the Shire/region.	4.5 Continue to increase the number of suitable trees within the townsite to enhance the tree canopy in particular the CBD	5.5 Be responsive to community aspirations and requirements within the capacity of council.
1.6 Aid retention and encourage more government services in Wagin.	2.6 Encourage greater care and restoration or preservation of heritage buildings.	3.6 Foster and support Woolorama and other events, cultural and other entertainment opportunities.		5.6 Council to have a sound strategy to the sustainability to the Shire
1.7 Support and Promote Wagin as a business opportunity.	2.7 Develop a safe fenced playground for children in a park environment	3.7 Support community activities with resources and facilities as required.		5.7 Investigate rebranding of the Shire.
1.8 Determine further waste management options.	2.8 Investigate planning and development of sporting facilities	3.8 Investigate to establish Wi-Fi Hotspots		5.8 Continue lobbying and advocacy for road infrastructure and freight networks and other strategic infrastructure for the benefit of the Shire
1.9 Maintain and improve the freight network in the Shire	2.9 Investigate future housing and expansion for tourist and other attractions.	3.9 Promote and Enhance the Wagin caravan and camping experience.	Shire of Wagin Strategic Community Plan - Key Results Areas	
	2.10 Optimise water harvesting and storage			



SHIRE OF WAGIN

Minutes for the Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting to be held in the Council Chambers, Wagin on Tuesday 20 June 2023 at 2.00pm

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1. OFFICIAL OPENING

Opened the meeting 2.08 pm.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE (PREVIOUSLY APPROVED)

2.1 ATTENDANCE

Cr Phil Blight
Simon Vogel
Annie Randall
Jo Spadaccini
Lynda Elms
Sgt Simon Bickers
Inspector R Alexander
Robyn Flett
Ian McCabe
Donna George

Shire President
DFES
St John Ambulance
Dept. of Communities
SES
Wagin Police OIC
Great Southern District Police
Wagin Homecare
CEO
Acting DCEO

2.2 APOLOGIES

Amber Ward
Ty Cook
Lyn Lucas
Mitchel Davies

Wagin DHS
Wagin VFRS
SES
Dept. Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

3. PUBLIC FORUM

4. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

5. DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL AND OTHER INTERESTS

5.1 DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL INTEREST – Local Government Act Section 5.60a

5.2 DISCLOSURE OF PROXIMITY INTEREST – Local Government Act Section 5.6

5.3 DISCLOSURE OF IMPARTIALITY INTEREST – Administration Regulation Section 34c



6. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

6.1 MINUTES FROM THE LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 9 AUGUST 2022

COMMITTEE DECISION

Moved Simon Bickers Seconded Robyn Flett

That the minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting held on 9 August 2022 and circulated to all Councillors and Committee Members, be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Carried 10/0

Unconfirmed



Unconfirmed



MINUTES

LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

9 AUGUST 2022
Local Emergency Management

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Bill Atkinson
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SHIRE OF WAGIN

Minutes for the Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting held in the Council Chambers, Wagin on Tuesday 9 August, commencing at 5.37pm

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1. OFFICIAL OPENING

Opened the meeting 5.37pm.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE (PREVIOUSLY APPROVED)

2.1 ATTENDANCE

P Blight	Shire President
T Cook	VFRS
R Goldsmith	CBFCO
F Htun	Wagin District Hospital HSM – via MS Teams
L Lucas	SES – via MS Teams
A Howell	St John Ambulance
S Bickers	Wagin Police Sgt
R Flett	Wagin Homecare – via MS Teams
J P Collins	DPIRD
J Thomas	DPIRD
B Halford	DFES
I McCabe	Acting DCEO
D George	CLO

Ms R. Flett joined the meeting at 5.40pm

2.2 APOLOGIES

M Davies	DBCA
L Elms	SES
X White	Deputy CBFCO
B Atkinson	CEO

3. PUBLIC FORUM

4. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

5. DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL AND OTHER INTERESTS

There were no disclosures.

5.1 DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL INTEREST – Local Government Act Section 5.60a

5.2 DISCLOSURE OF PROXIMITY INTEREST – Local Government Act Section 5.6

5.3 DISCLOSURE OF IMPARTIALITY INTEREST – Administration Regulation Section 34c

6. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

6.1 MINUTES FROM THE LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 5 OCTOBER 2021

COMMITTEE DECISION

Moved S Bickers

Seconded T Cook

That the minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting held on 5 October 2021 and circulated to all Councillors and Committee Members, be confirmed as a true and accurate record with one amendment of removing J Bridger and inserting S Bickers from status report pg. 6.

Carried 11/0

Unconfirmed

7. STATUS REPORT – AUGUST 2022

Date	Description	Responsible Person	Action	Status	Comments
9/08/2022	St John Ambulance	A Howell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replacement Ambulance arrival date unclear. Fundraising for ambulance ongoing with need for additional \$30,000 Training courses planned to provide ambulance driver training to both WAPOL and DFES to alleviate crew shortages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short on volunteers Currently 2nd busiest volunteer run sub centre in Wheatbelt 	
9/08/2022	WAPOL	S Bicker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One new staff member starting soon, who will also attend land search training providing additional resources locally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remaining staff levels at one down 	
9/08/2022	VFRS	T Cook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stations renovations are on track with improvements providing crews with more health and wellbeing options onsite. Wagin crew received a nomination for the WAFES and are through to finals. 		WAFES - Western Australian Fire and Emergency Services Awards, with winners announced 10 September.
09/08/2022	SES	L Lucas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recent bad weather has resulted in a number of call outs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteers will attend SWORD training which focuses on logistics 	SWORD - State-Wide Operational Response Division

9/08/2022	BFB	R Goldsmith	Nothing to report at this time		
9/08/2022	DPIRD	JP Collins & J Thomas	Advised they will email information through to staff to attach		Refer to item: 9.1.1 for further information
29/07/2022	Shire of Wagin	D George	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update to LEMA – as per email details sent out to members • New Staff member – Ian McCabe as Acting DCEO and is to step up to Acting CEO Oct 2022 • NBN installation at Rec Centre complete. 		Current funding applications for installation of three access points for emergency water: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airport • Tanker trailer – mobile • Pump connection to weir
9/08/2022	Wagin Homecare	R Flett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency plans in place 		See attached document
9/08/2022	Wagin District Hospital	F Htun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully staffed at the moment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff coping well with COVID protocol requirements 	

Unconfirmed



Agency Name:	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development		Date: 4 August 2022
Report prepared by:	Helen Kent	Position:	Emergency Preparedness Coordinator – Incident & Emergency Management Branch

Situation Report:

1. **Declared incidents** – DPIRD is managing:
 - Seven (7) plant pest/disease level 1 & 2 Incidents
 - Nil animal pest/disease incidents

2. **State alerts and investigations**
 DPIRD is currently investigating a further four (4) pests and diseases.

3. **National alerts & investigations**
 DPIRD and other state jurisdictions continue to monitor reported outbreaks of:
 - **African Swine Fever** – Republic of Korea, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia Philippines and India
 - **Lumpy Skin Disease** – Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia
 - **Foot and Mouth Disease** – Indonesia

Further information about Foot and Mouth Disease prevention and preparedness is available on DPIRD’s website:
[Foot-and-mouth disease: prevention and preparedness | Agriculture and Food](#)

NB: There are, currently, no known incidences of these diseases in Australia.

4. **Severe Tropical Cyclone Seroja (Recovery)**
 DPIRD, through its Rural Business Development Unit, is managing Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA (DRFAWA) assistance to primary producers impacted by TC Seroja.

5. **COVID 19**

DPIRD:

- continues to monitor information from the Department of Health
- communicates to staff regarding the management of COVID in the workplace

6. Southwest Land Division Fires:

- DPIRD District Recovery Coordinator, Rob Cossart, is working in to support communities recovering from the bushfires which occurred in early February 2022.
- Affected local governments: Corrigin, Narrogin, Bridgetown and Denmark

Issues:

No issues to report

DPIRD's role in emergency management

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development 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.
- Provision of support to other HMAs by:
 - coordinating animal welfare for natural hazard emergencies such as bushfires, cyclones and floods;
 - contributing to the Controlling Agency's impact statement in relation to impacts to primary industries (where an impact statement is required)
 - managing eligible assistance for primary producers under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA and providing advice to primary producers in relation to this funding.

Wagin Homecare – Emergency planning

- Emergency contingency plan for Homecare staff
 - Sign in/out board for all staff on shift,
 - Scheduling Database (Sandwai) denotes workers on
 - All contact phone numbers in Manager's mobile
 - In case of emergency – take photo of board
 - Contact workers/instruct/ for meeting point
 - In case of no manager on shift, contact Admin Officer
 - Purchase another mobile for Admin officer with workers mobile
 - Create What's App group for staff for bulk message

- Current COVID Management plan – info via DOH
 - Meeting with RN monthly or immediately post an outbreak (Local/Perth)
 - RATS for workers
 - Mask wearing with clients
 - Health check with client prior to entry for service
 - Clients comply with contact to office to cancel services when close contact or with unwell COVID
 - Still provide essential service – Full PPE if Personal Care is required
 - Revisit training for donning/doffing and disposal prior to service

- St John First Responder – emergency medical information cards
 - Rolling out now, to have them in all client's houses
 - Information sessions about the purpose

8. CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

8.1.1 LEMA REVIEW & DISCUSSION PAPER - SEMC

LEMA review discussion paper and key points documents attached to the minutes.

- The LEMA review is a significant opportunity to reshape Local Emergency Management Arrangements.
- The aim of the LEMA review is to improve processes and develop fit-for-purpose and adaptive local level emergency arrangements, that considers the changing risk landscape.
- DFES on behalf of the SEMC and WALGA will work together with key stakeholders to identify issues with LEMA and develop options to streamline LEMA processes.
- The Consultation process will seek representative feedback to identify opportunities and design new approaches, rather than only identifying problems.
- During this review we welcome your input, and all options will be considered.
- The outcome of the LEMA review will be an Improvement Plan that includes implementation actions. It is intended that the Improvement Plan will be finalised by June 2023.

The purpose of this Discussion Paper is to invite thought and consideration of the current issues with LEMA and potential opportunities to improve the process. It is not intended for public distribution but will be provided to key stakeholders to facilitate the consultation process.

The LEMA review is a significant opportunity to reshape the current Local Emergency Management Arrangements and improve processes, so they better fit with the changing landscape of emergency management, as well as ensure they are fit-for-purpose, contemporary, scalable, and sustainable.

It is acknowledged that emergency management is complex, with many layers, roles, and responsibilities. The principle of 'don't do more: do differently' means during this review, priority will be given to exploring ways to do things differently, more simply and to leverage existing processes, rather than adding more layers and complexity.

The LEMA review will see WALGA and the SEMC Business Unit work together with key stakeholders to identify issues with LEMA, and to investigate and develop options for streamlining the LEMA process. Consultation will be shaped so that it helps with the design of new approaches, rather than only identifying the problems.

Consultation with local governments will begin shortly and the Project Managers will be conducting a consultation session at the September Local EM Forums.

The printed report were made available at the meeting.



Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA) Review

Key Messages



SEMC
STATE EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

-
- The LEMA review is a significant opportunity to reshape Local Emergency Management Arrangements.
 - The aim of the LEMA review is to improve processes and develop fit-for-purpose and adaptive local level emergency arrangements, that considers the changing risk landscape.
 - DFES on behalf of the SEMC and WALGA will work together with key stakeholders to identify issues with LEMA and develop options to streamline LEMA processes.
 - The consultation process will seek representative feedback to identify opportunities and design new approaches, rather than only identifying problems.
 - During this review we welcome your input, and all options will be considered.
 - The outcome of the LEMA review will be an Improvement Plan that includes implementation actions. It is intended that the Improvement Plan will be finalised by June 2023.
 - LEMA that are scheduled for review before June 2023 should proceed as planned so obligations under the EM Act are maintained.
 - Feedback and questions can be sent to LEMAreview@dfes.wa.gov.au

Unconfirmed

SEMC supported by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services



Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA) Review

Discussion Paper
June 2022



SEMC
STATE EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Acknowledgements

The project acknowledges the funding contributions of the Commonwealth Government's Natural Disaster Resilience Program (NDRP) and State Government funding through All West Australians Reducing Emergencies (AWARE), and in-kind contributions from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES).

This project is delivered in partnership with the WA Local Government Association (WALGA).

Department of Fire and Emergency Services

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May 2022

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

This discussion paper was prepared on the lands of the Beeliar Noongar people.

The Department of Fire and Emergency Services and the State Emergency Management Committee recognise the traditional custodianship of the Noongar people, and of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nations across the State. We acknowledge their rich culture and ongoing relationship with the land and pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging.

Disclaimer

This discussion paper has been prepared by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) on behalf of the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) for consultation purposes only.

The paper does not represent the views or position of DFES, SEMC or the Western Australian Government. Any representation, statement, opinion, or advice expressed or implied in this publication is made in good faith and on the basis that DFES and its employees are not liable for any damage or loss whatsoever which may occur as a result of action taken or not taken, as the case may be in respect of any representation, statement, opinion or advice referred to herein.

Professional advice should be obtained before applying the information contained in this document to particular circumstances.

Purpose

The purpose of this Discussion Paper is to invite thought and consideration of the current issues with LEMA and potential opportunities to improve the process. It is not intended for public distribution but will be provided to key stakeholders to facilitate the consultation process.

The LEMA review is a significant opportunity to reshape the current Local Emergency Management Arrangements and improve processes, so they better fit with the changing landscape of emergency management, as well as ensure they are fit-for-purpose, contemporary, scalable, and sustainable.

It is acknowledged that emergency management is complex, with many layers, roles, and responsibilities. The principle of 'don't do more: do differently' means during this review, priority will be given to exploring ways to do things differently, more simply and to leverage existing processes, rather than adding more layers and complexity.

The LEMA review will see WALGA and the SEMC Business Unit work together with key stakeholders to identify issues with LEMA, and to investigate and develop options for streamlining the LEMA process. Consultation will be shaped so that it helps with the design of new approaches, rather than only identifying the problems.

LEMA Review

During this review, every suggestion is welcome, and all options are on the table – this could include adapting the current LEMA model through to legislative reform of the EM Act.

Outcome of the LEMA Review

At the completion of the LEMA review, a LEMA Improvement Plan –including an implementation plan – will be developed. The Improvement Plan will identify opportunities to:

1. Support local governments and communities to develop fit-for-purpose, contemporary, scalable, and sustainable LEMA.
2. Improve community and stakeholder knowledge of, and engagement with, LEMA with an aim to enhancing community preparedness and resilience.
3. Streamline process for documentation, approval, and updates to reduce costs and time and encourage currency.
4. Improve the effectiveness of the LEMA as a communication tool.
5. Identify options for increasing participation in LEMA in communities that are not currently engaged in planning for emergencies.

The Implementation Plan will outline the processes and resources necessary to make the proposed changes, such as legislative change, policy change, or development of new reporting processes.

LEMA review activities

The LEMA review will consist of the following key activities:

1. Undertake consultation and engagement with relevant state government agencies including Hazard Management Agencies (HMA) and local governments to obtain feedback to inform the LEMA review.
2. Prepare a draft consultation and recommendations report.
3. Consider the design of pilot projects or exercises to test new LEMA approaches with local governments.
4. Develop a LEMA Improvement Plan that includes an implementation plan.

Background

Local government is for all Western Australians and works for the benefit of local communities. It is known that good connections between local governments and community organisations results in a better response in an emergency.

Local governments assist state government agencies by providing advice and resources to manage emergencies and undertake their responsibilities during an emergency in close cooperation with, or directly supported by, state government departments and other agencies.

The community looks to state and local governments to keep them well-informed before, during and after an emergency.

This specialised knowledge and experience of local and state governments will be invaluable for the LEMA review, as emergency management in WA is a coordinated operation. Multiple organisations and all levels of government work together to maintain community safety and increase resilience against emergencies and disasters.

A finding from the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee inquiry into Emergency Services Legislation in Western Australia in 2002¹ found that without the active and willing involvement of local authorities, Western Australia is unlikely to have a world class emergency management system.

The key features of world's best practice in emergency management are:

- a relevant and responsive emergency management organisation
- competent and detailed planning at all levels of government
- interdepartmental/ interagency cooperation
- civic leadership
- a capable and current legislative and regulatory framework.

In WA, the Emergency Management Framework is a suite of legislation, policy, plans, procedures, guidelines, and a governance structure to facilitate effective management of emergencies. This framework aligns to and complements international, national, and state frameworks and policies including the Sendai Framework², National Strategy for Disaster Resilience³ and the National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework⁴.

WA Emergency Management Framework⁵

The arrangements for Emergency Management are defined in the *Emergency Management Act 2005* (the EM Act) and the *Emergency Management Regulations 2006* (the EM Regulations).

The State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) was established under the EM Act with responsibilities to advise the Minister on emergency management arrangements and preparedness, engage and coordinate across all sectors to minimise the effects of emergencies and manage communications, develop, and coordinate risk management and prepare Emergency Management Policies and Plans. The SEMC works across all hazards defined in the EM Act and prescribed in the EM Regulations.

The SEMC has oversight of the Emergency Management Policy (EM Policy), Plan, Procedures and Guidelines:

- [State EM Policy](#) – provides a strategic framework for emergency management in the State and identifies roles and responsibilities of emergency management agencies and other public authorities
- [State EM Plan](#) – documents the agreed Western Australian EM arrangements to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from hazards

¹ [Community Development and Justice Standing Committee, Emergency Services Legislation in Western Australia, Report No. 2 2002](#)

² [What is the Sendai Framework? | UNDRR](#)

³ [National Strategy for Disaster Resilience | Knowledge Hub \(aidr.org.au\)](#)

⁴ [National Disaster Risk Reduction \(homeaffairs.gov.au\)](#)

⁵ [Emergency Management \(semc.wa.gov.au\)](#)

- [State EM Procedure](#) – supports the effective implementation of the State EM Policy
- [State EM Guidelines](#) – informal instructions designed to provide detailed assistance to EMAs in undertaking their role by proposing specific methods for conducting activities.

These documents outline the roles of emergency management districts and District Emergency Management Committees (DEMC) and local arrangements, including Local Emergency Management Committees (LEMC) and LEMA.

LEMA

Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA) are the collection of all emergency management strategies, plans, agreements, and other documentation applicable to the local government district. In an emergency any of this information can be utilised depending on the circumstances.

In late 2019 SEMC approved a sector-led review of LEMA requirements and responsibilities.

This review was driven by reports from across the local government sector that highlighted current LEMA inclusions, processes for development and effectiveness are overdue for review to determine whether they are fit-for-purpose.

There is a need to consider other approaches that may better build, support, and communicate emergency management capability.

Current Local Emergency Management Arrangements

Local governments are significantly involved in emergency management via State policy and legislation. This involvement allows for a greater degree of local ownership and provides access to local knowledge.

As outlined in section 36 of the EM Act, local governments are required to prepare and maintain LEMA. LEMA are the collection of all emergency management strategies, plans, agreements, and other documentation that detail prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery for a local government district. It outlines the emergencies that are likely to occur, defines roles and responsibilities, resources, and facilities within the community, as well as recovery arrangements.

Local governments must ensure that LEMA are consistent with the EM Policy and Plan, State Hazard Plans and State Support Plans and once endorsed by their Council deliver a copy of LEMA, and any amendments, to the SEMC as soon as is practicable after they are prepared. State Emergency Management Procedure 3.8 outlines the process for developing and reviewing LEMA.

Further, they must ensure LEMA are reviewed and tested in accordance with SEMC procedures and keep a copy of LEMA at the local government offices, making them available for inspection, free of charge, by members of the public during office hours.

Issues with LEMA

Some issues that local governments have reported about LEMA to date include:

- Due to size, maturity, competing priorities and resources, some local governments struggle to complete LEMA.
- The planning that goes into creating the LEMA is often of more value than the final document.
- Preparation is onerous.
- Often the most useful parts of the LEMA are the contact lists and asset registers.
- Needs to focus more on the local government community, resources, and contacts, rather than a template completion exercise.
- A requirement for LEMA to be publicly available often results in an information issue, as the public version can end up being heavily redacted.
- Current process has become more about compliance with legislation, rather than increasing community resilience.
- LEMA needs to build local level capacity to respond in a way that best suits the community (rather than a 'one-size-fits-all' approach).
- Work is often duplicated within local government.
- Current reporting is based on compliance and does not capture shared resourcing arrangements between local governments.

Key stakeholders and consultation

A project steering group has been established to act in an advisory capacity, provide expert input and review documentation. The steering group includes representatives from DFES, WALGA and the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries.

It is anticipated the steering group will meet at key points in the review.

During the consultation phase of the review, meetings will be held with key stakeholders from state government emergency management agencies⁶, a representative range of local governments of various sizes, locations, maturity and resources, District Emergency Management Advisors (DEMAs), and other individuals involved in the LEMA process.

Consultation – what we need from you

The primary purpose of engagement during the LEMA review is to first understand the current situation thoroughly – to hear experiences, issues and ideas and receive feedback from local governments and other key stakeholders – and then co-design in collaboration, so initiatives are developed in response to the identified issues.

The following dot points are intended to provide options for consideration and prompt discussions.

⁶ Emergency management agencies incorporate HMAs, combat agencies and support organisations.

Options for consideration

Process considerations

- What information should a LEMA contain so it is useful?
- How do we introduce synergies and efficiencies into the LEMA process?
- Is there an opportunity to leverage the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) process for LEMA planning and/or reporting?
- How do we capture best practice to inform better policy and practice alignment, so the process is not just compliance and 'box ticking'?
- How do we introduce assurance and continuous improvement (lessons learned) into LEMA? Further, is there a way to introduce incentives for local governments who are compliant with LEMA and show evidence of incorporating lessons learned into LEMA?

Emergency management considerations

- Are LEMA used in an emergency?
- What are the current identified gaps in an emergency?
- How can emergency information and work undertaken by local governments be given more prominence on their websites?
- How do we ensure LEMA is widely shared so the community and EM agencies knows what to expect and how to act in an emergency?
- Would it be useful for emergency management agencies to access the LEMA via a secure central website?

Reporting considerations

- A 'complete LEMA' may not be a completed template; it could be the completion of all requirements but undertaken through different purposes. Consider how this can be reported to the SEMC.

- What are local government annual timeframes, and how does this fit in with LEMA?
- What other reports do local governments currently prepare for the State – is there duplication?
- Could LEMA be leveraged from existing data, procedures, and reporting?
- Could the LEMC Annual Report be used as a reporting mechanism for new/updated/reviewed LEMA throughout the year?
- Could the LEMC Annual Report include a section on assurance and lessons management?

Other considerations

- Is legislative change necessary? If so, what needs to change?
- How do we make sure that everyone in the community can access the information from LEMA, regardless of language, ability or location while acknowledging data privacy and sensitivity? For example, could an accessible or simple English version of the LEMA be developed as part of a local government's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP)?
- LEMA recognises the principles of community-leadership and that response should be driven from as close to the community as possible. Local involvement has been complicated over time by regulations, technology, and resourcing arrangements, so how do we link and develop the LEMA and networks to enable local leadership?
- LEMA devolves many responsibilities for local governments for planning, response, and recovery, but as many local governments are small, they have limited capacity to cope with the consequences of a major disaster and recovery needs. How can we address these capability gaps through current district and state arrangements?

With these points in mind, can we normalise emergency management by integration into local government business as usual, and aligning with to day-to-day operations? Streamlining existing planning and reporting requirements could reduce duplication and the potential of non-compliance of LEMA.

Project delivery

The LEMA review project consists of the following phases:



Related projects

As noted under options for consideration, attention should be given to how other local government processes, reporting and legislative requirements can be streamlined into the LEMA. The benefits of doing this will allow local governments to reduce the time spent on preparing reports, documents, and data to fulfil their obligations and requirements and decrease duplication.

State Risk Project – Local

In 2013 the SEMC initiated the State Risk Project, which was designed to build a comprehensive and consistent understanding of the risks faced at state, district, and local levels.

The local level phase of the project commenced in 2017, with local government participation and support for the project being very strong.

The local level component of the State Risk Project (SRP) aims to:

- Help local governments to understand their risk.
- Assist local governments to complete the emergency risk management (ERM) process as required by existing policy.
- Allow the State to gain a comprehensive understanding of current risks at the local level.
- Provide information to enable future mitigation at all levels which will reduce the future cost of disasters.

Local governments that have completed a compliant ERM process can use their risk registers as supporting documents when applying for mitigation funding.

Methodology and tools to assist local governments in mitigating assessed risk are currently under development.

The local level phase of the State Risk Project is anticipated to be completed at the end of 2022.

Annual and Preparedness Report Capability Survey

Each year, the DFES State Capability Team conducts the Annual and Preparedness Capability Report Survey on the behalf of the SEMC.

The survey is sent to 170 organisations that comprise the Western Australian emergency management sector, including all local governments.

The survey assesses capability in line with the SEMC's Capability Framework. This includes assessing 23 capability topics relevant to local governments, including recovery, evacuations, impact assessment, among others

Information collected through the survey provides local governments insight into their emergency management capabilities, such as strengths and areas in need of improvement, year-on-year comparisons, and how they are tracking compared with other local governments of a similar size and population.

Data from the survey also informs the annual Emergency Preparedness Report, which is provided to the Minister for Emergency Services, as well as various other products, including individual local government capability summary reports.

Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework⁷

Integrated planning and reporting gives local governments a framework for establishing local priorities and to link this information to operational functions.

Three key stakeholders are involved in the development of an integrated plan: the Council, the community and the local government administration led by the Chief Executive Officer.

The Council, community, and administration each has a unique role and responsibilities for the development of effective and sustainable integrated plans for the local area and reporting on the progress of those plans.

A successful integrated planning and reporting process will deliver a:

- Strategic Community Plan that clearly links the community's aspirations with the Council's vision and long term strategy
- Corporate Business Plan that integrates resourcing plans and specific council plans with the Strategic Community Plan
- clearly stated vision for the future viability of the local government area.

The Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines provide a process that aims to:

- ensure community input is explicitly and reliably generated
- provide the capacity for location-specific planning where appropriate
- update long term objectives with these inputs
- identify the resourcing required to deliver long-term objectives
- clearly convey long term financial implications and strategies.

The framework:

- recognises that planning for a local government is holistic in nature and driven by the community
- builds organisational and resource capability to meet community need
- optimises success by understanding the integration and interdependencies between the components
- emphasises performance monitoring so that local governments can adapt and respond to changes in community needs and the business environment.

Legislative requirements

All local governments are required to produce a plan for the future under section 5.56 (1) of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

The *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* provide a brief outline of the minimum requirements to meet this obligation, which includes the development of a Strategic Community Plan and a Corporate Business Plan.

⁷ <https://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/local-government/strengthening-local-government/integrated-planning-and-reporting>

Comprehensive Review of State Emergency Management Arrangements Roles and Responsibilities

Emergency Management in Western Australia relies on a broad network of emergency management stakeholders to carry out the roles and responsibilities assigned within the *Emergency Management Act 2005* and *Emergency Management Regulations 2006*.

The roles and responsibilities of these agencies and organisations are referenced across the supporting suite of emergency management documents, including:

- State Emergency Management Policy
- State Emergency Management Plan
- State Hazard Plans
- State Support Plans.

The State Emergency Management Policy Branch has initiated a review to confirm if these roles and responsibilities are accurately reflected across the suite of emergency management documents. The review also aims to assist stakeholders to identify their roles and responsibilities as they are currently spread across various documents.

Consultation to support the review will be undertaken in two phases (commencing in 2022), including:

Phase 1: consultation with officers, agencies or entities with roles and responsibilities currently identified in the State Emergency Management Framework. Other stakeholders may be contacted if their roles and responsibilities cross multiple hazard or support functions. Agencies will be invited to review their current roles and responsibilities and where required, submit their amendments.

The State Emergency Management Policy Branch will then consolidate any proposed amendments to the suite of emergency management documents that arise from Phase 1 of the consultation.

Phase 2: broad consultation with the emergency management sector on the proposed amendments to the suite of emergency management documents.

The findings of the LEMA review will be used to inform this project. It is noted that further consultation with local governments may be required as part of the roles and responsibilities review.

Relevant legislation

[Local Government Act 1995](#)

[Emergency Management Act 2005](#)

[Bushfires Act 1954](#)

[Fire and Emergency Services Act 1998](#)

[Public Health Act 2016](#)

[Planning and Development Act 2005](#)

[Environmental Protection Act 1986](#)

[Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007](#)

Unconfirmed

SEMC supported by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services

8.1.2 MAIN ROADS REQUEST REGARDING EVACUATION CENTRE OPTIONS

Mainroads Western Australia, Narrogin requested further details around the capacity of our evacuation centres.

The base format resulted in the following result by using the SEMC equation of floor area:

Recreation Centre	220 persons – Auditorium
	54 persons – Front Area
Eric Farrow Pavilion	150 persons
Town Hall	150 persons

This result may be subject to change on assessment by an Environmental Health Officer.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

9.1.1 FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE – POTENTIAL IMPACTS TO WAGIN

- Introduction and overview of current status of station and staff
- Request for updated information related to LEMC
- Overview and handout of the LANSAs
- Station refurbishment nearing completion, to be followed by official opening event

9.1.2 UHF CHANNEL 5 REPEATER USE – LOCAL KNOWLEDGE REVIEW

- Local opportunity to utilise UHF repeater if more people had training
- Suggestion to upskill FCO's and senior BFB members to provide critical information to all with radios for better spread of data across the fire ground.
- Suggestion that the Shire create a communication plan.

9.1.3 EXERCISE – EMERGENCY GENERATOR TEST RUN

- Specific Generator cable connection required, ordered via electrician.
- Will have test run once arranged and advise on result.

9.1.4 COVID UPDATE

As at 6pm 29 July 2022, WA Health reported a total of 4,423 new cases. There were 27,557 active cases in Western Australia to that date.

As of 6pm 28 July there were 424 people with COVID-19 in hospital with 17 in ICU.

This report includes three historical deaths dating back to 8 May, a woman in her 80s, a woman in her 70s, and a woman in her 60s.

Total case breakdown:

Region	Active (new to 6pm, 29 th July)	
Metropolitan	22,008	(3,522)
Goldfields	594	(90)
Great Southern	537	(93)
Kimberley	446	(72)
Midwest	480	(103)
Pilbara	728	(104)
Southwest	1,836	(293)
Wheatbelt	501	(75)

Health Advice

Vaccinate, practice good hygiene, use sanitiser, cover mouth and nose with a tissue or your elbow when coughing or sneezing. Stay at least 1.5 m from others and avoid crowded places where possible. Wear masks, especially in crowds, confined places or on public transport and avoid contact with people who are unwell. Stay home if you are unwell.

9.1.5 LEMA DETAIL UPDATE

- Updates have been made to the Local Emergency Management Arrangements
- Request to committee for feedback on alterations: draft LEMA to be re-circulated.

9.1.6 VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION STICKERS

Current emergency vehicle identification stickers are due to expire Sept 2022, new stickers have been ordered and staff will advise when they have arrived.

Discussion regarding who should have a sticker additional to emergency volunteers, concern raised over providing them to people with no training and the potential risk on the fire ground. DFES advised best practice was to provide an escort with training to assist any contractor who is required on site.

10. CLOSURE

With no further business to be discussed the Presiding Member closed the meeting at 6.54pm.

I certify that this copy of the Minutes is a true and
Correct records of the meeting held on
9 August 2022

Signed

Presiding Elected Member

Date:



7. STATUS REPORT – JUNE 2023

Date	Description	Responsible Person	Action	Status	Comments
20/06/2023	St John Ambulance	A Randall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Van arrived two weeks ago. • Organising an unveiling • Critically low for numbers • Second busiest centre in the Wheatbelt • Attending callouts over transfers 		Planning an unveiling event locally for new van.
20/06/2023	WAPOL	S Bickers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One new staff member starting soon who will also attend land search training providing additional resources locally. • Introduced guest – Inspector Rhonda Alexander, in charge of the northern sector of the Great Southern • The refurbishment of the Wagin Station is complete • Currently down one staff member • Current crime stats are on par with 2022 • Planned speed checks in the main street from 27 to 29 June – members are invited to attend to view the process if they wish. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remaining staff levels at one down 	



		Inspector R Alexander	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Southern 3-4% position vacancy rate • Theft from retail is an issue • Personal home security needs to be raised / improved 		The great southern vacancy rates are in a better standing than the city counterparts.
20/06/2023	SES	L Elms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ready for winter / lots of resources • Some minor incidences • Attended eastern states floods • Awaiting rescue unit / ute • Membership – 28 • New super – Craig Smith • Plans for – building space • Flood boat funding query TBA 		<p>Experience gained in attending the eastern state floods will assist volunteers in on training other members.</p> <p>Plans are in place to build a new SES shed in Wagin for training and storage.</p>
20/06/2023	Shire of Wagin	D George	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire Generator in place, needs a trial run at Shire office to check that it works and what it works. • Local law – BFB's active 23rd • IT disaster planning 1st draft • Shire is looking into a Bushfire Risk Management Officer - TBA • Recent incident – EHO / worksafe / were engaged to ensure correct steps taken. Complete 		
20/06/2023	Wagin Homecare	R Flett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report as presented • Vulnerable persons list 		See attached document
20/06/2023	DFES	S Vogel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training season, taking advantage of the time of year in getting prepared 		
20/06/2023	Dept of Communities	J Spadaccini	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency relief and support unit 		Advised the local government is in a good place if an evacuation is



			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local Emergency Management plan updates with a new template on the cards - TBA• Various locations of experience with centres open over state and east		required. Sportsground offers a range of amenities to add value for community.
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Unconfirmed



8. CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

A review of the local emergency management arrangements is suggested, with a plan to meet specific to this item and discuss with local parties then distribute LEMA for review by committee. Agreed that shire staff and local police would liaise to review.
September meeting date TBA planning an evening meeting

9.1.1 CONTACT LIST REVIEW AND UPDATE

See attached for current information on contacts. (Under Confidential Cover) Please review and update as needed.

Please note, as some contacts are privately owned numbers – responding with a mobile phone number will be taken as an agreement that the number can be published in the document.

9.1.2 ANNUAL REPORTING SURVEY

Each year LEMC's are required to submit an annual report on activities undertaken during the financial year. Completing this survey fulfils LEMCs' annual reporting requirements set out in Section 40 of the *Emergency Management Act (2005)*.

In previous years, this reporting requirement was fulfilled by participation in the Annual and Preparedness Report Capability Survey.

The survey was discussed with some additional information provided from the committee for inclusion.

The final document is attached. (Under Confidential Cover)

9.1.3 WAGIN LEMC EXERCISE

Thursday 15 June saw a multi service exercise at the Wagin District High School to trial an evacuation, assess the process, communication, current plans in play and report on any issues around the exercise as run – being a gas leak resulting in a total evacuation.

Identified issues included a school plan to lock doors once rooms were inspected, which caused a delay when a child went missing in re-searching with limited keys for emergency crews. A communication issues which a debrief resulted in a plan to resolve in a similar situation as well as a layout challenge with some volunteers not being familiar with the school.

The exercise provided good training to all services as well as a good understanding by children of what would occur in an event.

9.1.4 EVACUATION CENTRE TRAINING - DUMBLEYUNG

Tuesday 11 July there will be evacuation centre training at the Dumbleyung Town Hall, Cnr Harvey and Dawson St, Dumbleyung.

The purpose of this training is to inform Department of Communities staff and stakeholders on the operation of an Evacuation Centre in the case of an activation within the District. Topics discussed include:

- Department's mandated responsibility to provide welfare services during an emergency.
- Outline the services provided by the Department of Communities and our key stakeholders.
- How to setup the evacuation centre and deliver services to the affected community.
- The Department's role in Recovery and services provided.

This training is very important for all, as you may be called upon in an emergency such as the Denmark/Corrigin bushfires last year to provide assistance to evacuees.

The Department of Communities is mandated by the Emergency Management Act 2005 as the agency to provide the provision of Welfare Support for all emergencies state-wide as referred to in the State Emergency Welfare Plan.

The Dept encourages all members of the shire and the community who would take part in an emergency evacuation to attend the training, if only to provide a good understanding of the process involved.

9.1.5 OFFICER IN CHARGE UPDATE

Simon Bickers OIC Update
As per status report.

9.1.6 LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Planned review of document with Shire and Wagin Police.

9.1.7 PREPARATION FOR WINTER

Post the 2017 floods, requests were made for a rescue boat to be allocated locally, with the nearest one currently being Esperance. At the time of the meeting, no information was available on the option of a boat being located regionally.

9.1.8 VALIDATION OF RISK ASSESSMENTS

Flood – 2017 – discussion around the flood markers at two metres along Ballagin / Tarwonga Rds post search and rescue operation with no decision made.

9.1.9 CONFIRMATION OF EVACUATION ARRANGEMENTS

The Shire of Wagin and Department of Communities will open an evacuation centre, depending on the decision and request of the incident management team and the incident controller.

Depending on the nature of the incident, the location may be local or elsewhere ensuring the safety of the community in getting to the location.

The Incident controller will ensure the safety of the community is paramount and this may result in people travelling to another town, or people from another town travelling to Wagin to evacuate.

The evacuation centre may be opened by the Shire – on instruction from the ISG – and manned until the Dept of Communities arrives to take over however in the situation where access is restricted or dangerous, shire facilitation may continue as needed.



10. CLOSURE

There being no further business the Chairperson thanked those in attendance and closed the meeting at 3.45 pm

I certify that this copy of the Minutes is a true and correct record of the meeting held on 20 June 2022

Signed:

.....
Presiding Elected Member

Date:

.....

Unconfirmed

Attachment to Status Report

Wagin Homecare – Emergency planning Update

Manager of Wagin Homecare – Robyn Flett

20/06/2023

- Greater requirements in Aged Care for risk assessment
 - Training for staff is underway

- Current COVID Management plan – info via DOH
 - Meeting with RN monthly or immediately post an outbreak (Local/Perth)
 - Workers RAT on symptoms or when out of ‘bubble’ (out of town on weekends or socialising in different groups)
 - Health check with client prior to entry for service still our process
 - Clients comply with contact to office to cancel services when close contact or with unwell COVID
 - Still provide essential service – Full PPE if Personal Care is required

- St John First Responder – emergency medical Information cards
 - Have them in most of our client’s houses
 - Common location for the cards is on the fridge
 - Feedback to St Johns and other emergency services to be completed.