



SHIRE OF MANJIMUP



17 July 2024

Informal Notes

Local Emergency Management Committee

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Informal Notes of Meeting held 17 July 2024

Informal Notes of the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) Meeting held in the Shire of Manjimup JC Rose Meeting Room, Rose Street Manjimup on Wednesday 17 July 2024.

1. Declaration of Opening the Meeting

Shire of Manjimup - Shire President, Cr Donelle Buegge assumed the chair and declared the meeting open at 1.05pm. Introductions were conducted.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Shire of Manjimup respectfully acknowledges the Noongar people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands in which we work throughout the region and we pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

2. Attendance / Apologies

2.1 Attendance

Members - Voting

Cr Donelle Buegge	Shire of Manjimup - Shire President
Benjamin (Ben) Rose	Shire of Manjimup - Chief Executive Officer
Todd Ridley	Shire of Manjimup - Community Emergency Services Manager
Renee Flaxman	Department of Communities
Mr Brad Wren	Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (proxy)
Jeffrey Bennett	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions (proxy)
Sharon Johnson	Warren Health Services (proxy)

*****Due to lack of a quorum, this meeting will be recorded with Informal Notes.***

Members Non Voting & Invited Guests

Nicole Favero	Shire of Manjimup - Ranger & Emergency Services Admin Officer
Stephen Burch	Shire of Manjimup – Senior Ranger (Acting)
Cr Steve Miolin	Shire of Manjimup – Deputy Shire President (proxy)
Catherine Mills	Main Roads WA (Guest)
Gail Ipsen Cutts	Shire of Manjimup – Recovery Coordinator
Kadogan Combes	St John's Ambulance Manjimup (Guest)
Mel Robertson	Water Corporation
Colin Jones	Western Power
Christine Reinke	Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development
Paddy Dowling	Department of Fire and Emergency Services

2.2 Apologies

Gary Willcox	St John's Ambulance Manjimup
Justine Kelly	Warren Health Services
Ian Guthridge	Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development
Graham Blincow	Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development (proxy)

Erin Hutchins	DFES – District Emergency Management Advisor
Bruce Hancock	Main Roads WA
Tim Foley	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions
Steve Page	Police Service – Walpole
Nathan Hall	Department of Fire and Emergency Services (proxy)
Chris Sousa	Department of Fire and Emergency Services
Remo Pessotto	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Jayden Lowe	Police Service - Manjimup
Anthony Willetts	Main Roads WA
David Rae	St John's Ambulance Walpole (Community Paramedic SW Great Southern)

3. Declaration of Financial Interest

Nil

4. LEMC – Update Terms of Reference Membership Contact List

The contact list was distributed and updated by all in attendance.

5. Confirmation of Minutes of the General Meeting held Wednesday, 20 March 2024.

Due to a lack of a quorum, this will be deferred until next meeting.

6. Council's Response to Minutes of the General Meeting held Wednesday, 20 March 2024.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

MOVED: Cr De Campo SECONDED: Cr Eiby

29493

That Council receive the unconfirmed Minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting held Wednesday, 20 March 2024 as shown in Attachment 9.16.1 (1).

ADOPTED BY EN BLOC RESOLUTION: 9/0

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr Eiby SECONDED: Cr Darin

29508

That Council confirm and accept the amendments to Appointments and additional membership of the Local Emergency Management Committee Terms of Reference 2023-2025 for the two year period that commenced 22 October 2023 as follows:

- 1. Main Roads WA as an additional non-voting membership, representatives being Bruce Hancock and Anthony Willetts; and**
- 2. Department of Communities new nominations of Renee Flaxman to the position of LEMC Delegate and Mark Schorer as Proxy; and**
- 3. Warren Health Service nominations of Claudia Tschopp as Proxy A and Sharon Johnson as Proxy B.**

CARRIED: 9/0

7. Business Arising from Minutes

7.1 Action Task List

Action & Meeting Date	Item	Update	Status	Actioning Officer
01/24 20/03/2024	Telco Communication Coverage Report on Issues for SWALGA	20/03/2024: Shire of Manjimup LEMC Administration to liaise with other Shire's and prepare a report with recommendation for the next LEMC meeting on the Telco issues that can be put forward and presented at SWALGA. 17/07/2024: CESM gave presentation on Report compiled that had two recommendations, see <i>Item 7.1 Attachment</i>. <i>Ben Rose CEO added that the Shire President Cr Donelle Buegge, Deputy Shire President Cr Steve Miolin and himself recently went to Canberra for the National General Assembly where all LGs in Australia get together and there was one recurring topic being Regional Telecommunications. There was not one LG outside of the metro area not experiencing telecommunication challenges and he therefore endorses this Report and suggest there is some affirmative advocacy actions we can commence by raising at next SWALGA zone meeting. Telco is a Federal issue not a State issue.</i> <i>Brad Wren DCBFCO added re Telstra's recent presentation to LEMC advising us no other areas had this issue, at recent ROAC meeting all area representatives confirmed having the same issue and Telstra informing them they were the only ones, contradicting themselves.</i> Due to a lack of quorum, they were unable to vote on Officer's Recommendation to Council, though Council can still act on the LEMC Informal Notes.	In Progress	Todd Ridley

8. Correspondence (*copies can be available on request*)

8.1 Incoming

- WALGA – Results of WALGA's 2023 Emergency Management Survey on website.
- DFES – The Australian Warning System (AWS) In Western Australia.
- DFES – Aware 2024 Key Round Documentation.
- DFES – Consultation Request – State Support Plan – Animal Welfare in Emergencies due 12 August 2024.

8.2 Outgoing

- Shire of Manjimup to LEMC Members – Unconfirmed Minutes of Meeting 20 March 2024.
- Shire of Manjimup to LEMC Members – Events Matrix at 13 June 2024.
- Shire of Manjimup to LEMC Members – LEMC Agenda, Minutes from previous meeting and General Business Item Reports.

9. Events

The committee reviewed and discussed the events matrix, see *Item 9 Attachment*.

10. Members Reports

10.1 Shire of Manjimup –Shire President – Cr Donelle Buegge

- Discussed the *2024 Regional Telecommunications Review Survey*, which is an opportunity for people living and working in regional, rural and remote Australia to share their views and experiences using telecommunications services. Everyone is strongly encouraged to complete this 10 minute survey, the link is on the Shire webpage and Antenno.
- When in Canberra they discussed these issues with Telstra representatives there who put us on to Boyd Brown, we advised we have spoken with him numerous times. New technology is coming in next two years where 90% of calls will be redirected through satellite.

The above report was received verbally at the meeting.

Todd Ridley, CESM, questioned the lifespan of towers when the power is out that may need to be addressed.

Cr Donelle Buegge, Shire of Manjimup Shire President, said she was advised generators are to be at each tower onsite, with people trained to switch them over when required.

Brad Wren, DCBFCO, said he was advised that generators to be stationed in towns and would then be taken out to required towers.

Action: Shire of Manjimup LEMC Administration to email the link for 2024 Regional Telecommunications Review Survey to all Members.

10.2 Shire of Manjimup - CEO – Benjamin (Ben) Rose

Nil to report.

10.3 Shire of Manjimup - CESM – Todd Ridley

Nil to report.

10.4 Shire of Manjimup - Recovery Coordinator – Gail Ipsen Cutts

Nil to report.

10.5 Shire of Manjimup - DCBFCO – Brad Wren

Report was tabled, see Item 10.5 Attachment.

10.6 Department of Biodiversity, Conservations & Attractions – Jeff Bennett

Report was tabled, see Item 10.6. Attachment.

- Tim Foley has now been officially appointed as Regional Manager after a long period acting in the position.

10.7 Department of Communities – Renee Flaxman

Report was tabled see Item 10.7 Attachment.

10.8 Department of Fire and Emergency Services – Paddy Dowling

Report was tabled, see Item 10.8 Attachment.

Action: Shire of Manjimup LEMC Administration to email the link for information on the new Australian Warning Systems to all Members.

Action: Shire of Manjimup CESM to arrange for the DFES Virtual Reality Bushfire Preparedness Experience to be available for Council members to experience a realistic bushfire scenario.

10.9 Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development – Christine Reinke

Report was tabled see Item 10.9 Attachment.

Cr Donelle Buegge, Shire of Manjimup Shire President, queried on shot-hole borers and how it is policed as concerned if they get into the avocado orchards it would be a major concern for the industry?

Christine Reinke, DPIRD, advised as she is only relieving, she would need to get Ian Guthridge to respond to this query.

10.10 District Emergency Management Advisor - DFES – Erin Hutchins

Apology for meeting, report was tabled see Item 10.10 Attachment.

10.11 Main Roads WA – Catherine Mills

Nil to report.

10.12 St John Ambulance

Manjimup – Kadogan Coombes - Community Paramedic SW

- Is currently relieving Gary who is on leave for five weeks.
- Northcliffe has a reduced response capacity due to members away on holidays so Pemberton will support them during next few weeks and they have also joined Pemberton and are now a subcentre for them.
- In terms of emergency response Manjimup is struggling during business hours and is also being supported by Pemberton as they have retirees who are available.
- There is a paid transfer crew in Manjimup, though have also been utilising outside crews to facilitate our transfers.

The above report was received verbally at the meeting.

Gail Ipsen Cutts, Shire of Manjimup Recovery Coordinator, inquired if there has been any discussion on the possibility of getting two paid Community Paramedics in Manjimup.

Kadogan Coombes, St John Manjimup, advised they are currently doing an emergency stream transformation predicted to commence in December, they are changing their perspective from just being Urban and Metro to being Urban, Coastal & Forest. St John and Department of Health have recognised that south of Margaret River are very busy and have obtained funding and looking at a Community Paramedic being available back to back instead of just business hours. Requests for additional positions needs to be driven through WACHS to St John, making them aware that there is an issue and requirement for additional.

Walpole – David Rae - Community Paramedic GS

- Volunteer numbers currently meeting operational requirements, but the Subcentre is actively recruiting with features across ABC news and radio.
- Local radio project completed by D&J Communications, but radio link to SJA State Operations Centre still awaiting work to be completed by radio department.
- Subcentre committee is working on the feasibility study to have construction of a new building approved. This will replace the existing front building used for training with the rear garage retained.

Apology and above report were received by email just prior to meeting.

10.13 WA Country Health Service

Pemberton Northcliffe Health Service – Paige Weaver

No report received - not in attendance.

Warren Health Service – Sharon Johnson

Report was tabled, see Item 10.13. Attachment.

10.14 WA Police

Pemberton – Ross Bartley

- There has only been a small number of traffic crashes – no significant injuries.
- In early July, there was a boat in distress and taking in water out to sea from Windy Harbour – matter handled by Water Police with the boat towed back to shore – nil injuries.
- No other significant emergency management incidents.

Not in attendance, the above report was received by email prior to the meeting.

Manjimup – Jayden Lowe

Apology for meeting – nil to report.

Walpole – Steve Page

Apology for meeting, report was tabled, see Item 14.14 Attachment.

10.15 Water Corporation – Mel Robertson

- Main concern is water proficiency and enough water to see them through next summer.
- Handing back various water supplies for firefighting eg Quinninup but water is below average supply.

- Water restrictions are on the table, not yet enforced, but being considered.
- Awaiting additional licence allocations for approval to draw more water from the Yarragadee.

The above report was received verbally at the meeting.

Todd Ridley, CESM, advised that the Shire has twelve strategic firefighting water tanks around the area and this season, two of the tanks particularly were very low. Considering no water was used, there are concerns that people may be taking this water which could leave us compromised in an emergency, so may need to consider placing locks on them.

Cr Donelle Buegge, Shire of Manjimup Shire President, asked Water Corp if there are any Grants currently available for community water tanks?

Mel Robertson, Water Corporation, responded that there is a program through community and liveability for funding for community events like Ag shows etc, please contact her and she will assist you in the right direction.

10.16 Western Power – Colin Jones

- Majority of faults caused by trees and lightning.
- Advising that during events, they can supply a generator to assist in an outage.
- Starlink has recently been trialled in vehicles and has worked very well in all locations.

11. General Business

11.1 Walpole Resilience Workshop Meeting - Todd Ridley CESM

Discussion held to raise awareness of this with members and advise, that while we are all for Community Resilience there are concerns regarding some of the activations that could counteract the Shire of Manjimup LEMA's that are specifically designed and endorsed to avoid any associated risks with clear guidelines on roles and responsibilities.

In the aftermath of the Middle Road Fires in Walpole/Denmark area, Ranger and Emergency Services team have been working on a Preparedness Program between us, the Shire of Denmark and DFES, which will likely be held in September/October in Walpole.

11.2 LG Recovery Workshop - Todd Ridley CESM

There is a Local Government Recovery Workshop being held in Busselton on the 30 July run by DFES, with the objective to provide LGs with information and guidance on restoring the four elements of recovery following an emergency, increase the recovery readiness and capability and clear understanding of their roles. Shire of Manjimup will be attending with a number of key recovery staff to work with our LEMA Recovery Plan during a facilitated Recovery Scenario.

11.3 Facilitator Training - Todd Ridley CESM

DFES are holding Facilitator Training in Manjimup on 25 August for Community members to be more prepared for disasters with the opportunity to lead and support their community, this will be shared through our networks but also encourages members to spread the word.

11.4 Inductions for Backpackers on Fire Safety – Cr Donelle Buegge – Shire President

Concerns raised on who is responsible for inductions of backpackers on Fire Safety with discussions held on how to get this information out. Ideas included preventative education by employers, advertising on Backpacker social media pages, Community pages, Hostels and CRC's. There is also an online Rural Fire Awareness course targeted at farmers that could be utilised.

12. Next Meeting

Next General Meeting to be held 13 November 2024.

13. Declaration of Close of Meeting

The Chair, Shire of Manjimup - Shire President, Cr Donelle Buegge, thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 2.29pm.

Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) Report

REPORT:	TELCO Communications Coverage
OFFICER:	Todd Ridley
DATE:	4 June 2024

BACKGROUND:

Concerns have been raised by both members of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) and Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) that mobile phone coverage throughout the Shire of Manjimup has been greatly impacted, particularly in the Western and Northern parts of Manjimup. Concerns raised are based around that in recent years a smaller coverage area exists than in previous years, less signal straight and call dropouts.

Localised evidence suggests that areas such as Palgarup, that previously had reasonable coverage has now got very little and the western areas of Manjimup (Yanmah / Ringbarkers / Glenoran) are now experiencing a lower coverage area, call dropouts and inconsistent reception.

First Responders have voiced their concerns about having to relying on the mobile phone network when involved in responding to an incident. Whilst First Responders have a reasonable emergency radio network, there has been a reliance in recent years to communicate with local and state authorities via the phone.

The rural community have also raised concerns with Staff and Councillors that they could be unable to contact authorities in the time of an emergency, leaving them in a vulnerable situation.

COMMENT (Includes Options):

Both the LEMC and BFAC have raised concerns and tasked administration with contacting or requesting attendance of a TELSTRA Representative at LEMC meetings. The Shire of Manjimup Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (DCBFCO) has met locally several times with a TELSTRA employee to discuss the concerns raised by committee members. The DCBFCO has reported to BFAC that these meetings and discussions have not resolved the issue or neither has a localised solution been found that would benefit the wider community in the areas affected.

Other Lower South West Local Governments have voiced concerns at the Department of Fire and Emergency Services Regional Operational Committee, however these concerns seem to be based around the 4G to 5G change over and the consistent coverage throughout that period. Several Local Governments contacted by the LEMC Executive ratified these concerns.

Michael Heydon from TELSTRA attended LEMC at the request of the committee on the 13 December 2023. An extract of the minutes of that meeting are shown below:

Discussion ensued with various members advising regarding the coverage reducing from what they had five years ago.

Brad Wren DCBFCO advised after changing to mobile in Yanmah area, their coverage has drastically reduced over this period and from an emergency services point they are letting community down as no longer reliable.

Todd Ridley CESM advised where previously there was coverage west/north of Manjimup and Palgarup, it has now disappeared. Since the new tower installed near Chip Mill in Diamond, residents who live directly near it had better coverage prior to the installation and since new towers have been installed in the area, the bushfire radio network has also been affected.

Michael Heydon Telstra answered that nothing has changed or been turned off but they may have had fortuitous coverage previously on a fringe area of the map and now other factors may affect this like illegal repeaters, increase in demand therefore reduction in capacity etc. This shouldn't be relied on in emergency need other systems in place. The towers shouldn't cause issues with frequency bans with radios, technicians tested it with no issues found. On a positive, Pemberton now has 5G coverage.

At its 20 March 2024 meeting, the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) resolved that *"Shire of Manjimup LEMC Administration to liaise with other Shire's and prepare a report with recommendations for the next LEMC meeting on the Telco issues that can be put forward and presented at South West Country Zone of West Australian Local Government Association (WALGA).*

It is clear that the wider community believe that the coverage has decreased in recent years even when more towers have become operational in the area. Both the LEMC and BFAC Administration have exhausted their means of communicating concerns raised and now ask LEMC to consider two recommendations.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT:

Emergency Management Act 2005

POLICY / STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

The operation of the Local Emergency Management Committee is consistent with the *Shire of Manjimup Strategic Community Plan 2021-2031*, with specific reference to the following Community Goals and associated Strategies:

Community Goals

3.3 *Our whole community participates in strategies to ensure we are minimising risks in regards to bush fire and other natural emergencies.*

3.5 *Residents feel safe, secure and comfortable at home, work and at play.*

Strategies

C22 *Prepare for emergencies and natural disasters.*

ORGANISATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT:

LEMC is in the position to communicate both the community and first responders concerns to State Government Authorities.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNCIL: NIL

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

1. That LEMC Administration write to the District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC) expressing concerns held by both LEMC and BFAC.
2. That the Shire of Manjimup President table the concerns held in this report at the South West Zone of WALGA.

ATTACHMENTS: NIL

Event Name	Description	Category	Organisation	Start Date	End Date	Location	Expected Attendance
Karri Rally	Car Rally	Sporting	WA Car Club	16/08/2024	17/08/2024	Brockman Street & Johnston Cresent, Manjimup Motocross Track	
Vietnam Veterans Day	Commemerorative Event	Community	RSL WA Manjimup Sub Branch	18/08/2024	18/08/2024	Manjimup War Memorial and Manjimup RSL Hall	300
Food Truckin'	Food Trucks	Food / Market	TJK Events	26/08/2024	26/08/2024	TBC	
Pemby trail Fest	Annual Trail Running Event	Sporting	Perth Trail Series	11/10/2024	13/10/2024	Pemberton Swimming Pool and Pemberton District High School	800
Quinninup Fair	Market Day	Food / Market	Quinninup Community Association	27/10/2024	27/10/2024	1197 Wheatley Coast Road, Quinninup	2000
Food Truckin'	Food Trucks	Food / Market	TJK Events	28/10/2024	28/10/2024	TBC	
Food Truckin'	Food Trucks	Food / Market	TJK Events	26/11/2024	26/11/2024	TBC	
Cherry Harmony Festival	Community Market/Food Event	Food / Market		14/12/2024	14/12/2024		

Remo Pessotto - CBFCO

Report for LEMC Meeting held on 17 July 2024

No of Fires

- The 2023-2024 fire season for the Manjimup Shire has been full on for Brigade members dealing with 66 fires until up to the end of June 2024.

These consisted of Power Poles fires caused by trees and branches falling over powerlines, Lighting strikes, deliberately lit fires, combustion reignitions from early spring burns, farm tractors, vehicles fires, structural fires ,assisting VFRS and helping and assisting DCBA and neighbouring shires.

Our brigade members have achieved great success this season in quickly containing these fires, which is a credit to all involved, thank you.

- We have also already had our first two fires for the 2024-2025 season, one was unfortunately a structure fire which was on my own property resulting in the loss of my son's house and the other was a rubbish fire burning in Pemberton. Thank you to all those who attended.

Regulation Burning Times – Period we are in - NA

No of Permits Issued - NA

Weather Conditions

- With only small amounts of rain to date, the Shire is well behind from this time last year with areas that should have been wet and undriveable, you can drive a vehicle not leaving a mark on the ground.

It will be interesting to see what the weather condition is going to be for the next four months up to November, if we don't get the heavy rains to build up the soil moisture it could give a lot of grief for next year season.

Brigade Business / Issues

- Brigades are currently preparing for their AGMs.

Brigade Deployments

- Manjimup Shire has deployed appliances and volunteer crew throughout the season to help out other shires.

Vehicle Maintenance / Issues

- Servicing of Appliances will be commencing in coming months.

Communications

- Since the old house on our property burnt down, unfortunately all our communication systems went with it so DFES has generously set up a Starlink dish and a Cell-fi system at Wilgarrup on my location and since then area communication has greatly improved and even though at times there is still a drop out while communicating on the phone, I have to say it is much better and clearer. Thanks to DFES for the trial use, much appreciated.

General Business - Nil



Department of **Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions**



Warren Region Update for Manjimup LEMC meeting Wednesday 17 July 2024

Prescribed Burning

Since our last meeting in March there was very little prescribed burning in Warren Region. Due to an extended dry season prescribed burning in autumn did not commence until 15th May which is quite late for us. We experienced large areas of drought death in areas associated with shallow soils. A conservative approach to prescribed burning was undertaken due to these conditions.

The burns that we did achieve were areas of very open jarrah, heath and coastal heathland as other areas were too moist to achieve a successful result. Donnelly District burnt 650 hectares from 8 ignitions and Frankland burnt 1,452 hectares from 5 ignitions. Total of 2,100 hectares for autumn. Overall total for spring and autumn was 24,714 hectares. Attached is a map showing prescribed burns completed for 23/24.

Prescribed burn planning for the 2024/25 burn season has been completed. Attached are maps of the one- and three-year burn option program.

Bushfire

In Warren region DBCA attended 44 fires totalling 28,865 hectares. The major ones were Tattenham Road near Northcliffe and Middle Road north of Walpole that were Level 2 incidents. Support from outside DBCA resources, contractors, DFES and LGA's were very much appreciated during these events.

Government Announcement – April 2024

The Government announced more than \$30 million boost for regional bushfire management over the next 4 years.

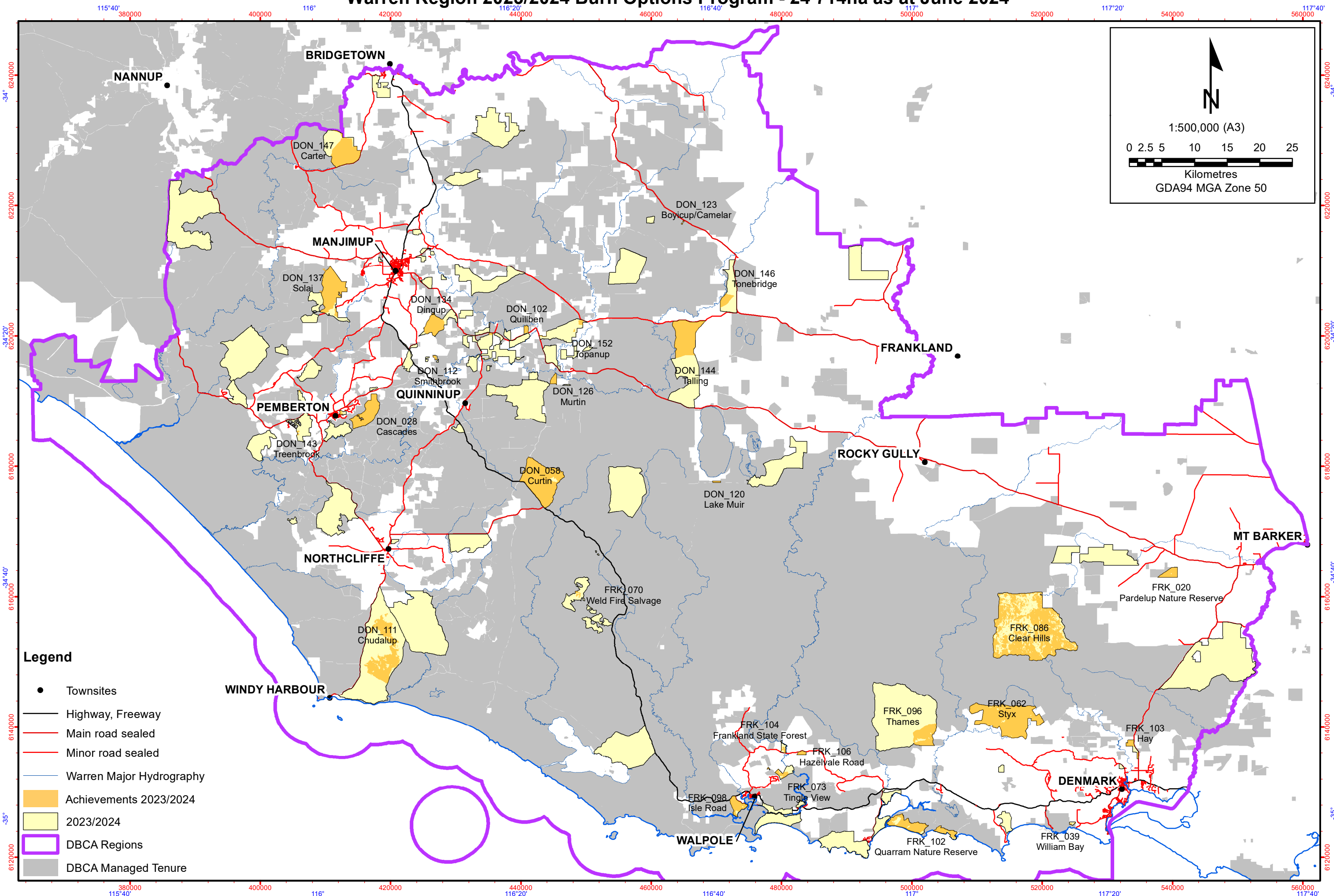
- 34 additional bushfire management personnel (24 Conservation Employees, 10 staff). 4 AWU and 1 officer in Donnelly district.
- Funding for Albany based firefighting bulldozer and prime mover.
- Funding for 1 front end loader.
- Funding for 8 new trucks.

Jeff Bennett
Regional Leader Fire Management
Warren Region
Manjimup

Warren Region

Locked Bag 2, Manjimup, Western Australia 6258
Phone: (08) 97 717 988 Email: warren.admin@dbca.wa.gov.au
dbca.wa.gov.au

Warren Region 2023/2024 Burn Options Program - 24 714ha as at June 2024



- Legend**
- Townsites
 - Highway, Freeway
 - Main road sealed
 - Minor road sealed
 - Warren Major Hydrography
 - Achievements 2023/2024
 - 2023/2024
 - DBCA Regions
 - DBCA Managed Tenure

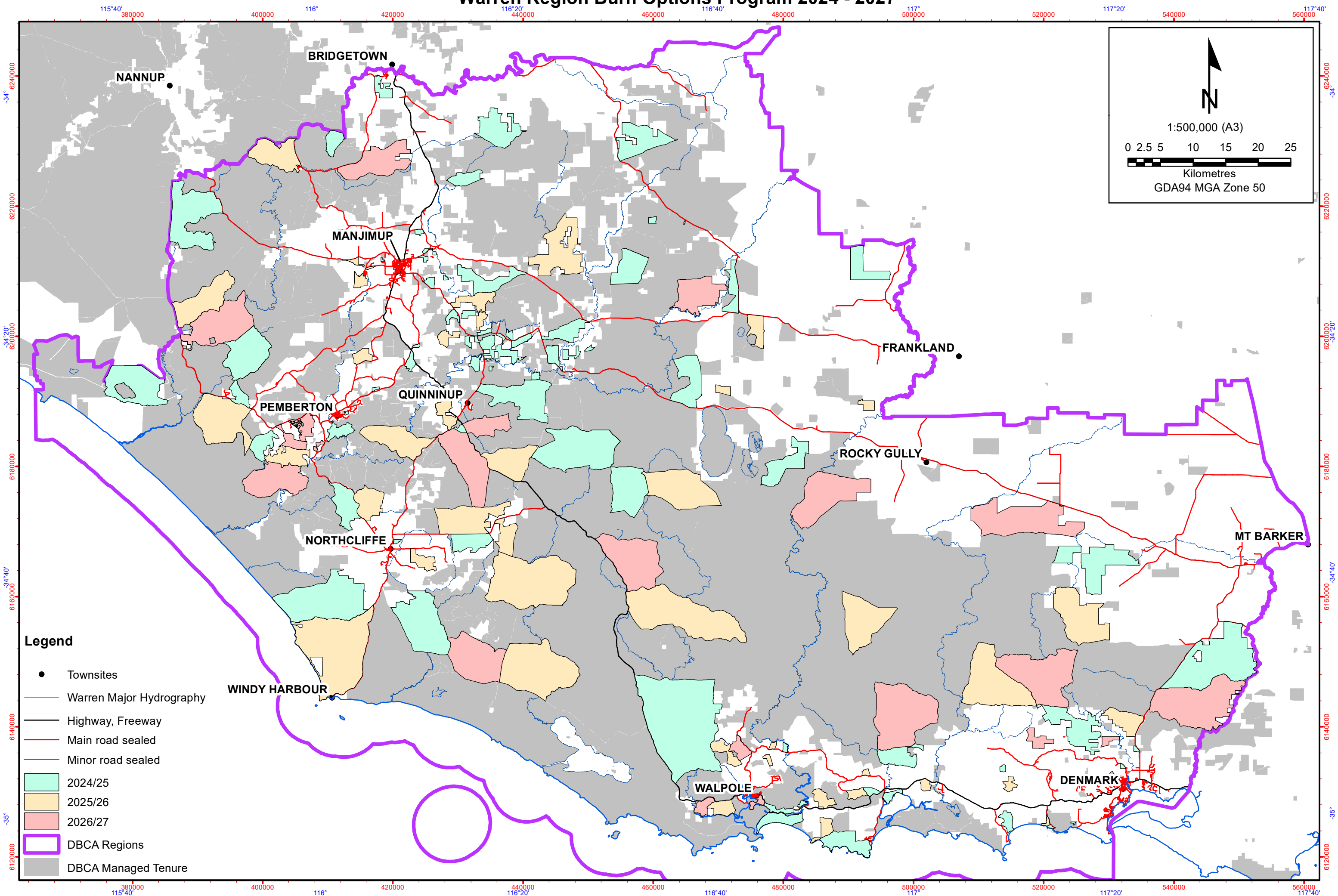
Graticule shown at 20 minutes intervals
Grid shown at 20000 metre intervals

Roads and tracks on land managed by DBCA may contain unmarked hazards and their surface condition is variable. Exercise caution and drive to conditions on all roads.

The Dept. of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions does not guarantee that this map is without flaw of any kind and disclaims all liability for any errors, loss or other consequence which may arise from relying on any information depicted.

Produced: Warren Region June 2024

Warren Region Burn Options Program 2024 - 2027



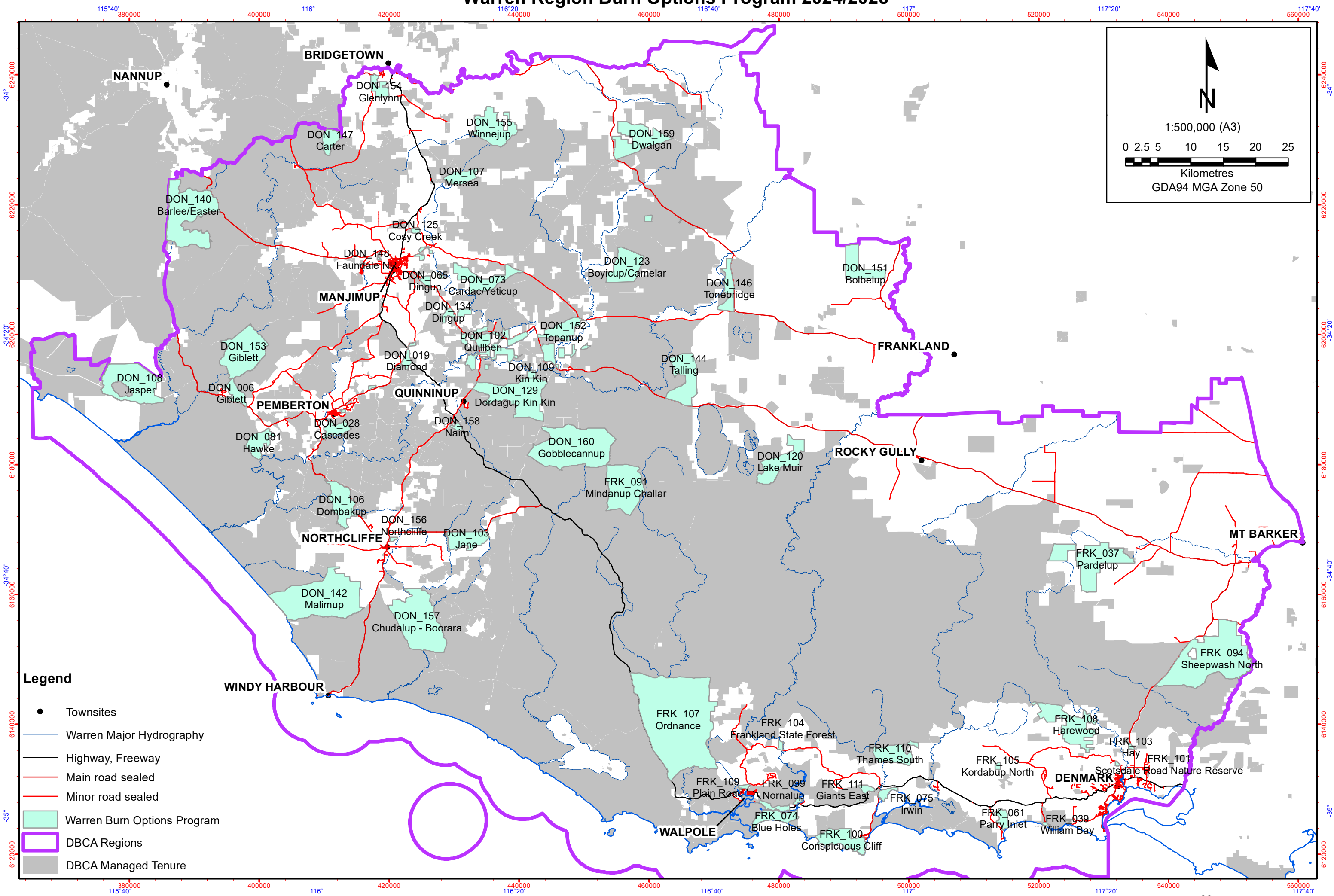
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Produced: Warren Region May 2024

Warren Region Burn Options Program 2024/2025



Graticule shown at 20 minutes intervals
Grid shown at 20000 metre intervals

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Produced: Warren Region May 2024

ITEM 10.7 ATTACHMENT



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Communities**

LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORTING

Agency:

**Department of Communities
(Communities)**

Shire of Manjimup**Report prepared by:**

Renee Flaxman

Position:

Regional Coordinator

Date: From – July 2024 to September 2024 inclusive

Report:**Communities Recovery Activities****Kimberley Floods Recovery Program**

- The Kimberley Floods Recovery program has moved into its second year, with a revised focus on community resilience and wellbeing and an aim of creating a way forward for the community post the floods.
- Communities maintains community recovery officers at the Fitzroy Crossing Flood Hub operated by the Shire of Derby West Kimberley, working in partnership with the Shire, DFES, DPIRD and other partner agencies to deliver the outcomes of the State Recovery and Resilience Plan.
- [Kimberley-Floods-State-Recovery-and-Resilience-plan-2023-2024.pdf \(website-files.com\)](#)
- Communities to manage the recovery needs of individuals, families and communities impacted by the flood. This is called the Social domain and is focused on safety, security, shelter, health, the psychosocial wellbeing of displaced individuals and community resilience.

Communities also manages a component of the infrastructure and built environment Domain, with recovery activities focussed on clean-up, repair and reconstruction of buildings homes and roads.

Communities 2023/24 High Threat Season Activations

The Department of Communities' Emergency Relief and Support (ERS) Directorate would like to acknowledge and thank all of our local and state partners for the assistance and support provided over the 2023-24 season.

Since October 2023, there has been a total of fifty one events supported by Communities including:

- Activation under the AUSRECEPLAN– Israel and Gaza repatriation
- Pre-planning undertaken for 3 high threat weather events, which did not result in activation.
- 496 People were supported during events through our client management system
- 2 Active and declared recovery events (under Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements) - Mariginiup Fire, Bunbury Storm.
- Just prior to Christmas 2023, there were 6 activations supported by Communities over just 2 days (20-22 December).

Our team looks forward to working with you all over the coming months as we prepare for the 2024-25 season.

Local EM Information

1. Evacuation Centre Training

- Current training package has undergone a review and update.in the process of being finalised and expected to be ready to roll out by end of July.
- Training will be a priority for all the regions over the next 6 months.
- Where possible, we recommend that this training be conducted in a gazetted evacuation centre but can explore alternate facilities if required.
- Communities would like to request LEMC members please identify staff that require training.

2. Exercising

Please ensure that the Department is invited to any exercises relating to EM. We would be happy to consider an inject to this exercise if it is appropriate.

1. Activations

South West Communities staff have been activated to stand up 8 evacuation centres in the region since the start of the season:

- SoDardanup - Eaton Bushfire (21st to 22nd December 2023) – Evacuation Centre opened at Eaton Recreation Centre then moved to Eaton Boomers Football Club
- SoCollie - Coolongatta Bushfire (11th to 12th January 2024) – Evacuation Centre opened at Roche Park
- SoNannup – Jalbarragup Millbrook State Forest Bushfire (17th to 18th January 2024) Evacuation Centre opened at Nannup Recreation Centre
- SoHarvey – Leschenault and Australind Bushfire (27th February 2024) – Evacuation Centre opened at Eaton Recreation Centre
- SoCapel – Harewoods Bushfire (10th March to 11th March 2024) – South West Sports Centre
- SoManjimup – Walpole Middle Road Complex Bushfire (26th to 27th April 2024) – Evacuation Centre opened at Walpole Recreation Centre.
- CoBunbury – Bunbury Tornado (10th May 2024 ongoing) – Evacuation Centre opened at Eaton Recreation Centre.
- CoBunbury – Bunbury Storm (1st June 2024 ongoing) – Evacuation Centre opened at South West Sports Centre

2. Bunbury Recovery

- Communities has provided assistance with accommodation, food, & clothing and personal requisites to impacted individuals.
- A total of 42 displaced individuals were supported in temporary accommodation, of which 9 are still being supported.
- Individuals who have returned or are transitioning home have been supported with prepaid cards as well as Foodbank boxes.
- Communities are supporting individuals to access psychological supports via approved local providers.
- Communities have commenced a targeted outreach of known impacted people for Category 3 and 4 financial assistance.
- Communities is working with the Lions Club who are in the process of making up hampers to further support these individuals in their return home journey.
- Communities is finalising a procurement process with Red Cross for delivery of a recovery training program to the city.

- While the Recovery Hubs have been closed, Communities' Disaster Response Hotline remains open to provide support, with officers continuing to engage with impacted persons via
- Communities continues to work closely with CoBunbury, DFES, local support agencies including property and strata management, Red Cross, Salvation Army, SWCLS, RAC, Foodbank and accommodation providers to ensure individual needs are met.

3. ERS Stream 1 Regional Preparedness and Coordination

- Sharon Austin has completed her acting position of ERS Regional Officer.
- A new Regional Coordinator for the Great Southern was appointed and commenced in the role as from the 24th June.

**PLEASE NOTE: If there is an emergency, please phone the ERS On Call phone
0418 943 835**



Shire of Manjimup LEMC DFES Report – July 2024

The fire season over the 2023-24 year was extended, commencing earlier than usual and finishing late May 2024. The lack of rainfall played a significant role in the fire season duration, and water deficiencies saw an escalation of resources dispatched early to ensure fires did not escalate beyond local control. As a result, there were only two Level 2 fires in the Lower South West last fire season, being in Nannup and Northcliffe.

While no significant storm events have occurred locally to date, DFES LSW staff have assisted with the two severe weather events that occurred in Bunbury in May/June 2024.

The current and predicted rainfall deficiency for the south west of WA has DFES undertaking preparatory measures relating to the dead landscape vegetation from last year's dry conditions and the lack of available water for incident response. It is expected that the bush fire season will commence early this year and has the potential to be challenging given the landscape.

Community Preparedness

DFES Lower South West Region has been developing the use of virtual reality for residents to understand being in the impact zone of a fire to help them determine if they prepared to stay and defend their property during a fire or if they should leave in the event of a fire. Sessions have been run in the Shire of Manjimup to assist with the development and evaluation. Our appreciation to those who have assisted with this project.

Firewise Garden Launch – On the 5th June the Bush Fire Centre of Excellence launched the WA Firewise booklet. The LSW Region will be supporting a number of Firewise Garden workshops in July / August using these sessions to also support communities with their fire plans. Anyone is welcome to participate. The dates set for Manjimup Shire are:

- Manjimup
 - Friday 26 July 1730hrs at Manjimup Heritage Park
- Pemberton
 - Friday 9 August 1730hrs at Pemberton Rural BFB Fire Station
- Northcliffe
 - Sunday 11 August 1030hrs at Northcliffe Fire Station
- Walpole
 - Friday 16 August 1500hrs (tbc) at Walpole VFRS station

Sessions likely to run for about an hour or so, and provide an opportunity to chat with community members about bushfire preparedness generally.



Australian Warning System

The new Australian Warning System (AWS) has gone live, adopting national consistency for bush fires, heat waves, cyclone, storm and flood warnings.

The AWS will see the same terminology and warning colours applied across these hazards to ensure greater understanding by the public. The All Clear and Take Care warning levels will no longer be used under AWS and are replaced with an Advice – Threat Is Reduced. This warning will advise the community that no further updates will be issued for that event.

	Advice	An incident is active but there is no immediate threat to lives or homes. Be aware and keep up to date.
	Watch and Act	There is a possible threat to lives and homes. Take action now to protect yourself and others.
	Emergency Warning	There is a threat to lives and homes. You may be in danger and need to take immediate action.

Warning headlines are now simplified, providing the hazard, warning level, action statement and location – giving impacted communities a clearer understanding of what they need to do.

Chris Sousa
District Officer Nelson
0447 362 006



AGENCY NAME:	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development		
PREPARED BY:	Christine Reinke with the support of IEMB	DATE:	16/07/2024
POSITION:	Christine Reinke LEMC DPIRD REP		

List of emergency management prevention and preparedness activities your agency has completed since update. Examples are exercises, training, courses, resources, funding, grants, reviews, mitigation etc.

Agency Emergency Management prevention and preparedness activities have been kept to a low level over this Natural Hazard season to enable effective response capacity if required. DPIRD will prepare a biosecurity readiness program to the LEMC next meeting.

Any Biosecurity response activities conducted or supported since the last LEMC meeting?

DPIRD has a series of Biosecurity responses or management projects that are underway at present. None of these currently have significant implications for the SW region. Key responses are:

1. Polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB), (*Euwallacea fornicates*)
2. Carpet sea squirt (*Didemnum vexillum*)
3. Red dwarf honeybee (RDHB), (*Apis florea*)
4. European starling, (*Sturnus vulgaris*)
5. Bacterial canker of kiwifruit (Psa), (*Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae*)

Additional information on DPIRD Biosecurity emergency management activities is available at www.agric.wa.gov.au

Any emergency management response (level 2 or 3) activities conducted or supported since the last DEMC meeting? Examples are activation of internal, local or regional response, attendance at Incident Support Group (ISG) or Operations Area Support Group (OASG) meetings.

During the peak natural hazard risk season DPIRD has been in a stage of readiness to provide support to Local natural hazard responses, and if called upon, to activate a State-level response for Animal Welfare in Emergencies.

To date this year DPIRD has supported the:

1. Eyre Highway fire and flood events
2. Wanneroo complex fire event,
3. Herne Hill fire event, and
4. the current Blythwood (Waroona) fire event.

Over this period the activation of the State Support Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies has not been requested.

Any emergency management recovery activities conducted or supported since the last DEMC meeting? Examples are initiating initial recovery at the local or regional level, preparation of Impact Statement, for local governments - activation of local recovery arrangements etc.

Nil.

Any emerging risks that your organisation would like to flag for LEMC awareness? New risks which may impact people, economy, public administration, social setting and environment.

DPIRD request that:

1. The messaging on being vigilant of reporting to DPIRD an suspicious or suspect Biosecurity matter in plant or animals be promoted through our communities, and
2. All local government Authorities work to strengthen and formalised and Animal Welfare in Emergencies plans.

DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISOR REPORT

1st Quarter 2024-2025

STATE NEWS

The last meeting of the **State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC)** was held on the 8 May 2024. SEMC Communiques can be found [here](#).

2024 SEMC MEETING SCHEDULE

- August
- October
- December

STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DOCUMENTS

State EM Document Amendments

The State EM Policy Branch of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) administers the review and consultation of the State emergency management documents in consultation with relevant stakeholders.

To maintain accuracy and currency of the documents, they are reviewed annually for statement of fact changes and must undergo a comprehensive review every 5 years.

To assist with our ongoing review of the documents please advise the State EM Policy Branch if you have identified any errors in a State EM document [here](#).

CONSULTATION REQUESTS

State Support Plan – Animal Welfare in Emergencies

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development has recently undertaken a comprehensive review of [State Support Plan – Animal Welfare in Emergencies](#). The purpose of the Plan is to provide the community of Western Australia, including emergency services and the animal management sector, with a document that integrates arrangements for animal welfare with the State's formal management arrangements to ensure that animals are planned for and their welfare is appropriately addressed in any emergency.

The DFES State Emergency Management Policy Branch is now seeking broad stakeholder feedback on the proposed amendments and welcomes other questions or comments you have in relation to this Plan via [Engage WA Emergency Management](#) no later than **12 August 2024**.

You can view all current and past consultations on the [Engage WA EM consultation homepage](#)

CONSULTATION UPDATES

State Hazard Plan – Hazardous Materials Emergencies (HAZMAT)

DFES has completed the periodical comprehensive review of the State Hazard Plan – Hazardous Materials Emergencies (HAZMAT). The term 'hazardous materials' was removed from the title to reduce the confusion between the definition of a 'hazardous substance' within

ITEM 10.10 ATTACHMENT

the Emergency Management Act 2005 and the definition of 'hazardous materials' in the Fire Brigades Act 1942, and the Fire and Emergency Services Act 1988. The plan is now known as State Hazard – HAZMAT.

The WA Police Force has amended the State Hazard Plan – Hostile Act, and State Hazard Plan – Terrorist Act to incorporate the consequential statement of fact amendments as a result of removing chemical, biological, and radiation (CBR) emergency from State Hazard Plan – HAZMAT. As described in State Hazard Plan – HAZMAT, DFES will continue to provide a HAZMAT (chemical, radiological or other substance) capability to hostile act or terrorist act incidents managed by the WA Police Force.

STATE RECOVERY AMENDMENTS

The state-level recovery arrangements in the State Emergency Management Framework (EM Framework) are currently under review. The proposed amendments to the arrangements are:

- Proposed four-level State Model for Recovery Governance (R1-R4), which was trialled in the 23-24 high threat period. The Model defines increasing State involvement relative to the complexity of recovery and capacity of the local government.
- Clarification of roles and responsibilities for the state at various recovery levels, including the role of the State Recovery Coordinator, Event Recovery Coordinator (R3 State Led), and Event Recovery Controller (R4 State Controlled).
- A draft Assessment Support Tool to be utilised in assisting decision makers to assess the level of recovery under the proposed new State Model, including escalation / de-escalation of State involvement in recovery.

There will be a public consultation process on proposed changes to state-level recovery arrangements in the EM Framework. Recommendations for amendments to the EM Framework will be presented to SEMC for consideration.

SEMC STRATEGIC PLAN

With the expiry of the current Strategic Plan in 2025, the SEMC reviewed its strategic direction in anticipation of the development of a new Strategic Plan. At a Strategic Planning workshop, the SEMC explored five key emergency management systemic issues:

- More frequent and severe emergencies
- Consideration of a systemic approach to risk management
- A whole of sector approach
- Strengthening capability and capacity
- A focus on vulnerability, preparedness, and resilience.

Consultation on a new Strategic Plan, and the outcomes of the Strategic Planning workshop, will now occur with Subcommittees and District Emergency Management Committees throughout July, August and September 2024.

RECOVERY FUNDING

Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

Natural disasters or terrorist acts can result in large-scale expenditure in the form of emergency and recovery assistance. To assist with this financial burden, the Australian and

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Western Australian governments have joint arrangements in place to provide financial assistance in certain circumstances. These arrangements are referred to as the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements Western Australia (DRFAWA) and are administered by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) on behalf of the WA State Government.

Recovery from disasters is a shared responsibility between individuals, households, businesses, communities and governments. The arrangements are designed as a safety net when costs to undertake recovery activities from an eligible disaster become significant.

For assistance to be made available under the DRFAWA, the event must meet all three of the following criteria:

1. The event was one or a combination of the ten specified disasters including bushfire, earthquake, flood, storm, cyclone, storm surge, landslide, tsunami, meteorite strike, tornado; or the event was a terrorist act.
2. A coordinated, multi-agency response was required.
3. Eligible expenditure relating to emergency assistance, damage to essential public assets and/or other eligible assistance provided in relation to the event exceeds \$240,000 across the affected local government areas.

For more information go to <https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/recovery-funding> including a suite of Factsheets or please email drfawa@dfes.wa.gov.au or call 1800 920 659 if you wish to discuss an information session for your LG.

GRANT PROGRAM UPDATES

The State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) oversees the distribution of grant funding to support activities that reduce disaster risk and enhance WA's resilience to disasters.

Information on other funding opportunities can be found [here](#).

Please contact semc.grants@dfes.wa.gov.au for further information on the grant programs.

DISTRICT NEWS

The **District Emergency Management Committee** (DEMC) was held on Tuesday 19 March 2024. The next meeting is scheduled for October 2024.

LOCAL NEWS

LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Please check the due date for your five-yearly LEMA reviews and allow a minimum of six months to complete the LEMA review process. Funding opportunities are available to assist.

SECTOR UPDATES

Australian Warning System (AWS) Training

The Australian Warning System (AWS) is a national approach to emergency information that delivers consistent warnings to Australian communities, so people know what they need to do to stay safe in an emergency, no matter where they are.

The AWS features standardised hazard warning icons and colours, with warnings supported by clear action statements.

Changes to cyclone, flood, storm and bushfire warnings will be rolled out in Western Australia on Monday **15 July, 2024**.

AWS Awareness is an online module available on the DFES Mobilise Me platform - <https://dfes.mobilise-me.com/> and provides an overview of the Australian Warning System and how it is applied in Western Australia. Delivered as a self-paced, e-learning awareness module, this course is recommended for anyone wanting to gain a better understanding of the AWS. Course duration is approximately 15-20 minutes.

If users have previously undertaken training on the DFES Mobilise Me platform, they can use their credentials to log in and find the AWS courses.

For new users, they will need to create an account and select Australian Warning System under the “Learning Category” when they are registering their details.

Alternatively, if you were interested in uploading these modules into your own eLearning platform, please contact the DFES Public Information Branch via email statepublicinfo@dfes.wa.gov.au.

Compiled by:
District Emergency Management Advisor – South West
Department of Fire and Emergency Services
As at 5 July 2024.



Government of **Western Australia**
WA Country Health Service

Warren Health Service LEMC Report 26th June 2024

GENERAL

- Continues to be a sustained increase in patient presentations to hospital ED & admissions remain above average for the past quarter 2024.
- Hospital staffing continues to be closely monitored and covered with support. Support from WACHS workforce and other sites as well as local nurses.
- Warren Health Service in partnership with Pemberton District Hospital, provides a New Graduate Nurse (NGN) program. A 12-month program aimed at nurses who have qualified with the previous 2 years. Gives them a supported hospital environment with regular NGN study days with the southwest cohort. Once completed, both hospitals, have offered and had accepted permanent job roles for almost all NGN.
- Midwifery Group Practice continues to provide 24/7 midwifery and birthing services to local women. Warren is a low-risk birthing site and all complex pregnancies are referred to either Bunbury Regional Hospital or King Edward Memorial Hospital or Fiona Stanley Hospital. Supporting woman and families to birth local. Supported with 2 local GP Obstetricians.
- Recent upgrades to Radiography equipment with an increase in service provision to the community extended to Bridgetown. Ultrasound now also visits Bridgetown Hospital to reduce local wait times and meet community needs.
- Hospital rental properties in Manjimup continue to support the required workforce. Currently housing nursing, radiology staff & nursing students.
- Emergency procedures / drill discussion exercises have continued with a focus on fire and evacuation (code red & orange), weather alerts (code yellow) and aggression management (code black) with recent ad hoc security guard engagement for external building patrols overnight. Unfortunately, there has been an increased in drug and alcohol presentations in the community.
- Currently screening symptomatic patients via a RAT testing process. The free community RAT program has ended.



Government of Western Australia
WA Country Health Service

- Inpatients with Covid continue to be nursed with full infection control precautions in place. Incidentally in the past 12 months, WHS has experienced our sickest covid patients (through the declared pandemic) which have required transfer to Perth.
- Health service staff continue to be required to isolate from the workplace for 5 days if Covid positive & seek executive approval to return to the workplace as a close household contact.
- Health service engaged in increased planning with key internal health stakeholders (logistics) and external stakeholders including SJA and Site medic team for the Manjimup 15000 MX event – outcome greater oversight from statewide perspective. Overall, ED presentation numbers increased – Sunday (seniors race day) > Saturday (juniors race day).

Triage Severity Code	Warren Health Service	Total
2	8	8
3	21	21
4	26	26
5	36	36
Total	91	91

An increase in ED numbers however this was not only due to MX.

Average daily ED presentations is 22 per day, this weekend increased to 30.3 each day.

Over the 3 days (including practice day Fri 31/5) 17 MX ED presentations.

Multi agency approach with private MX paramedic provider, SDS, BRH FACEM for Sat and Sun, increased awareness to Acute Patient Transport Centre which engage RFDS and SJA and increased nursing staff in ED.

Unfortunately, weather hindered any RFDS retrievals however all patient's requiring transfer was achieved with road to BRH (via SJA) or RFDS to Perth the following day.

Thankfully there was no permanent disability nor fatal injuries sustained.

OFFICIAL

ITEM 10.14 ATTACHMENT - WALPOLE



WESTERN AUSTRALIA POLICE

WALPOLE POLICE STATION

Walpole Police Station

7 Vista Street, WALPOLE
WESTERN AUSTRALIA 6398
Telephone: (08) 9825 0800
Facsimile: (08) 98401797

Your ref:
Our ref: LEMC Report
Enquiries: Steve Page

TO: Manjimup LEMC

SUBJECT: Walpole Police Up-date

For the quarterly reporting period there has been no LEMC activations for the Walpole Police sub district

Traffic:

2 x vehicle crashes – both on the Walpole Manjimup road.

Minor crashes involving tourists running off the road. Nil injuries.

Walpole Police will continue their high visible road policing presence.

Fire's:

Walpole Police are investigation a deliberately lit fire near the broke inlet. (From February 2024)

Albany Detectives have completed their investigation of the Middle Road Complex fire, which was deliberately lit. No Persons of Interest were identified (April 2024)

Sincerely

Steve Page
Sergeant 8512
Officer in Charge
Walpole Police Station
[Redacted Signature]

16th July 2024