



Reports tabled at meeting

**Local Emergency Management
Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday 5 August 2026 at
6:00pm**

LEMA Review

Shire of Murray

August 2026

What are LEMA? – EM Knowledge Hub Guidance

- An overarching strategic EM plan:
 - endorsed by Council
 - outlining local EM objectives, strategies, priorities and financial and governance arrangements
- A community risk profile identifying and listing:
 - hazards
 - vulnerabilities
 - risk assessments for the local district
 - treatment plans to address those hazards

What are LEMA cont.?

- An incident support handbook which includes:
 - roles and responsibilities
 - local resources, arrangements and contact details,
 - communication resources, roles and responsibilities,
 - partnering arrangements or MOUs
 - coordination of emergency operations and activities
- Planning that supports specific aspects of EM, such as:
 - Exercising and training.
 - Local Emergency Relief and Support Plan.
 - Local emergency animal welfare.
 - Supporting people at higher risk.
 - Managing spontaneous volunteers and donations.
- A Local Recovery Plan that nominates a Local Recovery Coordinator(s).

Overview – Shire of Murray LEMA review

- Funding received through AWARE
- Shire Project group
- Surveys:
 - Community
 - Business community
- Risk Assessment -LEMC Workshops and Shire EM team
- LEMA SWOT Analysis
- Plan Review



Strengths of pre-existing LEMA

Clear and Comprehensive Documentation

- Well written and organised,
- Provided clear guidance for emergency management personnel.
- Relevant information captured

Compliance and Local Context

- Aligned with statutory requirements
- Tailored to address local environmental risks and community needs.

Accurate Contact Lists

- Up-to-date contact lists enable timely communication
- Stated membership of response and recovery groups helpful

Strong Agency Collaboration

- Good levels of buy-in from agencies

Weaknesses of pre-existing LEMA

Limited Engagement with some stakeholders

- Understanding of individual agencies weaknesses reduces planning effectiveness.

Complex and Inaccessible Document

- Hard for non-emergency staff and community members to understand – both structure and content contribute.
- Becomes out of date quickly due to the detail
- Some content not relevant to community audience
- Drawing out 'response' actions difficult



Weaknesses of pre-existing LEMA cont.

Lack of Visual Aids

- Absence of flow diagrams and visual summaries hinders quick comprehension needed during emergencies
- Lack of cheat sheets/checklists

Resource and Communication Gaps

- Capacity issues affect document maintenance
- Lack of consultation with Shire staff
- Lack of engagement/communication pathways for hard-to-reach cohorts - for example, campers, Air BNB, Culturally and Linguistically diverse

Opportunities

Funding and Benchmarking

- Explore new funding sources - emergency preparedness and mitigation
- Benchmarking against best practice

Vulnerable Persons Planning

- Enhance vulnerable person plan
- Develop individualized plans for vulnerable persons
- Build on existing engagement with DIEP program
- Changing demographics of the Shire needs to be reflected



Opportunities (cont.)

Operational Clarity and Structure

- Separate strategic and operational elements
- Develop role-based summaries and quick-reference tools
- Continue shire staff and volunteer education
- Utilise visual mechanisms to simplify content

Community Engagement - Preparedness and Building resilience

- By locality
- By requirements, for example, disability, seniors, cultural diversity
- Emergency management information in welcome packs for new residents
- Regular community information newsletters and social media
- School-based programs
- Displays

Threats

Environmental and Climatic Risks

- Increasing bushfire risks driven by environmental changes require enhanced mitigation funding

Community Engagement Challenges

- Varying community understanding – lack of engagement with EM
- Changing nature of the community requires planning and adaption

Resource and Capacity Constraints

- Staff capacity limited
- Reliance on volunteers

New LEMA Structure - Forward facing documents

Three audiences identified – EM stakeholders, Shire of Murray staff and Murray community/businesses

Forward facing documents provide a strategic, educative approach to encourage 'shared responsibility' and include:

- Local Emergency Management Plan
- Local Recovery Plan
- Emergency Evacuation Plan
- Persons at Higher Risk Plan
- Emergency Risk Management Report

New LEMA Structure – Operational documents

Audience - LEMC, EM stakeholders and Shire staff.

- Operational Support Manual – iterative and continuously evolving/improving
- Emergency Animal Welfare Plan

Documents outside this project

- Shire of Murray Crisis Communications Framework
- Operational Contacts and Resource Manual
- Murray Bushfire Risk Management Plan
- Local Emergency Relief and Support Plan – Bindjareb Region

Next Steps

- Reviewed LEMA documents shared with LEMC
- LEMC to provide feedback
- Special meeting to endorse final documents



Local Emergency Management Committee Member Report

Agency	Shire of Murray
Position	Emergency Management and Resilience Coordinator
Report Author [Name]	John Kowal
Report Date	5 August 2026

Please do not change the format of this report. Delete the headings that may not be applicable to your report.

1.1 Emergency Management Achievements

Comprehensive review of Local Emergency Management Arrangements and support plans.

Key Milestones

Milestone 1 - Project commencement meeting completed – 17/11/2025.

Milestone 2 - Project & Stakeholder Engagement Plan Endorsed completed – Project Plan endorsed on 17/12/202.

Milestone 3 - Initial Review & Gap Analysis completed – 03/03/2026

Milestone 4 - Community Survey - risk perception and preparedness completed – 13/02/2026.

Milestone 5 - Stakeholder consultation completed – 11/06/2026

Milestone 6 - Draft updated LEMA documents for review completed – 18/06/2026

Milestone 7 - Submit final documents to LEMC for endorsement and to Council for adoption - September 2026.

1.2 Priorities / Risks / Critical Issues

- Current priority is to complete the review of the SoM LEMA and support to LEMC for endorsement and to Council for adoption - September 2026.
- Undertaking the review of the SoM Bushfire Risk Management Plan that includes:
 - Review of over 900 risk assessments as part of the DFES Bushfire Risk Mitigation System.
 - Review any new developments, infrastructure installations including any critical infrastructure.
 - Consultation with key stakeholders to ascertain bushfire risk mitigation on their properties i.e. industries, businesses, major land holdings.
 - Consultation with brigades to determine history of brigade mitigation activities and bushfire risks information within each brigade fire district.
 - Review of SoM owned and vested/managed properties to determine bushfire risk level and mitigation treatments. Note those properties that maybe alleageable for funding via the DFES Mitigation Activity Fund for the treatment of bushfire risks.

1.3 Exercises

Nil to report

1.4 Training

Nil to report

1.5 Operations

Nil to report

1.6 Reviews

As stated in 1.1 and 1.1.

1.7 Other Information/Comments

Funding grant applications have been submitted for the following:

- Disaster Ready Fund - Round 4 – Application was submitted for the installation of two 350KI water storage tanks to support firefighting operations.
- Alcoa Bushfire Ready Fund – Application was submitted for the supply and installation of a Fire Danger Rating (FDR) sign similar to the FDR signs recently installed at Dwellingup, Coolup and North Dandalup.

DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISOR (DEMA) REPORT

Period:

July to September 2026

Updated 03 August 2026 CW

NEW INFORMATION

New or updated information, since the previous DEMA Report, will be shown in **BLACK**. Important information for note will be in **RED**. Retained content will be shown in *BLUE italics*.

LOCAL FOCUS

PROJECT *Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA) Improvement Program*

Lead *Joint DFES and WALGA project*

Overview

- The LEMA Improvement Program is a sector-led reform to address the findings and recommendations of the LEMA Review Project.*
- The aim of the Program is to design and develop new processes and tools to streamline and enhance the efficiency of preparing LEMA, ensuring they are more suitable for local governments.*

New LEMA Templates

The new LEMA templates should be made available for local governments soon via Engage. Local governments will have an opportunity to provide feedback on the templates for 12 months.

LEMA Implementation Masterclass – Open

The updated LEMA templates and guidance are expected to be released shortly via EngageWA.

In anticipation of their release, WALGA is seeking Expressions of Interest for an upcoming LEMA Masterclasses designed to support Local Governments to develop, review and implement the updated resources for their Local Government LEMA.

Places are limited to 20 participants per session. Priority will be given to Local Governments with LEMA that are overdue or due for review.

Three masterclass sessions are planned across 2026 and 2027, and applicants are asked to nominate their preferred and second preferred dates.

Submit your EOI here: [Expression of Interest: LEMA Masterclass Survey](#)

Applications for the 31 August to 1 September 2026 session will be reviewed first, with successful applicants notified by mid-August.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact **Catherine Feeney | LEMA Implementation Project Officer | WALGA**

(p) (08) 9213 2092 | (m) 0429 558 343 |(e) cfeeney@walga.asn.au

How can you help

Keep up to date by visiting the [SEMC website](#) or the [WALGA website](#).

Further Information

<https://engagewaem.com.au/> from the end of June

Contact

Lanie Ayers: lanie.ayers@dfes.wa.gov.au

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Until the reforms of LEMA Improvement Program have been ratified through the SEMC, local governments are advised to proceed with their scheduled LEMA reviews, to remain compliant with their obligations under the *Emergency Management Act 2005*.

ACTIVITY Lead	Metro Emergency Management Capability Development Initiatives Metropolitan DEMC's & District Emergency Management Advisors
<u>Overview</u> Across the metropolitan districts, a number of initiatives are being developed to strengthen emergency management capability, improve information sharing and support collaboration between local governments, agencies and emergency management practitioners. These initiatives recognise that many local governments face similar challenges, including limited time, competing priorities, workforce constraints and the need to access specialist knowledge and expertise. By working together across districts, opportunities exist to reduce duplication of effort, increase consistency and improve access to capability development opportunities.	
<u>Current Initiatives</u> <u>Emergency Management Discussion Activity Development Days (EMDADD)</u> EMDADD workshops bring practitioners together to collaboratively develop simple exercise resources, discussion activities and capability development tools that can be shared across local governments and emergency management stakeholders. The intent is to create practical, reusable resources that support exercising requirements while reducing the burden on individual local governments to develop activities from scratch. These workshops also provide an opportunity to share ideas, lessons and examples of good practice. <u>Local Recovery Coordinator Network</u> The recently established Local Recovery Coordinator (LRC) Network aims to strengthen recovery capability and support the legislated role of Local Recovery Coordinators. The network provides opportunities to: • improve understanding of recovery governance • share recovery experiences and lessons • build professional networks • discuss emerging recovery issues • support capability development across local governments The network recognises that recovery is often one of the most complex aspects of emergency management and that practitioners benefit from opportunities to learn from one another. Next meeting: Pencilled in for 30/09/2026 <u>Sharing Resources and Lessons</u> A recurring theme across DEMCs and LEMCs has been the value of sharing: • exercise outcomes • lessons identified • templates and tools • recovery resources • emerging risk information	

- examples of good practice

District-level initiatives continue to explore opportunities to improve collaboration and make existing resources more visible and accessible across the emergency management sector.

What happens next:

How Can You Get Involved?

If you are interested in:

- participating in EMDADD workshops
- the Local Recovery Coordinator Network
- presenting or attending future webinars
- sharing lessons identified
- contributing exercise materials or templates

Further Info	Please contact Donna and/or Cate for more information. Further information can also be found on the LG Knowledge Hub HERE
ACTIVITY	WA Local Government Association Updates
Lead	WALGA
<u>WALGA 2025 Local Government Emergency Management Survey Insights</u> 100 Local Governments across WA participated in the 2025 Survey. The results are invaluable for identifying sector priorities, pressure points, and emerging issues and will inform WALGA's emergency management policy and advocacy. Key insights include: • Expectations are outpacing capacity. ~90% of Local Governments have maintained or increased their emergency management investment, but emergency demands are growing faster. • Local Government capacity is under systemic strain including critical system-driven workforce, funding, and capability pressures. • Proven models should be scaled. The Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM) program is a clear and practical way to strengthen system capability. • Bushfire is shaping system pressures. 91% of Local Governments rank bushfire in their top 5 hazards, and 66% say bushfire crowds out all-hazards work. • One State, many realities. Local Governments operate in fundamentally different risk and capacity environments. A single emergency management model cannot meet these diverse needs.	
Further Information WALGA Local Government Emergency Management Survey WALGA Contact WALGA Emergency Management team (08) 9213 2049 (between 8.30am - 4.30pm AWST)	
<u>Emergency Waste Management Plan Template</u> WALGA, working with the Department of Fire and Emergency Services and Local Government, developed a Template Emergency Waste Management Plan. The Plan provides a way for Local Governments to explore, at a high level, the likely types of waste that couple be generated from an event and consequent considerations and management options. Ineffective emergency waste management has the potential to significantly delay recovery efforts, present a considerable risk to human health and the environment and increase the costs of recovery. Effective planning for waste likely to be generated by emergency events can assist in addressing this issue.	
Further Information Better Practice WALGA	

Contactwaste@walga.asn.au**H5 Bird Flu Response Plan**

WALGA is in the process of finalising a Template H5 Bird Flu Response Plan to support Local Governments in preparing for a potential outbreak. The Plan outlines key Local Government responsibilities, including communication, clean-up and disposal, and provides supporting calculations and resources to assist with planning.

An H5 Bird Flu outbreak has the potential to cause widespread impacts, making it important for Local Governments to be prepared.

Contactwaste@walga.asn.au

DISTRICT FOCUS

ACTIVITY	<i>District Emergency Management Committee Meeting</i>
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Lead	<i>DEMC Chairs and DEMC Exec Officers</i>
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Current Status

The following email accounts have been established and you are requested to use the following for any communications related to the specific DEMC or items specific to an EM District:

- *North:* demcmtronorth@dfes.wa.gov.au
- *Central:* demcmetrocentral@dfes.wa.gov.au
- *East:* demcmetroeast@dfes.wa.gov.au
- *South:* demcmetrosouth@dfes.wa.gov.au

NEXT MEETINGS:

NORTH DEMC	3 Nov 2026	CENTRAL DEMC	27 Oct 2026
EAST DEMC	4 Nov 2026	SOUTH DEMC	21 Oct 2026

How can you help	Please ensure your DEMC Rep contacts are up to date
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Further Info	<i>Please contact Donna and/or Cate</i>
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ACTIVITY	AusAlert
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Lead	DFES Public Information Branch
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The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) is introducing AusAlert, a new telephone warning system for emergencies.

Further Information

More information, fact sheets and resources are available at ausalert.gov.au

Contact	statepublicinfo@dfes.wa.gov.au
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ACTIVITY	Disability Inclusive Emergency Planning (DIEP) – District Update
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Lead	DFES – Community Preparedness Directorate
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The Disability Inclusive Emergency Planning (DIEP) Project is a DFES-led initiative supporting inclusive emergency planning across Western Australia. Led by local governments (LGs), DIEP forums have brought together people with disability, carers, local governments, service providers and emergency services to identify local strengths, gaps and priorities. Findings are now being translated into practical actions at the local and district levels.

The Forums have provided the participating LGs with clearer insights into how people with disability experience emergency preparedness, response and recovery in their local context. The project highlights considerations such as evacuation challenges, transport constraints, service coordination and community education gaps. These insights support DEMCs, LEMCs and agencies to better align district planning, engagement and arrangements with the needs of people with disability and other at-risk community members.

Key dates/milestones

- **Forums delivered:** 18 DIEP forums completed across participating local governments plus 2 State forums
- **Engagement:** Over 475 participants statewide
- **Current activity:** Local governments have received a report on their forum and Community Preparedness Directorate (CPD) is now working with each of them to develop a Local Action Plan
- **Next steps:** Statewide synthesis report is due in **June 2026** and development of a State Action Plan will commence

Further information

Disability Inclusive Emergency Planning (DIEP) resources and reports:

Collaborating 4 Inclusion – Collaborating for inclusion of people with disability in the community

<https://collaborating4inclusion.org/>

Contact

DFES – Community Preparedness Directorate

Bek Martin: rebekah.martin@dfes.wa.gov.au or 0484142675

STATE FOCUS

ACTIVITY *SEMC Meetings*

Lead SEMC & SEMC Business Unit

LAST MEETING HELD: 21 May 2026

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED: 30 July 2026

LATEST COMMUNIQUE: MAY 2026 (CLICK [HERE](#))

FUTURE MEETING DATES: 01 October 2026
03 December 2026

PROJECT *SEMC Annual Report 24/25*

Lead SEMC & SEMC Business Unit

Overview

The SEMC Annual Report 24/25 was tabled in parliament on 12 March 2026. It is available [HERE](#)

Further Information *If you have any questions, please contact the SEMC Business Unit at info@semc.wa.gov.au*

PROJECT *Comprehensive Review Schedule of State EM Documents*

Lead Various

The comprehensive review schedule is available [HERE](#)

The following State EM documents are due to commence comprehensive review in 2026 for a 2027 SEMC approval.

- 1. OPEN NOW
- 2. 2026 Consultation
- 3. 2027 Consultation

SHP – Hostile Act

SHP – Cyber Security

District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC) Handbook

SHP – Maritime Environmental Emergencies (MEE)

SHP – Collapse

SHP – Tsunami

Communicating in Recovery Guideline

SSP – Freight and Resupply

SHP – Animal and Plant Biosecurity

SSP – Emergency Public Information

SHP – Earthquake

SHP – Heatwave

Impact Statement Guide

Local Recovery Guidelines

SHP – Terrorist Act

Traffic Management in Emergencies Guideline

SHP – Nuclear Powered Warship (NPW)

WA Managing Exercises Guidelines (due likely to be pushed back to 2027)		Comprehensive review of the State EM Framework (State EM Policy, Plan, Procedure and Glossary)	
How can you help		Actively participate in the consultation process and collaborate with other key stakeholders during this period. Consider including the review process as an agenda item on your LEMC agenda or conducting a desktop exercise.	
Further Information		Please refer to ENGAGE WA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	
PROJECT Lead		EM Framework Continuous Improvement SEMC	
The Engage WA Emergency Management portal is the primary mechanism for engaging in the review of the State EM Framework. This portal will link you to OPEN consultations, however there is also a mechanism for lodging feedback on any aspect of the EM Framework at any time, using the EM DOCUMENT ISSUES REGISTER button – as shown below.			
Spot It! Share It! Strengthen It! Do you have feedback on an emergency management document? Let us know! EM Document Issues Register			
How can you help		Actively participate in the consultation process and collaborate with other key stakeholders during this period. Consider including the review process as an agenda item on your LEMC agenda or conducting a desktop exercise.	
Further Information		Please refer to ENGAGE WA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	
PROJECT Lead		State Hazard Plan – Cybersecurity Incident SEMC	
Overview The Office of Digital Government (DigiGov) have confirmed they will commence the delivery of <i>State Hazard Plan – Cybersecurity Incident</i> presentations to the broader EM sector once consultation opens through EngageWA.			
Current Status The planned release date is currently August, though it may be brought forward. Requests for presentations at District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC) meetings can be considered from August onwards. With some advance notice, a delivery schedule can be coordinated, ensuring DigiGov isn't inundated with presentation requests.			
How can you assist/engage		By keeping an eye on the Engage WA Management Platform for the DPC's State Hazard Plan in Quarter 2.	
Further Info		dgov-administrator@dpc.wa.gov.au	
EDUCATION, TRAINING AND RESOURCES			
EDUCATION		Sources of Information	
Lead		DFES – Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA Team	
Overview There are many sources of education and information to support you in your Emergency Management role. We will continue to build on these as more become known to us:			
SOURCE/LINK		OVERVIEW	
Engage WA Emergency Management		This site is the predominant consultation platform for all aspects of the State EM Framework	

<u>Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA (DRFAWA)</u>	Links to guidance on all aspects of DRFAWA funding including training modules and fact sheets
<u>Disaster Ready Fund</u>	Links to the objectives and successful projects from past rounds of the DRF, a 1 Billion Dollar fund available until 2028 – focused on disaster resilience and risk reduction initiatives
<u>Emergency WA</u>	Emergency WA hosts sections on Preparing, Planning and Recovery and is also the platform for community warnings and information about the Australian Warning System.
<u>SEMC Website</u>	Provides a link to all components of the framework designed to facilitate effective EM in WA
<u>Local Government Knowledge Hub</u>	The Knowledge Hub (EM Hub) provides an overview of the roles and responsibilities of local governments as outlined in the Emergency Management Act 2005 (EM Act) and the State Emergency Management (EM) Framework.
<u>Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience</u>	A hub of nationally produced resources and information on all aspects of EM
<u>WALGA EM</u>	To subscribe to WALGA EM News, click HERE
How can you help	Share the above links/information with others in your agency who are engaged in, or interface with, Emergency Management
ACTIVITY	Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery Training
Lead	DFES - State Recovery
DFES will deliver a refreshed emergency management and disaster recovery training program between May and September 2026, continuing a mix of face-to-face and online learning. Designed to build foundational knowledge and strengthen capability across state agencies and local governments, the program includes four modules covering emergency management, recovery fundamentals, and advanced practical topics. Additional recovery funding training is also underway, including DRFAWA video modules and Essential Public Asset Reconstruction–Lite sessions (April–June 2026) Modules have been updated to align with recent policy reform. In particular, the two introductory modules (Introduction to Emergency Management and Introduction to Disaster Recovery) provide local government and district staff with a clear understanding of emergency management and recovery roles, responsibilities, and processes. Supports more coordinated, consistent, and effective recovery outcomes at the local level. Key dates • Face-to-face delivery scheduled from May to September 2026. • Online versions of the two introductory modules are undergoing a similar policy alignment process and will be available via self-registration in the coming months. • Recovery funding (EPR-Lite) training running April to June 2026 Further information https://publications.dfes.wa.gov.au/publications/emergency-management-disaster-recovery-training-catalogue-2026 Recovery Funding webpage (DRFAWA video modules): https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/resilience-and-recovery-funding/recovery-funding#resources	
Contact	recoverycapability@dfes.wa.gov.au (for EM and DR training); or drfawa@dfes.wa.gov.au (for funding-related training enquiries)
RESOURCES	Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA (DRFAWA)
Lead	DFES – Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA Team
<u>Overview</u>	<i>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 Western Australian governments have joint arrangements in place to provide financial assistance in certain circumstances. These arrangements are referred to as Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).</i>

Further Information	To review the RECOVERY FUNDING resources click HERE
RESOURCES	AWARE GRANTS – COMING SOON
Lead	DFES – Recovery Funding Team
Purpose	<i>The annual AWARE competitive grant program aims to enhance West Australia’s emergency management arrangements by investing in capacity building and preparedness activities at a local level.</i>
Eligibility	<i>Only Western Australian local governments are eligible to apply for AWARE grants. Local governments are encouraged to collaborate and submit joint applications.</i>
	<i>Applicants are encouraged to refer to the Eligibility Checklist in the Grant Guidelines before proceeding with their application to ensure proposed projects meet the program requirements.</i>
Status	<i>The 2025-26 AWARE grant round closed on 5 August 2025. \$257,241 in AWARE funding was allocated across 21 local government projects. The list of the projects is available under the Successful AWARE projects section.</i>
How can you engage	<i>Start thinking about possible projects that might reflect the DRF mandate. To find out more, review previously successful projects HERE</i>
Further Information	https://dfes.wa.gov.au/resilience-and-recovery-funding/recovery-funding

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

LG/Agency	Dates	Exercise	Focus
City of Cockburn	06/08/2026	Operation Crowded Hour	Hostile Act
City of Mandurah	12/08/2026	New Years Eve Incident	Hostile Act
East Metropolitan DEMC	20/08/2026	Exercise Airside	Hostile Act
Perth Airport	17/09/2026	Exercise Horizon	Air Crash & Identification, Reunification & Repatriation
Metro DEMA’s	30/09/2026	Local Recovery Coordinators Network	Bring together Local and Deputy Recovery Coordinators from across the Metropolitan to connect, support, and develop knowledge and understanding.
Rottnest Island Authority	TBA	Operation Black Spill	HAZMAT

Compiled by: District Emergency Management Advisor (Metro) - DFES
Date: 03 August 2026

North and Central Metropolitan

2024-25 highlights

- Established an internal heatwave working group
- Successful bushfire mitigation funding applications
- Produced a centralised emergency management document register
- Polyphagous shot hole borer update.

District Emergency Management Committee meetings

7 November (joint with South and East Metropolitan)

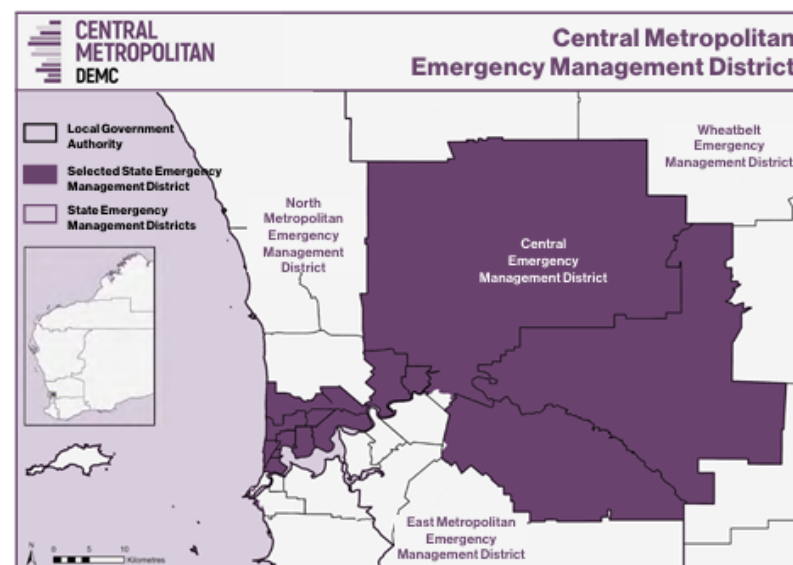
21 May

Local Governments and Local Emergency Management Committees in the North Metropolitan District

Number of local governments	3
Number of Local Emergency Management Committees	2
Local governments with current LEMA	3

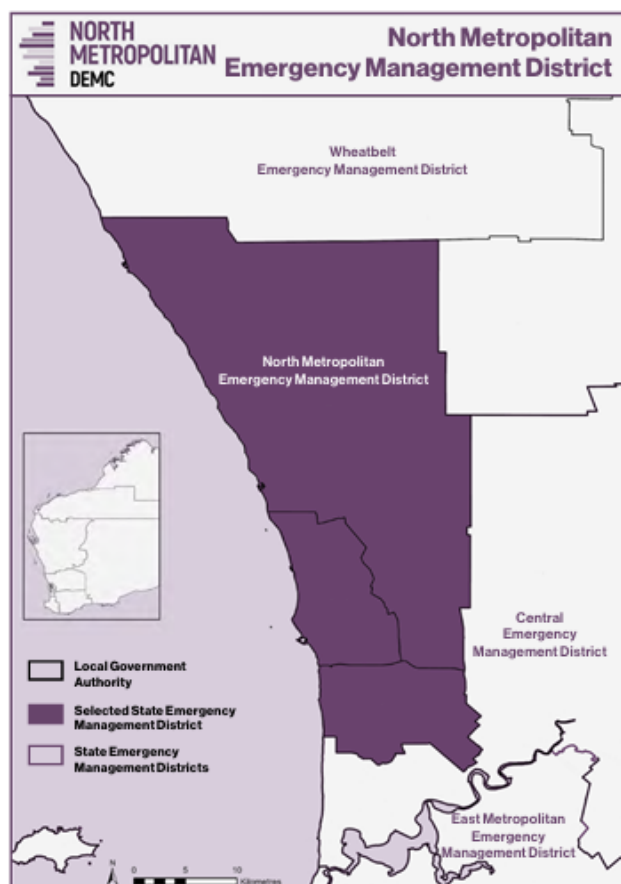
Local Governments and Local Emergency Management Committees in the Central Metropolitan District

Number of local governments	14
Number of Local Emergency Management Committees	7
Local governments with current LEMA	12



Exercises in 2024-25:

- City of Stirling LEMC: Exercise Crux (hostile act)
- Cities of Wanneroo and Joondalup LEMC: Exercise Dual Strike (storm)
- Town of Bassendean LEMC: Exercise 1 (storm)
- City of Bayswater LEMC: Exercise 1 (storm)
- City of Kalamunda LEMC: Exercise Paw-sitive (animal welfare plan)
- Shire of Mundaring LEMC: Exercise Sirocco (fire)
- City of Perth LEMC: Australia Day exercise (hostile act), evacuation centre activation (air crash), and incident management executive team exercise (biological substance)



Exercises in 2024-25 (Continued)

- City of Swan LEMC: Big Maps exercise (project resilience) – two workshops conducted in partnership with Disaster Relief Australia (DRA), one with EM stakeholders and the other as a community event, focusing on understanding disaster risk and empowering community resilience (fire and flood, and multiple hazards)
- Western Central LEMC: Heatwave exercise.

Preparedness and information sharing:

- Virtual reality: Enhancing community resilience and preparedness (Cities of Wanneroo and Joondalup LEMC)
- Electric Vehicle Fires and Lithium Batteries presentation and case study (Cities of Wanneroo and Joondalup LEMC)
- State Emergency Management Framework discussion (City of Kalamunda LEMC)
- Lithium-Ion Fires presentation from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services
- Shire of Mundaring LEMC: Western Australian Community Disaster Resilience Strategy Workshop
- DEMC membership supporting local governments engaging in State projects, including the LEMA Improvement Program Working Group
- Contributions to the State Recovery Framework review
- Emergency management-focused training (including activities funded by AWARE grants)
- Cultural Champions meetings
- Local Government Business Continuity planning
- Review of LEMC to align with local governments' community engagement policy
- School Principal Forum
- Aged Care Forum
- Involvement in State emergency management projects, including Community Disaster Resilience Strategy (CDRS) workshops, and State Hazard and Support Plan reviews
- Other EM-focused activities: multicultural communications webinars, Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements awareness sessions, seniors' emergency preparedness presentations, and community events such as open days and student design competitions
- Conversion of analogue Australian Fire Danger Rating signage to digital format, using a Disaster Ready Fund grant.

South and East Metropolitan

2024-25 highlights

Nil.

District Emergency Management Committee meetings

7 November (joint with North and Central Metropolitan)

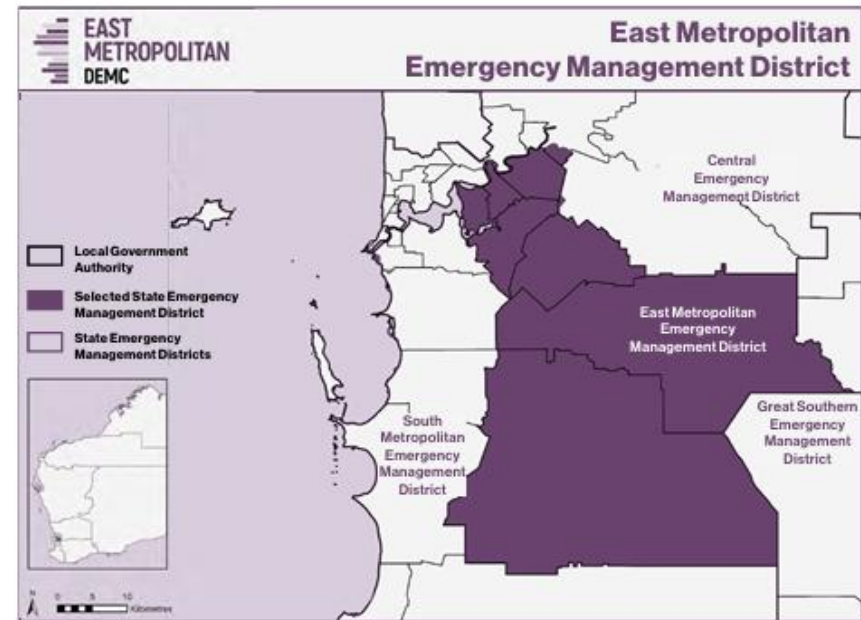
21 May

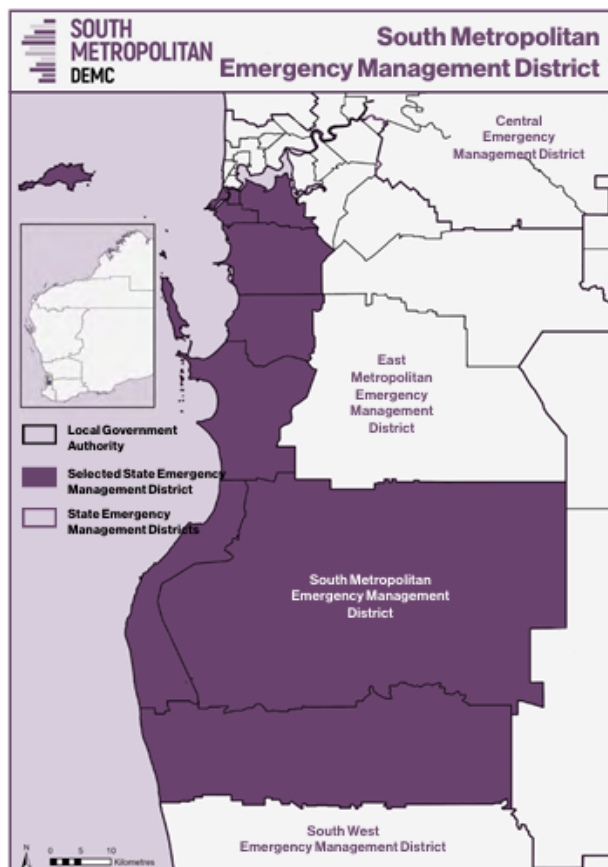
Local Governments and Local Emergency Management Committees in the South Metropolitan District

Number of local governments	10
Number of Local Emergency Management Committees	9
Local governments with current LEMA	5

Local Governments and Local Emergency Management Committees in the East Metropolitan District

Number of local governments	7
Number of Local Emergency Management Committees	5
Local governments with current LEMA	5





Exercises in 2024-25:

- City of Cockburn LEMC: Regional HAZMAT desktop exercise, in partnership with the Cities of Rockingham and Kwinana
- Fremantle LEMC: Exercise Piper (air crash)
- City of Kwinana LEMC: Exercise Safe Haven (heatwave)
- City of Mandurah LEMC: Exercise Blackout (electricity supply disruption)
- Shire of Murray LEMC: Murray River flood exercise
- City of Rockingham LEMC: Animal welfare in emergencies, joint local government and Kwinana industries exercise (HAZMAT), and regional HAZMAT
- City of Rockingham: Disaster resilience exercise
- Rottnest Island LEMC: Exercise 1 (rail crash), Exercise 2 (fire), and Exercise 3 (marine search)
- City of Armadale LEMC: Exercise Koomba Keniny (storm)
- City of Belmont and Victoria Park LEMC: Desktop exercise plane crash scenario, and LEMA review workshops
- Canning South Perth LEMC: Severe storm exercise
- City of Cockburn LEMC: Exercise Parallel Lines (Public Transport Authority and the Western Australia Police Force)
- Perth Airport: Exercise Hermes, multi-agency crash exercise (air).

Preparedness and information sharing:

- Community Disaster Resilience Strategy Implementation Project, Department of Fire and Emergency Services.



DISASTER RECOVERY FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS WESTERN AUSTRALIA (DRFAWA)

The Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements Western Australia (DRFAWA) 2018 have been activated for AGRN1290 – Severe Storm across the South West and Great Southern (30 May – 1 June 2026).

Local Governments that sustained eligible damage as a result of the event may be able to access financial assistance.

To view the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements Activation of an Eligible Disaster Notice and Fact Sheet for this event, or for more detail regarding the activation of an eligible disaster and the available assistance measures, please visit the following website: [Recovery Funding - Department of Fire and Emergency Services \(dfes.wa.gov.au\)](https://dfes.wa.gov.au/recovery-funding).

You can contact the DFES Recovery Funding team to seek advice and guidance on 1800 920 659 or drfawa@dfes.wa.gov.au

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

All West Australians Reducing Emergencies (AWARE) program

This competitive annual grant program aims to enhance West Australia's emergency management arrangements by investing in capacity building and preparedness activities at a local level. Only Western Australian local governments are eligible to apply for AWARE grants. Applications are expected to open **July 2026**. Applicants can apply for between \$2,500 and \$35,000 (no GST applied) per application including local level risk assessment projects. The grant request can only account for up to 75% of the total project cost, in-kind contributions are acceptable.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

[WALGA Emergency Waste Management Masterclass](#)

Friday, 16 October 2026

9:30am - 12:30pm

Kaloorup Room | 2 Southern Drive, Busselton WA 6280

No Cost

[Waste & Resource Recovery Conference: Beyond WASTE](#)

9 – 10 September 2026 (2 Day)

Crown Perth

For costs and registration – [click here](#)

[WALGA Local Government Climate Risk Assessment Training](#)

Monday, 17 August 2026

9:00 am - 4:30 pm

ONE70, LV1, 170 Railway Parade, West Leederville, WA 6007

Cost: \$650.00

[WALGA Emergency Management for Local Government Leaders](#)

Friday, 25 September 2026

9:00 am - 4:30 pm



ONE70, LV1, 170 Railway Parade, West Leederville, WA 6007

Cost: \$720.00

[WALGA Emergency Management Foundations for Local Government](#)

Tuesday, 20 October 2026

9:00 am - 4:30 pm

ONE70, LV1, 170 Railway Parade, West Leederville, WA 6007

Cost: \$720.00

[WALGA Community Disaster Recovery](#)

Wednesday, 21 October 2026

9:00 am - 4:30 pm

ONE70, LV1, 170 Railway Parade, West Leederville, WA 6007

Cost: \$720.00

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

As we move through the first quarter of 2026–27, the South West has experienced a reasonably active storm season, with the most significant impacts occurring over the June long weekend. Severe storms and coastal conditions resulted in damage across parts of the South West and Great Southern, highlighting once again the importance of local preparedness, interagency coordination and community resilience.

The activation of the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements Western Australia (DRFAWA) for AGRN1290 – Severe Storm across the South West and Great Southern in Western Australia (30 May – 1 June 2026) will assist eligible local governments with their recovery efforts. I would like to sincerely thank our State Emergency Service (SES) volunteers and all responding agencies whose professionalism and commitment ensured communities received timely assistance during this event.

Across the region, training, exercising and capability development continue as we prepare for the upcoming bushfire season. Building and maintaining capability is a year-round effort, and it is encouraging to see the ongoing commitment of local governments, volunteers and partner agencies to strengthening emergency management across our district.

Looking ahead, El Niño has emerged as one of the key climate drivers influencing Australia's weather. Current indicators suggest the event is developing, which for Western Australia can mean a hotter, drier spring and summer, reduced rainfall across southern parts of the State, and an increased potential for an earlier and more challenging bushfire season. While seasonal outlooks will continue to evolve, they reinforce the importance of preparedness at every level.

The South West is no stranger to challenging conditions. They are exactly what we train for, what we plan for, and what we prepare together for every year. I remain confident that, through the strong partnerships across our emergency management sector and the dedication of our personnel and volunteers, we are well positioned to meet whatever this season brings.

Thank you for your continued support, collaboration and commitment to keeping our communities safe.



District OFFICER REPORT

Seasonal Outlook

El Nino weather pattern has been underway since mid-June and continues to strengthen with further intensification likely in the coming months. Above average fire danger risk is indicated for much of the Southwest land division with deficiencies in deep soil moisture also predicted across much of the state.

Fire Season 2026/27

DFES South West Region is continuing to undertake planning activities for the 2026/27 fire season. Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade training courses are well underway with a high uptake of volunteers across all courses. The regional training calendar is continuing to be updated to support capability uplift and preparedness across the region. Planning is also underway for pre-season forums and engagement activities. Prescribed burning and mitigation works continue to be undertaken throughout the South West region.

Suspicious Fire Activity

Multiple accounts of suspicious Fire Activity are continuing to occur across various South West Local Government areas, DFES encourages the community to report any suspicious behaviour immediately by calling Triple Zero (000). Information relating to suspected arson or fire-lighting activity can also be reported to [Crime Stoppers online](#) or via 1300 333 000.

COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS ADVISOR REPORT

Lithium-ion batteries are a major cause of fires across Western Australia, with firefighters responding to more than three battery-related incidents each week on average.

This winter, DFES has launched an advertising campaign to better inform Western Australians about the risks posed by lithium-ion batteries and how to buy, store and use them safely.

Lithium-ion batteries are found in a wide range of household and recreational products and while lithium-ion battery technology has its benefits, there are also risks community members need to be aware of to stay safer.

Through this campaign, DFES is encouraging community members to:

- purchase equipment from reputable manufacturers and suppliers;
- choose quality products, rather than damaged or second-hand items;
- regularly check batteries for signs of physical damage or overheating;
- avoid leaving batteries on charge for extended periods or unattended;
- dispose of batteries correctly through appropriate recycling or disposal facilities; and
- stay well clear and call 000 immediately in the event of an emergency.

The campaign is running across the Perth Metropolitan area and Bunbury on digital media platforms including Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and TikTok, digital screens in shopping centres and press advertising.

You can watch the 30-second YouTube video [here](#).