



MINUTES

SHIRE OF JERRAMUNGUP

LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (LEMC)

16 MARCH 2026

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD AT THE JERRAMUNGUP COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE MEETING ROOM ON MONDAY, 16 MARCH 2026, COMMENCING AT 12.02PM.

1. Opening and Welcome

The meeting was opened at 12.02pm by the Chairperson.

2. Attendance and Apologies

2.1. Attendance

Cr Nathan Brown, President, Shire of Jerramungup (Chairperson)
Martin Cuthbert, Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Jerramungup
Charmaine Wisewould, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Shire of Jerramungup
Janna Cheshire, Community Emergency Services Manager, Shire of Jerramungup/DFES
Daniel Biddulph, Bushfire Risk Mitigation Coordinator, Shire of Jerramungup
Danielle Wisewould, St John Ambulance WA
Kelly Trinne, Department of Communities
Tom Clendenning, WA Police
Tom Roxburgh, WA Police
Dean Fasolo, Community Paramedic, St John Ambulance WA
Peter Grey, Water Corporation
Matt Foster, Jerramungup VFES
Vivienne Gardiner, DFES
Simon Hawes, DBCA

2.2. Apologies

Alex Jones, Chief Bushfire Control Officer, Shire of Jerramungup
Annie Eddery, WA Country Health Service
Stephen Petersen, District Officer, DFES
Ali Benson, DBCA
Jeremy Wisewould, Jerramungup VFES

3. Disclosure of Interests

Identify real, perceived, or potential conflicts of interest experienced by any member in relation to the items on the agenda. These should be declared now and if possible, raised with the Chair prior to the meeting to determine the appropriate way to manage the conflict.

4. Guest Presentations

Nil

5. Confirmation of Meeting Minutes

Moved by Tom Clendenning; Seconded by Danielle Wisewould

The committee **approved** the minutes of the Shire of Jerramungup LEMC meeting held on 8 December 2025.

6. Review of Action list and business arising

Item	Owner	Status
Updating WhatsApp contact details	CESM	ongoing
Updating LEMC contact details	CESM	ongoing
LEMC Desktop Exercise	DFES DO Esperance Urban	completed
Discussion with Main Roads WA on recent traffic accident and response times	CEO	completed

The WhatsApp group is used for sharing information with agencies during an emergency, if severe weather is forecast, or in an incident to communicate with the groups to involve those needed.

7. Correspondence

7.1. Correspondence In

- 7.1.1. 19/01/2026 BEN sign community monthly update, Marion Massam, DPIRD
- 7.1.2. 03/02/2026 Emergency Relief and Support- 3rd quarter 2026 LEMC report- Great Southern, Kelly Trinne, Department of Communities
- 7.1.3. 04/02/2026 Resilience matters webinar series, Viv Gardiner, DFES
- 7.1.4. 04/02/2026 Update LEMC contact details, Dean Fasolo, St John Ambulance
- 7.1.5. 05/04/2026 Attendance December LEMC, Thomas Clendenning, WAPOL
- 7.1.6. 09/02/2026 LEMC delegate contact details, Kevin Cropper/Kate Varian, WACHS
- 7.1.7. 10/02/2026 LEMC report, Ali Benson, DBCA
- 7.1.8. 06/03/2026 Publication of Interim State Hazard Plan - Cybersecurity Incident for noting at LEMC, Viv Gardiner, DFES

7.2. Correspondence Out

- 7.2.1. LEMC Minutes forward LEMC members - Janna Cheshire, SoJ
- 7.2.2. 05/04/2026 Attendance December LEMC to Thomas Clendenning
- 7.2.3. 09/02/2026 Request for LEMC contact details to Kevin Cropper
- 7.2.4. 09/02/2026 Distribution of minutes from December LEMC meeting, various recipients
- 7.2.5. 10/02/2026 LEMC report response to Ali Benson
- 7.2.6. LEMC meeting invite to LEMC members and guests - Janna Cheshire, SoJ

7.3. Information tabled

Nil

7.4. Confirmation of Correspondence

Moved by Matt Foster; Seconded by Danielle Wisewould

The committee **accept** the correspondence as presented.

8. Review of LEMC membership and contact list updates

Nil.

9. Local Emergency Management (standing items)

9.1. Post Incident Reports – discussion and note any outcomes to be actioned.

SoJ staff have attended three structured incident reviews over the past couple of months (West River, Mindarabin, and Fitzgerald River National Park), with several key findings relevant to the LEMC identified and discussed:

- In some instances, executive management were not fully familiar with incident-related processes (e.g. incident level declarations and the handover of control). These processes need to be more regularly practised at the local government level.
- Interagency cooperation was generally effective.
- In some cases, interagency information was delayed or not communicated. This highlighted the importance of a Local Government representative attending the Incident Management Team (IMT) in person during major or boundary fires.
- Early and transparent public information was well received by affected communities and assisted in reducing angst and anxiety.
- Post Exercise Reports – discussion and note any outcomes to be actioned.

9.2. Exercise – discuss objectives, scenario, and dates. Nil.

9.3. Review Local Emergency Management Arrangements – updates as required. Nil.

9.4. Risk management update – monitor and review, emerging risks, mitigation. Nil.

9.5. Review LEMC business plan – monitor progress. Nil.

9.6. Review funding opportunities. Nil.

10. Agenda Items

Nil

11. Agency/Member Reports

Members to consider:

- Capability and limitations for the coming season (resources/staffing)
- Any known emerging risks
- Any scheduled exercises
- Outcomes or lessons learnt from any incidents or exercises.
- Priorities for the next three months

11.1 Vivienne Gardiner, District Emergency Management Advisor Great Southern, DFES – report available in attachments

- Suggested IMT/ISG exercise to be run at a future meeting.
- Disaster Resilience Fund grant scheme anticipated to open shortly.

11.2 Daniel Biddulph, Bushfire Mitigation Officer, Shire of Jerramungup

- Successfully procured 3 year MAF funding
- Conducted environmental and cultural heritage checks to support approvals
- SoJ purchased flame thrower to assist with mitigation works and incident response. Available for other agencies on request.
- Assisting DFES with management of UCL in townsites.
- Preparations for autumn burns underway. Mechanical and chemical treatments have commenced.

11.3. Dean Fasolo, Community Paramedic, St John Ambulance WA

- Volunteer training season has commenced. This will be the primary focus for the next 7-8 months.
- Additional resourcing over summer was well received by the community and local volunteers. Hopefully this will set the standard for future high peak periods.
- Completed upgrades to Gairdner shed.
- Land survey for new Bremer Bay depot has been completed. Awaiting subdivision process to resume and be completed with this information so proposed development can commence.
- Local exercise scheduled for mid April

11.4 Martin Cuthbert, CEO, Shire of Jerramungup

- SoJ participated in a Great Southern Local Governments consolidated address to the Minister regarding local fuel issues.
- Outstanding issues from past flood damage claims have now been resolved. The Shire was therefore able to procure funding for all damaged roads as per their application.
- Additional ranger services have been contracted for the Easter period to support the local ranger throughout busy period.

11.5 Alex Jones, Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, Shire of Jerramungup – report available in attachments

11.6 Janna Cheshire, Community Emergency Services Manager

- The Shire of Jerramungup will host a DFES regional exercise in Bremer Bay on 27 August 2026. The exercise will focus on testing IMT capacity, assessing the Bremer Bay VFES building as a Level 2 ICC, and practising and testing the Point Henry Operational Pre-Plan. DFES will canvas interest from LEMC member agencies to participate and will also seek feedback from stakeholders on the impacts of large-scale emergencies on their agencies (e.g. support required and considerations to be aware of).
- Bushfire Expo to be held in Bremer Bay on Friday 10 April 2026 from 10am.

11.7 Kelly Trinne, Department of Communities – report available in attachments

11.8 Stephen Petersen, District Officer, DFES - report available in attachments

11.9 Simon Hawes, Senior Operations Officer, DBCA – report available in attachments

11.10 Tom Clendenning, A/Sergeant WA Police

- Police are anticipating a reduced number of visitors to the area due to fuel shortages.
- Extended thanks to volunteers for assistance throughout summer period.

11.10 Matt Foster, 1st Lieutenant, Jerramungup VFES

- Would appreciate assistance with a recruitment drive for Jerramungup VFES, maybe similar to Bremer Bay Bushfire Expo.

11.11 Cr Nathan Brown, Shire President, Shire of Jerramungup

- Congratulated entire team on conducting incident operations throughout summer in a professional and well coordinated manner.
- Ongoing volunteer training and preparedness activities throughout the year have made a noticeable and positive difference in response activities.

12. General Business

Peter Grey advised of Josh Beattie will be the new contact for Water Corporation, who will be based in Esperance.

13. Next Meeting

Next meeting 8 June 2026 at the Shire of Jerramungup Administration Office in Jerramungup.

13.1 LEMC calendar

Date	Activity	Venue	Comment
9 March 2026	LEMC Meeting	Jerramungup CRC	3 rd quarter

14. Meeting Closure

The chairperson closed the meeting at 1.05pm.

**LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISOR REPORT
January to March 2026**

STATE NEWS

The last meeting of the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) was held 4th December 2025. **The next meeting is the 12 March 2026.** SEMC Communiques can be found [here](#).

Local Emergency Management Arrangements Improvement Project

The new templates for the LEMA Improvement Project are going to the next SEMC Meeting for approval. Watch this space!

2026-2029 Comprehensive Framework Review

The State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) has initiated a comprehensive review of the State Emergency Management Policy, Plan, Procedure and Glossary (EM Framework) to ensure that it remains effective, adaptable, and fit-for-purpose in addressing current and emerging risks.

In December 2025, SEMC adopted five principles and identified four focus areas for the review designed to guide review scope and decisions, as well as ensure the review remains responsive to sector needs while targeting systemic gaps and opportunities for improvement.

Review Principles:

- make the framework simplified and functional
- clarify roles and responsibilities
- be outcomes-focused
- integrate preparedness and assurance
- remain agile and forward-looking

Review Focus Areas:

- Incorporation of systemic risk and resilience in framework
- Integrated preparedness and assurance framework
- Local capacity and community resilience
- EM roles and responsibilities review

Four sector-wide workshops with emergency management agencies have been completed to refine the problem statement, outcomes, and scope for each focus area and to shape next steps for project planning. The workshop outcomes will inform a high-level project plan, which will outline focus area scopes, the overall program approach, and resourcing requirements, and will be submitted to SEMC in March 2026 for endorsement.

Comprehensive Review Schedule of State EM Documents

The following State EM documents and projects are currently accepting feedback:

- **Local Government EM Knowledge Hub – closes 27 March 2026.**
- WA Community Evacuation in Emergencies Guideline – initial consultation closes 20 February 2026.

The following State EM document consultation period has closed and is currently pending endorsement from SEMC subcommittees before progressing to SEMC for approval:

- SHP - HAZMAT (Annex B - SPRED)

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

- Green highlights – comprehensive review likely to commence in the second half of 2026, meaning broad consultation will likely not commence until early 2027.
- SHP – Cyber Security and Hostile Act are due for broad consultation before June 2026.
- Remaining plans will likely commence broad consultation sometime in 2026.

WA Community Evacuation in Emergencies Arrangements – initial feedback open until 20 Feb 2026	SHP – Collapse
SHP – Nuclear Powered Warship (NPW)	SHP – Maritime Environmental Emergencies (MEE)
SHP – Cyber Security	SHP – Tsunami
SHP – Hostile Act	SSP – Freight and Resupply
SHP – Animal and Plant Biosecurity	SSP – Emergency Public Information
SHP – Earthquake	WA Managing Exercises Guidelines (due likely to be pushed back to 2027)
Impact Statement Guide	Local Recovery Guidelines
Communicating in Recovery Guideline (will form part of SSP – Emergency Public Information review)	SHP – Heatwave
SHP – Terrorist Act	Traffic Management in Emergencies Guideline
District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC) Handbook	Comprehensive review of the State EM Framework (State EM Policy, Plan, Procedure and Glossary)

Updated plans can be found on the SEMC website, along with a summary of amendments.

DISTRICT NEWS

The last Great Southern District Emergency Management Committee meeting was held on the 22nd October 2025 the next meeting will be held on the 18 March 2026.

Training Opportunities

WALGA Local Recovery Coordinator Training - Nyabing, Shire of Kent

Face-to-face training at [The Nyabing Community Hub](#), 18 Richmond St, Nyabing WA 6341:

Recovery Coordinators Course in Local Government – Day 1

Monday, 23 March 2026 | 9:00am–4:30pm

Recovery Coordinators Course in Local Government – Day 2

Tuesday, 24 March 2026 | 9:00am–4:30pm

If any local governments/organisation wishes to send additional attendees, please contact me directly at 0436 668 242 or via ryan.sutherland@dfes.wa.gov.au to ensure availability.

NOTE: under the revised Recovery Framework Local Governments must ensure the preparation and maintenance of LEMA includes the identification and training of a Local Recovery Coordinator(s). More than one LRC can be identified.

For further information about this course: [WALGA Recovery Coordinators course](#)

Summer Safety – Fire, Heat and Community Care

This February, we're focusing on Summer Safety – Fire, Heat and Community Care. February can be the hottest month of the year, and with prolonged heat comes fatigue, complacency, and an increased risk of fast-moving bushfires.

By staying vigilant and supporting one another, we can help protect families, neighbours, and communities.

Heatwave

For more information about preparing for and managing in extreme heat, visit [HealthyWA](#) and you can also find many fact sheets here [Extreme heat and heatwave resources for the community](#)

Know the signs of heat-related illness and act fast



Dehydration

Feeling thirsty, a dry mouth, and darker urine.



Treatment

Rest in a cool area, remove excess clothing and drink water.



Heat stress

Pale skin, excess sweating or no sweating, and dark urine.



Treatment

Lie in cool area and remove excess clothing. Apply wet cloths, cold water or wrapped icepacks to the skin (armpits and groin) and drink water. Call triple zero (000) if symptoms do not improve in 30 minutes.



Heat stroke

Confusion, incoherent speech, abnormal walking, seizures or coma.



Heat stroke is a life-threatening medical emergency. Immediately call triple zero (000).

TeleRedi

West Australians are also urged to register for TeleRedi – a free welfare check service delivered by the Department of Health in partnership with the [Australian Red Cross \(external site\)](#).

Registered participants who may be at higher risk during officially declared heatwaves receive regular check-in calls from trained Australian Red Cross volunteers. If a call goes unanswered or a person appears unwell or distressed, an escalation process is activated to support their safety and wellbeing.

TeleRedi is important for:

- people living alone
- older people
- people living with disability or managing chronic health conditions

- people recovering from illness or injury
- individuals experiencing mental health challenges.

Carers of vulnerable people are also encouraged to register for the service. Registration is simple, via [Microsoft Forms \(external site\)](#) or by phone – 1800 188 071. For more information about TeleRedi, visit the [Australian Red Cross website \(external site\)](#).

GRANT PROGRAM UPDATES

AWARE

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. Only Western Australian local governments are eligible to apply for AWARE grants. Local governments are encouraged to collaborate and submit joint applications. To be eligible, activities must address at least one or more of the following four criteria:

- further the emergency risk management process
- facilitate capability-based exercises
- assist in reviewing Local Emergency Management Arrangements
- deliver emergency management training, events or forums

The opening dates for this year's round are yet to be finalised and will be published on our website once confirmed. In the meantime, local governments are encouraged to review the AWARE Guidelines and associated program documentation to familiarise themselves with the application requirements.

DRF ROUND FOUR

The Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) is the Australian Government's flagship disaster resilience and risk reduction initiative, which will deliver up to \$200 million of Commonwealth funding annually from 1 July 2023 to establish a comprehensive set of disaster resilience and mitigation projects across Australia, in partnership with Australian state, territory and local governments. The intended outcome of the program is communities that are better informed, more resilient, and less exposed to future natural disaster risks and impacts in the long term, across the built, social, natural and economic domains.

The **Fourth round of DRF is expected to open in late March 2026**, with information and associated documentation to be published on the Disaster Ready Fund section of our website once available. To be eligible for DRF, the primary focus of the proposed project must be on how it will increase the understanding of natural disaster impacts, build resilience to future natural disasters, and/or reduce natural disaster risk, in line with the DRF objectives.

The Commonwealth has provided overarching feedback on Round Three applications. This information is available here: <https://publications.dfes.wa.gov.au/publications/drf-round-three-feedback-and-opportunities-for-improvement-from-nema>.

To be considered for funding, project proposals must satisfy the grant amount, project duration, and co-contribution requirements, meet the eligibility criteria, address all the assessment criteria, and provide the required evidence as set out in the respective round Guidelines.

LOCAL NEWS

Optus Emergency Response Information – in an emergency if Optus services are impacted call the following numbers:

0434 679 690 and 0448 114 039 - Primary & Backup. Also on a satellite service 0410795298 if terrestrial networks are inoperative.

Emergency Waste Management Plan Template

WALGA has been working with DFES and Local Government, to develop a Template Emergency Waste Management Plan.

There have been a range of situations in Western Australia where recovery efforts have been hampered by challenges associated with emergency waste management. 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.

The Plan provides a way for Local Governments to explore, at a high level, the likely types of waste that could be generated from an event and consequent considerations and management options.

- [Emergency Waste Management Plan Template - Editable Word Doc](#)
- [Emergency Waste Management Plan Template - with example \(PDF\)](#)
- [Waste Calculator](#)

For more information and case studies visit:

<https://walga.asn.au/policy-and-advocacy/our-policy-areas/waste/programs/better-practice/emergency-management>

Responding to a potential outbreak of high pathogenic H5 avian influenza

DPIRD is leading the WA cross-agency Biosecurity Special Officers Group (BSOG) developing a joint approach on. In 2024, BSOG developed [FAQs for H5 avian influenza](#) that set out carcass disposal responsibilities as follows:

Who is responsible for the disposal of dead wild birds during an outbreak?

During an outbreak, where dead wild birds do not pose a risk to human health, they may be left where they are to minimise the potential risk of spreading the disease further. The relevant landowners or government authority will manage safe disposal of dead birds on public land where they are considered to present a risk. On private properties, subject to council local laws, owners will be able to dispose of dead birds by placing them in plastic bags in their red bin. Care should be taken to wear disposable gloves and to wash hands thoroughly after handling the dead bird.

It is up to each individual LGA to decide on how they would dispose of dead birds / wildlife as per their local situation. Homeowners within the LGA will need guidance on where to dispose of dead birds if the LGA does not approve of disposal of bagged birds in the red bin.

In the circumstance where commercial poultry are affected, DPIRD will regulate the property and provide instructions on disposal at the time of the incident.

Your WALGA representative on the BSOG committee is Rebecca Brown rbrown@walga.asn.au if you would like further guidance on how other LGAs in WA are preparing for wild bird disposal should an outbreak occur.

WALGA is hosting an H5 Bird Flu update webinar for local government on Wednesday, 18 March from 10:00-11:00am – see details below. [click here to register](#).

Complied by: Vivienne Gardiner, viv.gardiner@dfes.wa.gov.au
District Emergency Management Advisor Great Southern DFES



LEMC Attachment 11.5 - Alex Jones, Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, Shire of Jerramungup

CBFCO Report 16/03/2026

The summer of 2025/2026 has been very challenging and very tragic. Two of our neighbouring shires have lost volunteers this summer. May we all keep this in mind and strive to make sure this never happens again. I urge all volunteers in our shire to always look after themselves and their crews.

We as a shire have attended at least 26 fires so far this season, 5 of those were in neighbouring shires.

Lightening strikes top the list at 16

Unusually harvest operation fires were second at 7 fires

Only 2 pole top fires

And 1 suspicious fire.

We as a shire have responded in a professional, safe and timely manner to attend. I want to thank all our volunteers for giving their time. Also thankyou to Janna and Dan for their dedication to their work and volunteering.

Thanks everyone and let us continue the restricted season without incident and get into some mitigation work before winter. Stay safe.



Emergency Relief and Support

LEMC REPORT FOR DISTRIBUTION

3rd Quarter 2025 - 2026

Regional Emergency Relief and Support contact	
<p>Activation of Emergency Relief and Support (ERS) services is via Communities Emergency Operations Coordinator (EOC) M: 0418 943 835 and Email: emergencyservices@communities.wa.gov.au</p>	
Regional Coordinator	Kelly Trinne – 0432 831 689 kelly.trinne@communities.wa.gov.au
Regional Officer	Jo Spadaccini – 0429 102 614 jo.spadaccini@communities.wa.gov.au
Regional Manager	Mark Schorer – 0429 108 226 mark.schorer@communities.wa.gov.au
Region specific update	
<p>Emergency Food - Go Bags</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In mid-2025 ERS introduced an exciting new Go Bags initiative — designed to enhance comfort, dignity, and practical support for people displaced during emergencies. <p>🌿 Go Bags introduced included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 📦 Personal Requisites/Hygiene Go Bags 🛏 Sleeping/Bedding Go Bags <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In addition, a new range of Emergency Food Go Bags have been implemented to complement the existing range of Go Bags, ensuring rapid deployment and coordinated support across the State during emergency events. <p>🌿 What is inside an Emergency Food Go Bag</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 x Main Meals ○ 1 x Single Serve Noodles ○ 1 x Single Serve Rice ○ 1 x Breakfast Muesli ○ 4 x Energy Bars ○ 2 x Flameless Heater Bags ○ 2 x Cutlery Sets ○ 1 x Coffee 	

- 1 x Tea
- 3 x Sugar
- 3 x Creamer
- 1 x Hydration Drink
- 1 x Hot Chocolate

Prepositioning of Emergency Relief and Support Supplies

- ERS Regional Coordinators are working with Local Governments across the State to assess the need to preposition small quantities of ERS emergency relief and support supplies at Evacuation Centre facilities.
- Prepositioning of supplies will assist Local Government staff to support evacuees during the initial states of emergency events.

Emergency Relief and Support update

State Recovery Changes

- The Department of Communities has new roles and responsibilities under the State Emergency Management Arrangements for Recovery, following the changes endorsed by SEMC on 4 December 2025.
- To support implementation of these new roles, Communities is actively working with local governments, the Community Services Sector and relevant government agencies to understand the new State Recovery roles and responsibilities to support the delivery of local led recovery programs.
- Communities will participate in Local Government recovery planning and activities to ensure services are tailored to the needs and strengths of the community.
- Communities can provide support through a range of activities under the State Support Plan, either directly or in collaboration with State and Local partners, to deliver practical assistance, wellbeing services, and social supports.
- Communities ERS approach to recovery support considers the psychosocial impacts, complexity, and context of any hazard, ensuring assistance is tailored accordingly along with information and referral services to connect impacted individuals with appropriate assistance and resources.

Evacuation Centres

- The SEMC has the WA Community Evacuation in Emergencies Guideline open for Feedback until 20 February 2026. You can submit your comments through <https://engagewaem.com.au/evacuation-guideline>
- The review of community evacuation guidelines has highlighted the need for greater clarity on how evacuation centres are identified, activated, and managed.
- Communities responsibility is to maintain a register of endorsed community facilities and ensure they are ready to be activated. In collaboration with local government,

Communities reviews facilities regularly and manages service delivery within the centre once activated.

- During an emergency event, the Hazard Management Agency engages with Local Government and Communities to assess the risks of and activate an evacuation centre.
- As a suggestion for the LEMC, Communities and the Local Government can review and confirm the register of endorsed facilities before the onset of each high threat season, to ensure they meet the needs of all Hazard Management Agencies.

High threat Season

- ERS is actively supporting communities during this high-threat season by assisting with evacuation centres, providing immediate accommodation, and coordinating early recovery planning in alignment with Local Government.
- ERS has commenced supporting community evacuations with the new Go Bags, with positive feedback received to date, noting the hygiene packs are popular to support people to freshen up, and the air bed, pillow and sleeping bag has been a welcome take home pack.



Reminder to all Hazard Management Agencies / Controlling Agencies

- To activate the State Support Plan - Emergency Relief and Support and the Communities team - please call 0418 943 835. All ISG, IMT and other meeting invites can be sent to emergencyservices@communities.wa.gov.au email box.

Response October to January

Activations

ERS were activated for and responded to twenty-two (22) incidents as below:

- Four (4) Single House Fires
- Eleven (11) Bushfires
- Five (5) Complex Bushfires
- Two (2) Cyclones

October 2025 - One (1) Incident

- 16/10/2025 AP East Pilbara Complex Fire

November 2025 - Two (2) Incidents

- 4/11/2025 Tammin Bushfire Cunderdin - Nov 25
- 30/11/2025 Single House Fire

December 2025 - Eleven (11) Incidents

- 01/12/2025 Single House Fire
- 10/12/2025 Single House Fire

- 11/12/2025 Kenwick Bushfire
- 11/12/2025 Upper Swan Bushfire
- 15/12/2025 Eneabba Complex
- 15/12/2025 Gingin Complex Fire
- 15/12/2025 Nambeelup Bushfire
- 16/12/2025 Mindarabin Bushfire
- 25/12/2025 Boddington Bushfire
- 30/12/2025 Wellesley Bushfire
- 29/12/2025 Tropical Cyclone Hayley

January 2026 – Eight (8) Incidents

- 1/01/2026 Kalamunda Bushfire
- 2/01/2026 Boya Bushfire
- 2/01/2026 Single House Fire
- 7/01/2026 High Wycombe Bushfire
- 19/01/2026 South Coast (Lake King Newdegate) Complex Fires
- 21/01/2026 Collie Bushfire
- 22/01/2026 Boddington complex Fires
- 23/01/2026 Tropical Cyclone Luana



DFES Update

Jerramungup Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC)
9 March 2026

Please note the District Officer is unable to attend this meeting as he will be delivering Breathing Apparatus training. The following update is provided for the committee's information.

1. Fire Season Overview

This has been a busy fire season across the district. Since the beginning of the fire season on 1 November, the district has responded to [insert number] bushfires, burning approximately [insert hectares] hectares across the Shire.

As we are all aware, volunteers remain the backbone of emergency response in Western Australia. Without their ongoing commitment and willingness to respond, many emergencies across regional communities would simply not be attended.

DFES would like to acknowledge and thank all Bush Fire Brigade and Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services personnel within the Shire of Jerramungup who have responded to incidents throughout this fire season. Their professionalism and dedication to protecting their community is greatly appreciated.

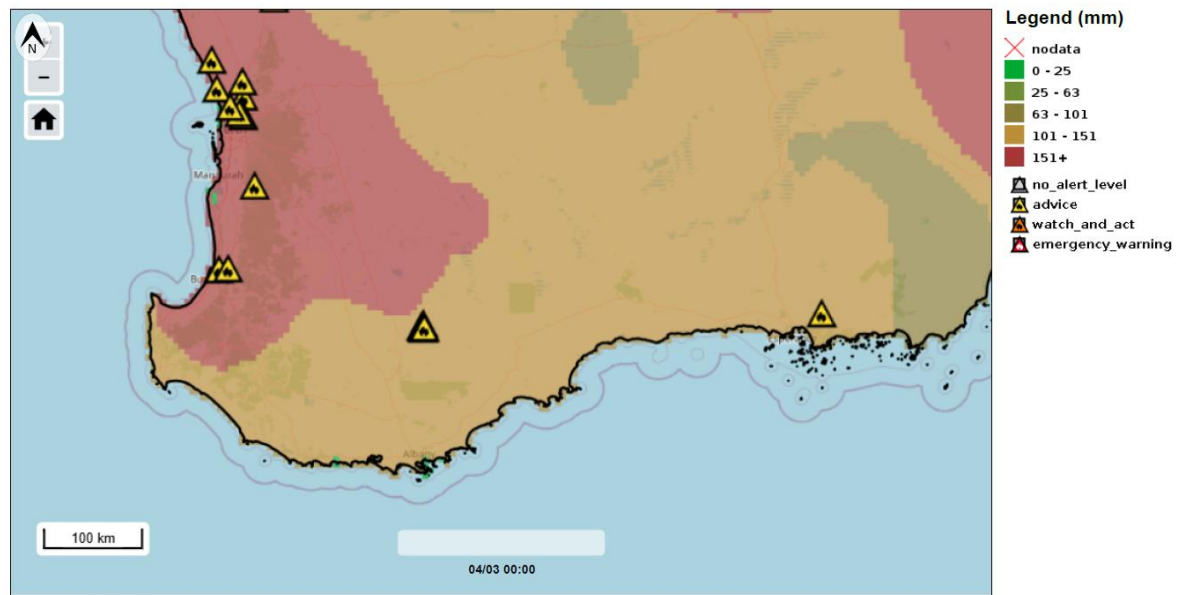
2. Current Risk Environment

While we are now in March and approaching the latter part of the fire season, it is important to note that conditions across the region remain very dry.

The attached map indicates that the Great Southern Region is currently recording Keetch–Byram Drought Index (KBDI) values between 101 and 150.

KBDI is a measure of soil dryness and fuel availability. Values above 100 indicate increasingly dry conditions capable of supporting more intense fire behaviour if ignitions occur.

In simple terms, despite the time of year, fires are still capable of burning with considerable intensity, particularly under elevated weather conditions. Continued vigilance and preparedness across agencies and the community remains important.



Layer: KBDI

3. Mitigation and Risk Reduction

Mitigation continues to be one of the most effective ways to reduce the potential impact of bushfires on communities.

DFES would like to acknowledge Bushfire Risk Management Coordinator (BRMC) Dan Biddulph for his assistance in coordinating townsite mitigation activities within the Shire.

Work is currently underway to further develop and expand mitigation planning within the district, with particular focus on the Bremer Bay area. Once a detailed mitigation plan has been finalised, opportunities will be pursued to secure funding to:

- Undertake the initial mitigation works, and
- Establish an ongoing maintenance program to ensure treatments remain effective over time.

4. Regional Emergency Management Exercise

DFES will be conducting a regional emergency management exercise in Bremer Bay later this year, with the scenario based in the Point Henry area.

The purpose of the exercise is to test operational response arrangements and interagency coordination during an escalating bushfire incident.

Exercise objectives include:

- Practising the Local Government response to an escalating Level 1 bushfire incident in the Point Henry area
- Testing the initial response in accordance with the Point Henry Operational Pre-Plan (OPP) during the first two hours of the incident
- Practising the escalation of the incident to a Level 2 event, including the handover of incident control from Local Government to DFES
- Practising the establishment and functioning of Incident Management Team (IMT) roles during a Level 2 response
- Practising the facilitation of an Incident Support Group (ISG) meeting
- Testing the suitability of the Bremer Bay Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services facility as a Level 2 Incident Control Centre (ICC)

The proposed timing is currently late October 2026.

Participation from LEMC member agencies would be greatly appreciated, as the exercise scenario will involve multiple agencies and present a range of realistic operational and coordination challenges.

Key Message

Effective mitigation, strong volunteer capability, and early interagency coordination remain the most important factors in reducing the impact of emergencies on our communities.

Department of Biodiversity Conservation & Attractions

Senior Operations Officer – Simon Hawes

LEMC Report

9th March 2026

1. Operational Overview

- Bushfire season readiness maintained across the district, with rosters commenced.
- Several notable fire and severe-weather events managed with effective interagency cooperation; In particular the Fitzgerald River National Park fire which saw a number of Parks and Wildlife staff, contractors, Local Governments and partnering agencies involved over a protracted period of time.
- Aerial suppression assets used effectively during high-risk periods, with no significant airbase constraints reported.
- A total of 13 bushfires across Albany District so far and 21 across the South Coast Region. With the predominant cause being lightning.
- Soil Dryness (SDI) remains higher than the 5 year average across the South Coast Region.
- Bushfire occurrence does line up with the AFAC Seasonal Bushfire Outlook maps prepared in Nov 25, with an increased risk of fire in the mallee area between Bremer Bay and Esperance.

• 2. Prevention & Mitigation

- This is the busy time of year for implementing our maintenance program on our strategic access network while dry soil conditions allow.
- We will now also be working on ensuring all of our planned burns for the coming Autumn/Winter are ready for the appropriate approvals and ready to go by the end of April.

• 3. Preparedness & Capability

- Water Bomber re-filler training completed with volunteer SES staff across the District.
- Some appliance repairs are underway due to a number of minor problems arising after the arduous nature of the suppression effort in the Fitzgerald.
- A lifeline system has been installed on the ladder of our Porongurup repeater tower to ensure that we can maintain effective communications across the district. This tower is also used by DFES.