



Shire of  
Serpentine  
Jarrahdale

# **Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting**

## **Minutes**

**Tuesday, 11 June 2024**

**10am**

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A Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting for the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale was held on Tuesday, 11 June 2024 at the Shire Civic Centre, 6 Paterson Street, Mundijong. The meeting opened at 10:04am.

## Minutes

### 1. Attendances and apologies (including leave of absence):

#### Attendance

#### Voting Delegates

Richard Moore	Local Emergency Coordinator / Deputy Chair – Snr Sgt / OIC Mundijong Police
Paul Postma	District Officer South East - Department Fire and Emergency Services
Brian Oliver	Local Recovery Coordinator (Director Community Engagement)
David Richer	Executive Officer / Coordinator Emergency Services
Kirrily Clarke	South Metro Regional Coordinator - Emergency Relief and Support - Department of Communities
Cr Nathan Bishop	Council Delegate
Martin Seward	Unit Manager - Serpentine Jarrahdale State Emergency Service
Mark Cundell	Assistant Superintendent Security - Karnet Prison Farm
Dave Olney	President - Sport Aircraft Builders Club Inc

#### Non-Voting Delegates

Rebecca Steinki	Manager Community Activation / Local Welfare Liaison Officer
Cherese Green	Senior Ranger
Melissa Lechleitner	Emergency Services Technical Support Officer

#### Apologies

Cate Willey	District Emergency Management Advisor - Department of Fire and Emergency Services
Rob Coales	Chair / Shire President
James Webb	Area Manager South East District - St John Ambulance
Brodie Selby	Fire Operations Officer Jarrahdale - Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
Wendy Jackson	Department of Health - Emergency Management Coordinator – East Metropolitan Health Service – Armadale Kalamunda Group

Greg Williams	Water Corporation - Operations Manager (PRFS)
Darren Kane	Manager Health and Building Services
Nino Scidone	Manager Engineering Services
Peter Van Der Vaart	Water Corporation – Manager Water (TaRR)
Naomi Jory	Metro Regional Officer – Emergency Relief and Support – Department of Communities

Non-Attendance

Vacant	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
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## 2. Declaration of Elected Members, Officers, and Committee Members interest:

Nil.

## 3. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

### 3.1 Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting – 12 March 2024

The minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting held on 12 March 2024 were distributed by email on 28 March 2024 – **attachment 1**.

#### Recommendation

**Moved: Martin Seward, Seconded: Dave Olney**

**That the minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting held on 12 March 2024 (E24/3998) be CONFIRMED.**

**CARRIED**

## 4. Standing Items:

### 4.1 Update of LEMC Contacts

Contact List to be circulated at the meeting for updates – **attachment 1** (E23/17516).

### 4.2 Resource Register

LEMC are requested to continue to advise any amendments as they become known - **attachment 1** (E20/12276).

### 4.3 Action Items from previous meeting

Updates on actions outstanding or in progress.

Outstanding Resolution No.	Status
Summary report of the State Bushfire Exercise (September 2022) to be released pending DFES approval.	Pending DFES Approval.
The Group agreed to table the Exercise Brumby to the Equine Advisory Group to ensure it aligns with how they see emergency situation and further ensure it is controlled by the Shire.	Emergency Services Coordinator to present to the next Equine Advisory Group

Outstanding Resolution No.	Status
	Meeting, scheduled for 15 August 2024
At High-Risk classification to be updated in the Animal Welfare and Vulnerable Community Plan	In Progress
Circulate LEMA Communication Plan with minutes – attachment 6	Updated the Contact in the LEMA documents to reflect current personnel.
Provide Department of Communities Agency Report for circulation with minutes – attachment 7	Department of Communities Agency Report circulated with the June 2024 LEMC Agenda – <b>attachment 1</b> .

#### 4.4 Change of Positions / New Positions / Leave and Acting Arrangements

CESM - Serpentine-Jarrahdale - Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, currently vacant – to be filled on 17 June 2024

Kirrily Clarke - South Metro Regional Coordinator - Emergency Relief and Support - Department of Communities

#### 4.5 Incident Support Group Activations

Nil.

#### 4.6 Risk Profile

##### Bushfire

2023 was the second hottest year and the seventh-driest year on record in the SWLD. The above median hot, dry, and windy conditions that prevailed across WA over the summer period will see much of the state enter autumn with below median moisture in the soil, surface fuels and live vegetation.

Over the previous nine months, the southern half of WA has experienced above median temperatures and severe rainfall deficiencies, and it is forecast that warmer and drier conditions will persist during autumn. These conditions will extend existing soil moisture deficiencies and increase the availability of woody vegetation fuels in the SWLD. Therefore, an associated increased risk of bushfire is expected in areas of forest, woodland and shrubland within the Swan Coastal Plain.

##### Natural Hazards

Southwest Western Australia is likely to see rainfall that is typical for the June to August period. This includes regions which have recently been quite dry.

There is also an increased chance of unusually warm minimum temperatures, with large areas of the country very likely (greater than 80% chance) to have unusually warm minimum temperatures.

#### 4.7 Local Emergency Management Arrangements

A desktop review of the Local Emergency Management Arrangements has occurred to reflect the new personnel within the Committee.

#### 4.8 Local Recovery Plan

No updates required.

#### 4.9 LEMC Exercises

No Exercise planned for this LEMC.

### 5. Agency Reports:

#### 5.1 Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale

##### Director Community Engagement

- Current focus is on ensuring a well-managed transition between prohibited/restricted/open burning periods and the winter storm season.
- The Shire's CESM/CBFCO, Leigh Mulholland finished in the role on 26 April 2024, promoted to District Officer in the Mid-West Gascoyne region.
- To ensure coverage during the recruitment process, Callum MacNeill covered the role from 7 May 2024 to 31 May 2024, temporarily seconded from the Department of Justice.
- I am pleased to announce that Siobhan Bishop has been appointed to the CESM/CBFCO role following a competitive recruitment process. Siobhan commences in the role on Monday, 17 June 2024.

#### 5.2 Shire President

Apology.

#### 5.3 Karnet Prison Farm

Assistant Superintendent Security, Mark Cundell, advised that Karnet Prison has a new Superintendent, Andrea Bowen.

#### 5.4 Armadale Kalamunda Group

Apology.

#### 5.5 Department of Communities

Kirrily Clarke, South Metro Regional Coordinator, Emergency Relief and Support, provided a report; LEMC background information 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2023-2024 – **attachment 1**.

##### **ACTION – Dave Richer**

Circulate the LEMC background information 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2023-2024 report with the minutes of this meeting.

## **5.6 St John Ambulance**

Apology.

## **5.7 Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions**

Apology.

## **5.8 Department of Fire and Emergency Services**

Paul Postma, District Officer South East, DFES, noted the following:

- The prescribed burning period has potentially closed due to the level of rainfall.
- Due to the potential tree mortality on the scarp, there is a low likelihood that any prescribed burning will occur this year due to the dry summer we have just had.
- Due to the tree mortality, there will be a higher than usual level of dry timber fuel in the coming fire season.
- We are expecting a warmer wetter winter which may result in ideal growing conditions and high fuel loadings for the coming fire season.

## **5.9 District Emergency Management Advisor**

Report provided District Emergency Management Advisor Report May to July 2024 - **attachment 1**.

## **5.10 State Emergency Services**

Martin Seward, Unit Manager, discussed his units' responses to local storm damage in the area with 12 Requests for Assistance (RFA's) with the majority of RFA's due to flooding in the new estates.

There has been a significant number of responses due to poor workmanship on the new builds.

WOW Day was a great success, thank you to the Shire for combining this event with the Citizenship Ceremony.

## **5.11 Mundijong Police**

Snr Sgt Richard Moore noted that they have been busy with traffic accidents and assisting with powerlines down during the recent storms.

## **5.12 Chief Bush Fire Control Officer**

### **Chief Bushfire Control Officer Report – May 2024**

#### **Preface**

- Leigh Mulholland finished in the CESM/CBFCO on 26/4/24, promoted to District Officer in the Mid-West Gascoyne region.
- Callum MacNeill covered the role from 7/5/24 to 31/5/24, temporarily seconded from the Department of Justice.

- Siobhan Bishop has been substantively appointed to the CESM/CBFCO role following a competitive recruitment process and commences on 17/6/24.
- Current focus is on ensuring a well-managed transition between prohibited/restricted/open burning times, supporting brigade AGM and nomination processes, ensuring the training calendar is maximised to best use, and preparation for the Shire's emergency services volunteer awards night in June.

### **Prevention**

- The unseasonal conditions resulted in the FES Commissioner extending the Prohibited Burning Time across a number of metropolitan LGA's. The Shire further extended the PBT through to 13 May. From there, some specific guidance has been issued to the Shire's Fire Control Officers placing restrictions on permit issuance, to ensure risk is mitigated. This included no running fire in bush, as a result very little burning has occurred to date with the exception of piles (limited by guidance to FCOs as well) and 1m<sup>3</sup> garden refuse.
- The Restricted Burning Time has been extended for a 2-week period through to 14 June. Notwithstanding the rainfall forecast for week commencing 27/5/24, it was determined this was the correct approach given KBDI particularly to the north of the Shire. Guidance to FCOs regarding permits in this period will be relaxed compared to the past month after the two forecast cold fronts have passed.
- A number of treatment activities are underway, including Nettleton Rd mulching, spraying at Manjedal Brook Reserve, various verge mulching works, over 70km of tracks inspected with maintenance schedules now in place, management of Webb Reserve (eventual burning/baling), and a joined-up approach with ARC for mitigation works through the Serpentine railway corridor.
- This year's fire break notice has been reviewed by the Emergency Services team with minor modifications made.
- The Shire's text messaging service continues to grow with approximately 2500 persons registered. It has been used to good effect recently with reinforcing to residents the requirement to check EmergencyWA and the Fire Danger Rating prior to any burning in the Restricted Burning Period
- The Bushfire Awareness Team met on 9 May and determined to give support/attend to a number of events, such as the Serpentine Community BBQ on 16 May and Farmers Market on 25 May, as a well as work towards holding various Burn Smart/Street Meet brigade events between June and October, as well as a larger Be Bushfire Ready event in October.
- An unfortunate delay in the Oakford Station project has been communicated to the brigade with an avenue forward determined and being prioritised.

### **Preparedness**

- The Shire's 7 brigades currently have 234 volunteers registered with DFES.
- Version 3 of the SJ Fire Services training calendar was issued on 15/5/24, reflecting a number of courses that required cancellation due to lack of applicants.
- Planning will soon start for the pre-season Rural-Urban Interface exercise.



## Response

As a result of the unseasonal conditions experienced since the last LEMC resulting in a long extension to the traditional high threat period (bushfire), a number of major incidents have continued to impact the area into the year. These include:

- 9/3/24, mulch fire - Orton Rd OLDBURY – 3<sup>rd</sup> event of major mulch fire at same address. Resource intensive.
- 23/4/24, 3<sup>rd</sup> alarm bushfire - Yangedi Rd HOPELAND – 11Ha, resource intensive incident due to acid sulphate soils.
- 10/5/24, 3<sup>rd</sup> alarm bushfire - Hopkinson Rd HILBERT – 12Ha, fire started in Gazetted Fire District on west of Hopkinson Road and ran into SJ with high potential to impact RUI/private properties requiring an Emergency Warning. SJ brigades provided support over a single shift to CFRS/DFES.
- Various incidents where SJ brigades have provided support to neighbouring LGs.

Incident Attendance statistics from last LEMC's reporting period to 27/5/24 are below.

Dates: 24/02/2024 to 27/05/2024

### No. of Incidents Attended

This report shows the number of Incidents attended in any capacity. It does not count multiple turnouts to the same Incident. HAZMAT incidents are included (not labelled). Note: Bushfire (lge) is a fire greater than 1 hectare

Brig N°	Brigade Name	Service	Results												
			Called Off - No Attendance	False Alarm - System Initiated	False Call - Good Intent	Fire - Bushfire (lge)	Fire - Bushfire (smf)	Fire - Other/Rubbish/Vehide	Fire - Structure	Hazardous Situation	Not Reported	Rescue & Medical	Road Crash & Rescue	Search	TOTAL
6114	BYFORD BFB	BFB	1	3	23	6	12	8	2	1	1	0	0	0	57
6877	EMERGENCY SUPPORT BFB	BFB	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7
6309	JARRAHDALÉ BFB	BFB	0	0	5	7	3	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	20
6340	KEYSBROOK BFB	BFB	0	0	2	5	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
6451	MUNDIJONG BFB	BFB	0	0	14	10	11	7	3	0	0	0	1	0	46
6500	OAKFORD BFB	BFB	0	0	13	6	13	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	39
6577	SERPENTINE BFB	BFB	0	0	10	7	2	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	26

### 5.13 Sports Aircraft Builders Club Inc

SABC President, David Olney, noted that there were issues with the static water supply at the airport to be followed up with the Emergency Services Department after this meeting. It was also noted that the SABC Open Day will be held on 27 October 2024.

## 5.14 Water Corporation

Apology.

## 6. General Business

Snr Sgt Moore noted good work of the Shire to promote youth wellness programs.

## 7. Attachments:

- **3.1 – attachment 1** – Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting Minutes – 12 March 2024 (E24/3998)
- **4.1 – attachment 1** - Local Emergency Management Committee Contact List (E23/17516)
- **4.2 – attachment 1** - Local Emergency Management Committee Resource Register (E20/12276)
- **4.3 – attachment 1** - Department of Communities Agency Report – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2023-2024 Agency Update (IN24/12606)
- **5.5 – attachment 1** – Department of Communities Agency Report – LEMC background information – 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2023-2024 (IN24/13123).
- **5.9 – attachment 1** - District Emergency Management Advisor Report - May to July 2024 (IN24/12585)

## 8. Next meeting:

Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale Civic Chambers	10 September 2024
Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale Civic Chambers	10 December 2024

## 9. Closure:

The meeting closed at 10:20am.