



SHIRE OF
HARVEY



Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting **Attachments**

Monday 8 June 2026
Harvey Council Chamber
2pm

Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting Agenda
8 June 2026
Attachments

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Local Emergency Management
Committee
Minutes

Harvey Council Chambers
Monday, 9 March 2026
2PM

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Local Emergency Management Committee

Official Opening

The Presiding Member, Shire President Cr. Campbell, opened the meeting at 2.03pm.

1. Attendance**Committee Membership – Voting**

Shire President/Presiding Officer	Cr.	Michelle	Campbell
Deputy Shire President	Cr.	Craig	Carbone
Chief Bush Fire Control Officer	Mr.	Wayne	Jackson
Community Emergency Services Manager	Mr.	Nick	Mellowship
Harvey Police	A/OIC.	Daniel	Simpson
Australind Police	Sgt.	Scott	Starkie
Australind SES – Nominee (or delegate)	Mr.	Matthew	Redman
Harvey St John Ambulance	Ms.	Suleen	Van Der Westhuizen
Department of Communities	Ms.	Renee	Flaxman <i>Electronically</i>
DFES – District Officer – Natural Hazards	Mr.	Nick	Elrick

Committee Membership – Non-Voting

Chief Executive Officer	Ms.	Annie	Riordan
Manager Waste and Safety Services	Mr.	Haydn	Jones
Local Recovery Coordinator, Shire of Harvey			
Director Community and Lifestyle	Ms.	Suzie	Haslehurst
Bushfire Risk Mitigation Coordinator	Ms.	Kaitlin	Southgate
DFES – Acting District Officer, Wellington	Mr.	Ricky	Southgate
DFES – Emergency Management Advisor	Ms.	Melissa	Howard
DFES – Fire Operations Officer	Mr.	Darren	Harvey
Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development	Ms.	Tamara	Keen <i>Electronically</i>
Atco Gas	Mr.	Jordan	Lisle
Yarloop Police	OIC.	Kylie	Jones 2.30pm – 3.03pm
Alcoa	Mr.	Jake	Webb
Alcoa	Mr.	Duncan	Ross
WA Country Health Services	Ms.	Pauline	Nicholls <i>Electronically</i>

Visitor

Community Preparedness Advisor, DFES	Ms.	Haley	Hibbitt
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Observer

Catholic Education Office of WA Ms. Lee DeGrussa

2. Apologies

Mr. Kirk McDonald, AGIG

Mr. Andrew Boutell, Telstra

Ms. Sara Saberi, Shire of Harvey Manager Environmental Health

Mr. Barry Moroney, WA Country Health Services

Ms. Kirsty Shooter, Leschenault Leisure Centre (LLC)

Mr. Rod Johnson, Harve Water

3. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting (LEMC) held on Monday 8 December 2025, are attached hereto (Refer **Attachment 3.1**).

Recommendation

That the Minutes of Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting held on Monday 8 December 2025, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Moved: Carbone Seconded: Mellowship

That the Minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting (LEMC) held on Monday, 8 December 2025, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED 9-0 LEMC 26/01

4. Presentations/Deputations**4.1. Ms. Haley Hibbitt, Community Preparedness Advisor (CPA), DFES**

Ms. Haley Hibbitt from DFES will brief the Committee relating to Emergency WA Emergency Warnings, and the relationship between the Community Preparedness Advisor (CPA) and the members of the LEMC in prevention/preparedness, response (ISG) and recovery (LRCG) (**Refer to Attachment 4.1.1**).

4.2. Acting Officer in Charge (OIC), Daniel Simpson - Harvey Police

Acting OIC, Daniel Simpson from the Harvey Police has been invited to update the Committee on his newly appointed position and operations at the Harvey Police Station.

5. Business in accordance with the requirements of the *Emergency Management Act 1995***5.1. Confirmation of LEMC Contact Details**

Attached to the agenda is the current list of Emergency Contact Details. Please advise the Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM) of any updates required (Refer **Confidential Attachment No. 5.1.1.**).

5.2. Review any Post – Incident Reports and/or Post – Exercise Reports - Wellesley Bushfire – Incident Summary and Debrief Outcomes

Incident Overview

At 2200 hrs on Monday, 29 December 2026, DFES Communications received reports of a bushfire in the vicinity of Treasure Road, Shire of Harvey. The initial response was undertaken by the Shire of Harvey and local Bushfire Brigades. DFES assumed control of the incident at 1300 hrs on Tuesday, 30 December 2026. Level 1 incident, with triggers for a level 2.

Emergency warnings were issued for parts of Leschenault, Binningup and the Leschenault Peninsula Conservation Park.

At its peak:

- Approximately 150 firefighters were engaged, including Bushfire Services, Parks and Wildlife Service, Volunteer Fire and Rescue Services, Career Fire and Rescue Service and Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services personnel.
- Incident Control was established at the Albemarle Lithium Plant, Kemerton, with site personnel assisting the Incident Management Team (IMT).
- Approximately 315 hectares were burnt.
- An Evacuation Centre was established at the Leschenault Leisure Centre. On 30 December, five evacuees attended, all securing alternative accommodation overnight. Due to changing warning areas and reduced demand, the Evacuation Centre was closed on 31 December 2026.
- An emailed situational update was provided to LEMC members during the incident by the Acting District Emergency Management Advisor and District Officer.

Brigade Debrief

The Shire of Harvey Bushfire Brigades conducted a debrief on 20 January 2026. Key outcomes are summarised below.

Key Operational Observations

- Span of control was excessive in some sectors, with resource allocation not always aligned to priority needs.
 - Crew changeovers and check-in processes were inconsistent, creating coordination challenges.
 - Communication issues were identified, including radio channel confusion and location clarity.
 - Transfer of control between agencies was effective overall, but could have been communicated more clearly.
 - Water supply access and light tanker deployment strategies require review.
-

Welfare and Fatigue Management

- Welfare support improved as the incident progressed and was generally well managed.
- Catering logistics require refinement, including provision of hot food options and improved distribution systems.
- Fatigue management remains a concern given consecutive incidents and extended operational periods. Alternative shift models are being considered.
- Welfare processes are under review, including options for more self-sustained food models.

Interagency and Community Engagement

- Cross-shire and multi-agency collaboration was strong and well received.
- Heavy machinery and aerial firefighting resources were highly effective.
- The Evacuation Centre was opened promptly, with recent training contributing positively to its operation.
- Community appreciation for brigade efforts was significant.
- Some external agencies were resource-limited due to concurrent emergency events and seasonal factors.

Training and Capability Development

The debrief identified the need to strengthen:

- Operations Commander and Sector Commander capability.
- Radio communication competency.
- Mentoring pathways for emerging leaders.
- Development of a regional Bushfire Incident Team capability.

Key Learnings and Improvement Actions

Establish and clearly communicate an Incident Action Plan prior to large-scale deployment.

- Standardise brigade messaging, check-in, and changeover procedures.
- Strengthen fatigue management and shift structures.
- Improve catering and welfare logistics arrangements.
- Develop and maintain an accessible Shire resource register.

Roelands Bushfire – Incident Summary and Debrief Outcomes

On Sunday, 22 February 2026, a bushfire ignited southeast of the Roelands Townsite. Due to the fire's progression toward nearby residential areas, including Escarpment and Livingstone Heights, an Evacuation Centre was established at the Leschenault Leisure Centre with two evacuees that attending.

At the time of preparing this report, a formal post-incident debrief has not yet been conducted.

5.3. Funding Nominations and Applications Process

AWARE Grant 2025–2026

The Shire of Harvey received a grant of \$17,550 to carry out an Emergency Management Capability Assessment. The Assessment will enable the shire to identify and address shortfalls in its emergency management capabilities to ensure community safety and resilience. This is funded through the 2025–2026 All West Australians Reducing Emergencies (AWARE) Grant Round.

Mr. Haydn Jones advised that Emergency Management Capability Assessment interviews are currently being carried out with Captains of the Brigades and Shire Staff.

5.4. Emergency Risk Management (ERM)/Treatment Strategies Progress

The Bushfire Risk Management Plan (BRMP) has undergone a comprehensive review by the Shire of Harvey's Bushfire Risk Mitigation Coordinator. The revised BRMP has been endorsed by the Office of Bushfire Risk Management (OBRM) and was subsequently endorsed by Council on 27 January 2026. Planning for the 2026–2027 Mitigation Activity Fund Program is currently underway.

5.5. Review of Local Emergency Management Arrangements

The Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA) and Recovery Plan were reviewed in 2023 and remain current.

The Local Emergency Management Committee formally endorsed the implementation of the recommendations identified in the Post-Exercise Report (September 2025). These recommendations will be incorporated into the upcoming desktop review of the LEMA.

5.6. Review Business Plan Strategies and Record Key Achievements

Attached is the updated Business Plan (*Refer to Attachment 5.6.1*).

A 2026 template for the Business Plan will be investigated. Discussions between Haydn Jones and Melissa Howard going forward.

5.7. Third Quarter Meeting

5.7.1. Local Government Exercise Schedule

The next LEMC exercise is scheduled to be held at the June 2026 LEMC meeting.

5.7.2. Seasonal Review

Refer to DFES Report (*Refer to attachment 6.1.1*).

6. General Business

6.1. Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) Report

The combined DFES and DEMA Report are attached. *(Refer to Attachment 6.1.1).*

6.2. DFES District Emergency Management Advisor Report (DEMA)

The combined DFES and DEMA Report are attached. *(Refer to Attachment 6.1.1).*

6.3. Department of Communities (Doc)

Ms. Renee Flaxman, Regional Coordinator, has forwarded the Department of Communities Report *(Refer to Attachment 6.3.1).*

6.4. Bushfire Risk Mitigation Officer's Report (BRMC)

Mrs. Kaitlin Southgate has submitted the Bushfire Risk Mitigation Coordinator's Report *(Refer to Attachment 6.4.1).*

Mrs. Kaitlin Southgate drew the Committee's attention to Section 2 of the BRMC Report. Kaitlin is currently working Ms. Lee DeGrussa from the Catholic Education Office of WA to support the development of Emergency Management Plans for Catholic schools. It is intended that all schools within the Shire will be contacted and offered assistance in preparing their Emergency Management Plans.

6.5. Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA) Report

Mr. Bruce Hancock, Asset Operations Manager, has forwarded a report from Main Roads WA. *(Refer to Attachment 6.5.1).*

6.6. Cr. Carbone – Number of Deliberately Lit Fires

Cr. Carbone queried out of the 16 bushfires reported throughout the bushfire season, how many of those fires were deliberately lit?

Mr. Ricky Southgate advised that he will gather the requested information and provide an update.

Sergeant Scott Starkie, Australind Police, stated there had been at least two deliberately lit fires recently. The Police have been working very closely with Strike Force Vulcan. The liaison between the Police and DFES has also been favourable, and it is expected that statistically the information on the number of deliberately lit fires will rise during the next year, due to more correct information being available.

6.7. Leschenault Volunteer Bushfire Brigade Station Construction Update

Mr. Nick Mellowship advised that construction of the new station is scheduled to begin in the next 3 to 4 weeks.

Smith Constructions have confirmed there will be no overrun of the construction time.

6.8. National Emergency Alarm System Trial

Shire President, Cr, Michelle Campbell queried a media release predicting an upcoming trial of the National Emergency Alarm System, scheduled to take place on people's mobile phones in October 2026.

Ms. Hayley Hibitt, DFES, advised that the Alarm System is already existing, however improvements in technology have been. It is hoped that the trial will be carried out in July, 2026.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Local Emergency Management Committee will be held on Monday 8 June 2026, in the Harvey Council Chamber, commencing at 2.00pm.

8. Closure of Meeting

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was declared closed at 3.03pm



Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting **Attachments**

**Harvey Council Chamber
9 March 2026
2pm**

Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting

Attachments

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4. Presentations/Deputations

4.1. Ms Haley Hibbitt, Community Preparedness Advisor
(CPA), DFES 2

Community Preparedness with DFES

Haley Hibbitt, Community Preparedness Advisor
South West, DFES



FOR A SAFER STATE

Community Preparedness Advisor

“works to change the community’s behaviour to achieve a greater level of capacity and preparedness during a hazard situation by engaging and supporting the regional operational staff and volunteers to build their capacity to work with the community.”

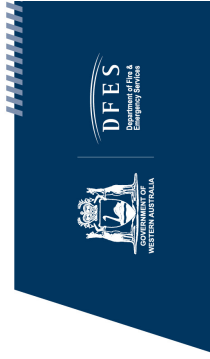
- Training
- Mentoring
- Facilitation
- Subject matter experts
- Key messages
- Resources
- Support



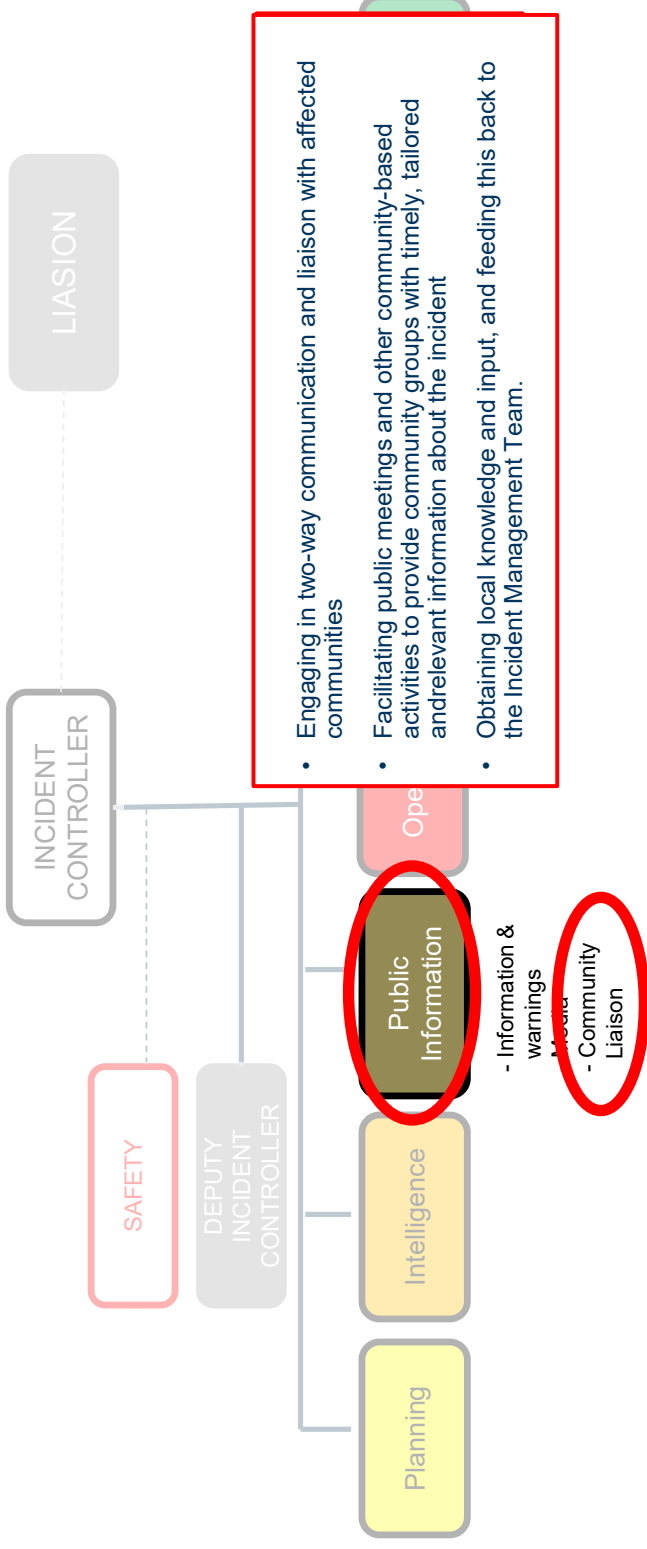
Community Preparedness Advisor

How we might work together

- Training and support for staff and volunteers
- Strategic Engagement planning
 - Risk mapping
 - Mitigation planning
- Linkage into brigades, groups, units, DFES etc
- SME for your events
- Resource provision



Other roles



Australian Warning System

BUSHFIRE | STORM | FLOOD | HEATWAVE | CYCLONE



ADVICE

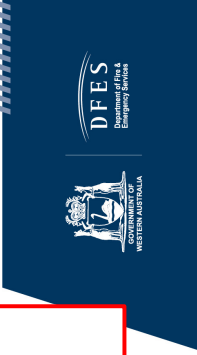


WATCH AND ACT

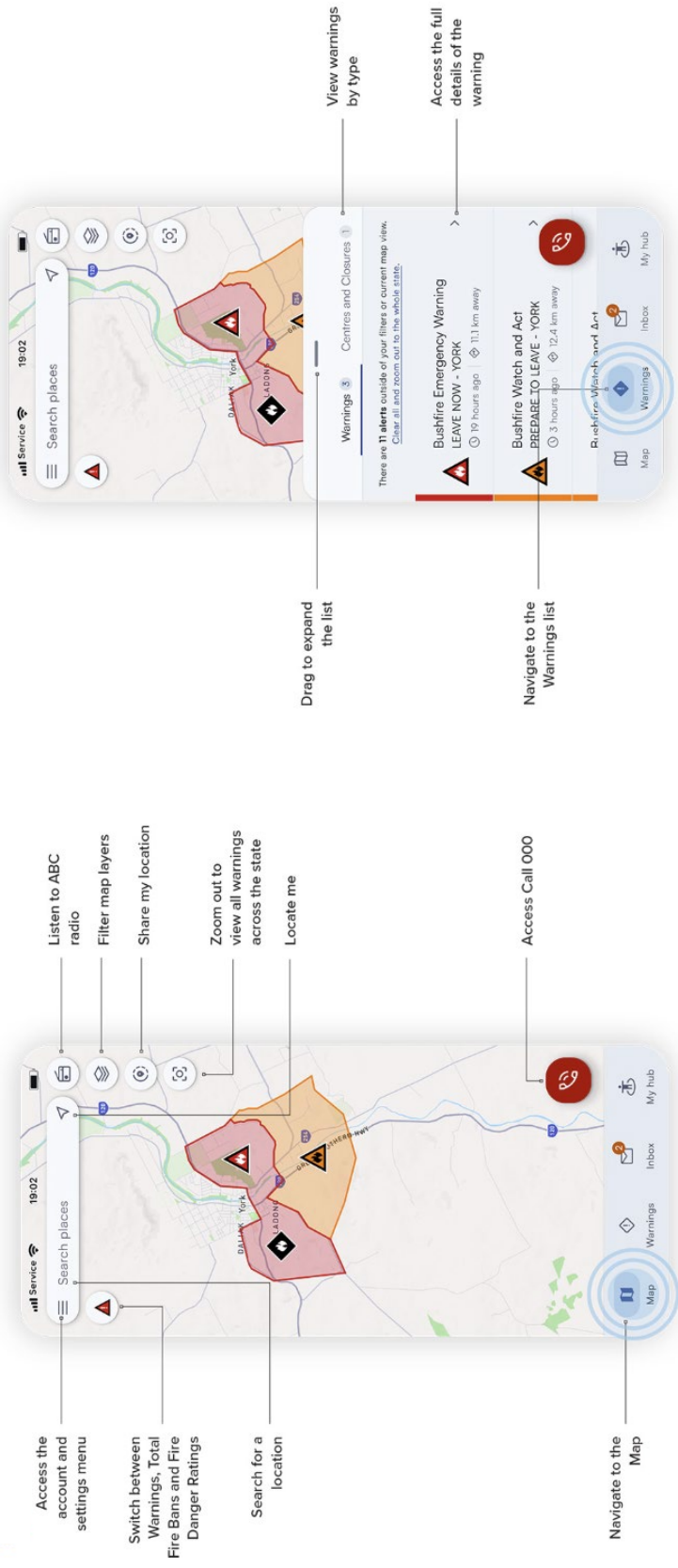


EMERGENCY WARNING

- Prepare to leave/evacuate
- Leave/evacuate now (if you are not prepared)
- Prepare to take shelter
- Move/stay indoors
- Stay near shelter
- Monitor conditions as they are changing
- Be aware of ember attack
- Move to higher ground (away from creeks/rivers/coast)
- Limit time outside (cyclone, heat, asthma)
- Avoid the area/avoid the flooded area
- Stay away from damaged buildings and other hazards
- Prepare for isolation
- Protect yourself against the impacts of extreme heat
- Do not enter floodwater
- Not safe to return
- Prepare your property (cyclone/storm)



Emergency WA - app



Emergency WA - app



<https://youtu.be/A0lqj1rsoFw?si=VXeDndpXSBGpuBa>



New to emergency WA...

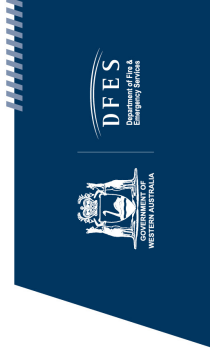
My Emergency Plan

- New functionality in emergency WA, My Emergency Plan
 - replacing the My Bushfire Plan (MBP) app and website
 - All hazard emergency planning in one place.
- Prompts to follow your plan when an emergency impacts your area
- Plan sharing
- Integration with watch zones to receive near real-time notifications
- Create multiple plans
- Create and use your plan offline

Challenge

- Use the CPA to help build resilience in your area
- Share opportunities and help build linkages
- Share resources and information
- Take up training opportunities and/or share them with your people
- Consider CLU during incidents
- Consider post-incident events for your community
- Get familiar with emergency WA and the Australian Warning System

Questions?





Department of Fire and Emergency Services – SW/LSW Report
4th Quarter 2025-2026

STATE NEWS

The last meeting of the **State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC)** was held on the 21 May 2026. SEMC Communiqués can be found [here](#).

2025 SEMC MEETING SCHEDULE

- 30 July 2026
- 01 October 2026
- 03 December 2026

SEMC ANNUAL REPORT

The [SEMC Annual Report 2024/25](#) was tabled in Parliament on 12 March 2026 and is available online. The Annual Report demonstrates the work undertaken by the members of the SEMC, its Subcommittees and Reference Groups and the District and Local Emergency Management Committees over the reporting period. It shows the achievements and the dedication of the WA Emergency Management sector to ensure that WA’s Emergency Management Framework remains contemporary and at the required capability.

FUEL CRISIS

Fuel supply continues to operate effectively, but localised supply disruptions are occurring. All states and territories, including WA, remain at **Level 2** on the [National Fuel Security Plan](#), which allows the WA Government to gather timely data and information from the industry.



The Department of Energy and Economic Diversification (DEED) is seeking localised insights into supply availability and Local Governments are encouraged to send relevant updates via email epwa-emergencymanagement@deed.wa.gov.au or alternatively complete the [Intelligence Submission Form/ Survey](#)

To view the WA Government Weekly Fuel Update – [Click Here](#)



STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Comprehensive Review Schedule

The following State Emergency Management documents are planned for comprehensive review and broad consultation in 2025/2026:

- WA Community Evacuation in Emergencies Guideline
- State Hazard Plan – Cyber Security Incident
- Local Recovery Guidelines
- State Hazard Plan – HAZMAT Annex A Nuclear Powered Warship (NPW)
- State Hazard Plan – Animal and Plant Biosecurity
- State Hazard Plan – Hostile Act
- State Hazard Plan – Collapse
- State Hazard Plan – Earthquake
- State Hazard Plan – Maritime Environmental Emergencies
- State Hazard Plan – Tsunami
- State Support Plan – Emergency Public Information
- Impact Statement Guideline and Template
- WA Managing Exercising Guideline
- State EM Policy and Plan

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

LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS PROJECT UPDATE

The Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA) Improvement Program is continuing to work toward a more capable and resilient community, through a local approach to emergency management. The Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) partnered with DFES to deliver the improvement program.

Three key products will be completed by 15 April 2026:

1. **LEMA Development Model** – tiered approach to define four progressive levels of LEMA maturity – Insufficient, Essential, Established, Optimal.
2. **Revised LEMA templates** – three new templates, the Emergency Management Plan, Incident Support Handbook and Emergency Management Work Plan.
3. **Local Government Emergency Management Knowledge Hub (EM Hub)** – available for local governments to use.

SEMC acknowledges the work of the participating local governments during the LEMA Pilot program, their efforts and contributions through this review.



DISTRICT NEWS

The last meeting of the **District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC)** was held on the **17 March 2026**.

Key Presentations

- Presentation provided by the UCI Gravel World Championships organisers who will be holding a large-scale international event in the Shire of Nannup **10-11 October 2026**.
- Telstra presented on communications capability and future network considerations relevant to emergency management and the South West District.

Key Discussions

- DFES's Strike Force Vulcan officers in partnership with Collie Police charged a man in relation to a bushfire that occurred in the Collie area.
- DBCA burn program to commence late April, with seasonal planning shared.
- Polyphagous Shot-Hole Borer (PSHB) has transitioned from eradication to management phase, with ongoing resourcing implications and stakeholder engagement.
- Department of Communities outlined new recovery roles under State EM Arrangements, with a focus on strengthening locally led recovery.
- The DEMC Work Plan template is currently being developed by SEMC to streamline and simplify reporting.

2026 DEMC MEETING SCHEDULE

- 20 October 2026

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.

Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) – Round Four

The Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) is the Australian Government's flagship disaster resilience and risk reduction initiative, designed to support a comprehensive portfolio of resilience and mitigation projects across Australia. Round Four application guidelines are expected to be released shortly; however, key anticipated changes include a requirement for infrastructure projects to be shovel-ready, with pre-planning costs no longer eligible for funding, and project delivery timeframes reduced from five years to three years. Round Four is expected to open in **early-mid 2026**, with around \$200 million available nationally.

WALGA - ASBESTOS HEAT MAP WEBINAR

Wednesday, 27 May - 1:00pm to 2:00pm – Online

Register here: [Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)

Hosted by WALGA, and the Asbestos and Silica Safety and Eradication Agency (ASSEA), this webinar will explore how Local Governments can access and use the National Residential Asbestos Heatmap. ***This webinar is for Local Governments only.***



DPIRD – SOUTH WEST PSHB WORKSHOPS

DPIRD Bunbury; 1 Verschuer Pl, Davenport
03 June 2026, 10:30 AWST
(RSVP by 27 May)

DPIRD Manjimup; 28527 S.W. Hwy, Middlesex
09 June 2026, 13:30 AWST
(RSVP by 02 June)

The workshop provides those in the industry a deeper understanding on identifying and managing PSHB, focusing on:

- Susceptible PSHB hosts and their symptoms
- Sampling advice and diagnostics pathways
- Treatment and disposal of infested material

If you are interested in attending one of these workshops you will need to register your interest by contacting:

PSHB.CBT.Information@dpird.wa.gov.au.

There are limited in-person spots so if you plan to come in person make sure to register early. When registering your interest in attending these events please include the participants name and the business details (**maximum 2 people per business**).

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

As we mark the close of the High Threat Period for the South West, I would like to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of all agencies, Local Governments, and Bushfire Brigades who have worked tirelessly to protect our communities throughout the fire season. The level of preparedness, coordination and on-ground response this year reflects a strong, collaborative approach across the district, and your commitment has not gone unnoticed.

As we transition into the mitigation phase, prescribed burning and other risk reduction activities remain critical to reducing future bushfire impacts. Programs such as the Mitigation Activity Fund Grants Program (MAFGP) continue to play a vital role in enabling Local Governments to deliver targeted, strategic treatments across the landscape. I also acknowledge the valuable contribution of Bushfire Risk Mitigation Coordinators across the region and welcome the Shire of Waroona to the program. I commend and encourage those Local Governments actively participating, as your investment in mitigation today directly strengthens community resilience tomorrow.

Training remains a cornerstone of our collective capability, and I encourage continued participation in the range of opportunities offered by DFES and Local Governments to support our bushfire volunteers. This year presents an additional opportunity to strengthen our volunteer base, with the Digital Volunteer Recruitment Campaign officially launching on 1 April 2026. I encourage all agencies to leverage this initiative to boost recruitment and ensure our brigades remain well-resourced and supported into the future.

Finally, with National Volunteer Week taking place from 18–24 May 2026, we are reminded of the invaluable contribution our volunteers make to emergency management across the South West. I extend my sincere thanks to all participating Local Governments and Bushfire Brigades for your ongoing dedication, and I encourage everyone to take the time to recognise and celebrate the efforts of our volunteers during this important week.



DISTRICT OFFICER REPORT

Fire Season 2026/27

DFES South West Region is currently undertaking planning activities for the 2026/27 fire season. Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade training courses and the regional training calendar are being developed to support upskilling 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.

South West Enhanced Response

DFES South West Region is currently reviewing the South West Enhanced Response arrangements for the upcoming high threat season. Updated documentation will be distributed to Local Governments for review and consideration regarding continued participation for a further two-year period.

Emergency Waste Management

DFES South West Region is progressing work relating to Emergency Waste Management planning, including exploring the feasibility of a coordinated, multi-agency approach across South West Local Governments.

Suspicious Fire Activity

Several suspicious fires have occurred across various South West Local Government areas this year. DFES asks that if you observe any suspicious behaviour to call Triple Zero (000) immediately. 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

The Community Preparedness Topic is Severe Weather.

Severe weather can occur at any time of year, however in the South West it's more common between March and October. Severe Weather may include [storms](#), damaging winds, heavy rainfall, [flooding](#) and storm surge. These hazards may occur separately or together and can affect communities in different ways. Taking simple steps ahead of time can help reduce damage, avoid injury and support safer decision-making.

If relevant, please share the information below with your networks and local community throughout the month of **May**. You can share it in its current format or adapt it to suit your usual communication channels, such as newsletters or social media posts.

Key behaviours to encourage from your community this month:

- **Check Emergency WA** regularly for warnings related to storms, flooding and storm surge
- **Inspect and maintain your property**, including roofs, drainage and outdoor areas
- **Understand that flooding can occur downstream**, even without local rainfall
- **Avoid unnecessary travel during storms**, especially on flood-affected or coastal roads
- **Adjust plans early** when warnings are issued

Compiled by: Melissa Howard
District Emergency Management Advisor – South West/ Lower South West
Department of Fire and Emergency Services
As at 21 May 2026



Emergency Relief and Support

LEMC REPORT FOR DISTRIBUTION 4th 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 Manager	Mark Schorer
Regional Coordinator	Renee Flaxman
Regional Manager	Jo Spadaccini
Local Government:	Shire of Harvey
Emergency Relief and Support update	
<p>The Department of Communities (Communities) Emergency Relief and Support (ERS) continued to support impacted people and communities over the high threat season by assisting with evacuation centres, providing immediate accommodation, and coordinating early recovery planning in alignment with local government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of new initiatives have been introduced across the season, including updated Go Bags - packs for accommodation including air mattress, pillow and sleeping bags, and hygiene packs. Throughout the season, feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. The hygiene packs are proving particularly popular, and the air bed, pillow, and sleeping bag bundle has been widely appreciated as a practical take home pack. • A pilot project has been undertaken in response to the Boddington Newmont bushfire in December 2025. The purpose of the pilot was to test the feasibility and scalability of post evacuation centre engagement, with the aim of supporting social and emotional wellbeing during the early recovery period. The project also sought to capture structured feedback on evacuation centre operations to inform service improvements and strengthen continuity between response and early recovery. Findings are being reviewed to assess feasibility and scalability across future emergencies. 	
Identification of Evacuation Centres	
<p>Under the State's Emergency Management Arrangements, Local Governments are required to identify evacuation centres suitable for relevant hazards and/or communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When identifying potential evacuation centre locations, it is the responsibility of the local government, in collaboration with the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMCs) and 	

relevant emergency management agencies, including the Department of Communities, to determine that the facilities are appropriate for hazards that are high risk to the area.

- Section 2.3 of the Location Planning of the Western Australia Evacuation Community in Emergencies Guidelines states:
LEMCs should consult with relevant emergency management agencies (including local governments, HMAs, Controlling Agencies, support organisations, and the Department of Communities) to determine the evacuation centres suitable for relevant hazards and/or communities. LEMCs should also identify possible options for refuge sites depending on the nature of the emergency.
- Communities maintains a record of all evacuation centres in the State and provides this to Controlling Agencies and/or HMAs as required.

Communities encourage local governments and LEMCs to ensure that only approved and assessed evacuation centres, as documented in the Local Emergency Relief and Support Plan, are included in the LEMA.

To support this process, Communities will be tabling an agenda item at LEMCs to seek confirmation of the centres on the State register.

Emergency Relief and Support Training

As we move into the preparedness and capability development season, Communities will be rolling out updated training across local government, partner organisations, and our internal staff group. This 2.5-hour session (which can be adapted to suit local needs) is designed to support local government staff who may be allocated to open and facilitate the operation of an evacuation centre prior to Communities' arrival.

This practical based training builds knowledge of key processes, common challenges, and the adaptations required for different cohorts and scenarios. Multiple scenarios and exercises targeting local government preparedness are included.

ERS staff in your region will be in contact to arrange dates for this training.

Exercising

Local governments are encouraged to include ERS early in all hazard emergency exercise planning to strengthen coordination across response and recovery.

Response ERS activations - January to March 2026

Significant events during the reporting period included Tropical Cyclone Mitchell, Severe Tropical Cyclone Narelle, flooding in the Kimberley, and multiple bushfire incidents across metropolitan, regional, and remote locations.

Across the previous quarter January to March 2026 Communities were activated:

- 13 times for Bushfires: January (7 evacuation centres) February (4) and March (2).
- 3 times for Cyclones: January TC Luana (2 evacuation centres)
February TC Mitchell (5 evacuation centres)
March TC Narelle (5 evacuation centres)

The State Support Plan – Emergency Relief and Support was activated on 26 March, as a result of Severe Tropical Cyclone Narelle with 5 evacuation centres opened and more than 180 people supported. Exmouth experienced widespread damage to homes and critical infrastructure, prolonged power and water disruptions, telecommunications outages and flooding, while Carnarvon experienced major flooding affecting homes and plantations.

Communities have been leading the State Social Recovery Domain, coordinating welfare and early recovery activities in partnership with relevant government and non-government organisations. Key community needs identified include housing damage, increased costs and limited availability of essentials, requests for financial and wellbeing support, limited face-to-face services, and heightened environmental health concerns.

The AUSRECPLAN — the Commonwealth plan that supports the repatriation of Australian citizens and approved foreign nationals following a critical incident overseas — was placed into ALERT phase in March as a result of the Middle East conflict.

Other updates

Disaster Ready Fund - Opportunity to upgrade applicable facilities

The National Emergency Management Agency has confirmed that the next round (Round Four) of the Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) is expected to be open by mid-2026. [Disaster Ready Fund | NEMA](#)

Local governments could consider opportunities to:

- Identify facilities that may require alternative or backup power generation to remain functional during emergencies.
- Assess facilities that could support incident coordination agencies, emergency services, and key stakeholders during a crisis.
- Develop or refine plans, scoping documents, or proposals for renovations and upgrades to community facilities so they can better support evacuation operations, including improvements to accessibility, capacity, safety features, and emergency functionality.

The Communities team is happy to talk through your ideas and can also prepare a letter of support to strengthen your application.

Monitoring Fuel supply and availability

Communities continues to oversee statewide fuel supply availability in response to District Emergency Coordinator requests. A structured weekly reporting process is now in place to support consistent monitoring and information sharing.

Prepared for: Local Emergency Management Committee
Date: 8th June 2026
Prepared by: Kaitlin Southgate
Position: Bushfire Risk Mitigation Coordinator

1. MAFGP 2025–2026

- Total Treatments Applied For: 19 treatments totalling \$73,960.80, including:
 - Gates: 2 (1 complete)
 - Chemical Works: 4 (1 complete)
 - Firebreaks: 6 (4 Complete)
 - Mechanical Works: 2 (1 complete)
 - Planned Burns: 5 (Cookernup cemetery ½ complete, Australind pioneer cemetery ¼ complete, Weir Road complete, Peterson Road 80% complete, Boundary Road Yarloop) - Thank you to those who made themselves available for the burns

2. Community and Stakeholder Engagement

- Shire of Harvey Library Engagement: The Shire of Harvey Library officers successfully completed training delivered by the DFES Southwest Community Preparedness Advisor. The training equipped library staff with the knowledge and skills to promote and support the use of the Emergency WA App within the community, reinforcing it as the trusted source of information during emergency events. This initiative strengthens local capacity to support community preparedness and access to timely, authoritative emergency information.
- Continued Stakeholder Engagement: Engaging with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), Forest Products Commission (FPC), Water Corporation and Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) to coordinate fire management efforts.

3. Operational Budget and Risk Assessment

- Budget Input: treatments are currently ad hoc dealing with community concerns and reserve shortfalls.
 - Firebreaks: 13
 - Mechanical Works: 4

4. 4. AWARE GRANT 25/26

- Shire of Harvey have been approved funding for the AWARE grant: to access funds in completing an Emergency Management Capability Assessment focusing on the current capabilities under the Bushfires Act 1954 and in consideration of increasing risk due to population growth and urban expansion. Brigade Leadership has been consulted for comment, and the report is being prepared due 23rd June 2026.

5. MAFGP 2026-2027 Application submitted

A copy of the Treatments applied for has been presented to the CEO, CBFCO, CESM, BRMO and DFES Superintendent. Total Treatments Applied For: 21 treatments totalling \$186,077.60 including:

- Gates: 4
- Fence: 1
- Chemical Works: 2
- Firebreaks: 7
- Mechanical Works: 3
- Planned Burns: 3
- Fire Service Access Route: 1



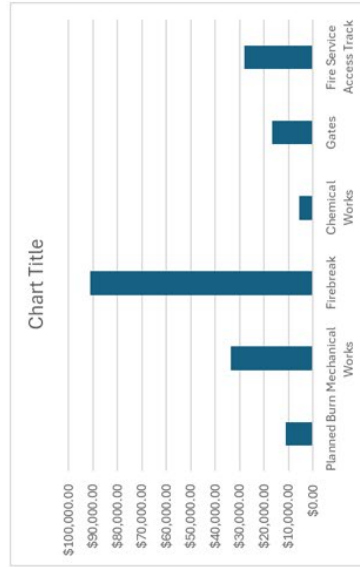
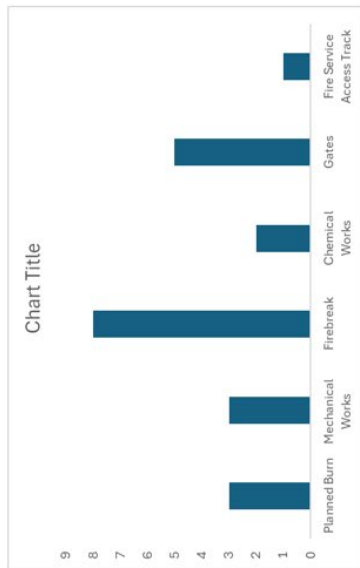
2026 - 2027

Mitigation Activity Fund Grants Program

MAFGP 2026 - 2027

Total Treatments: 21

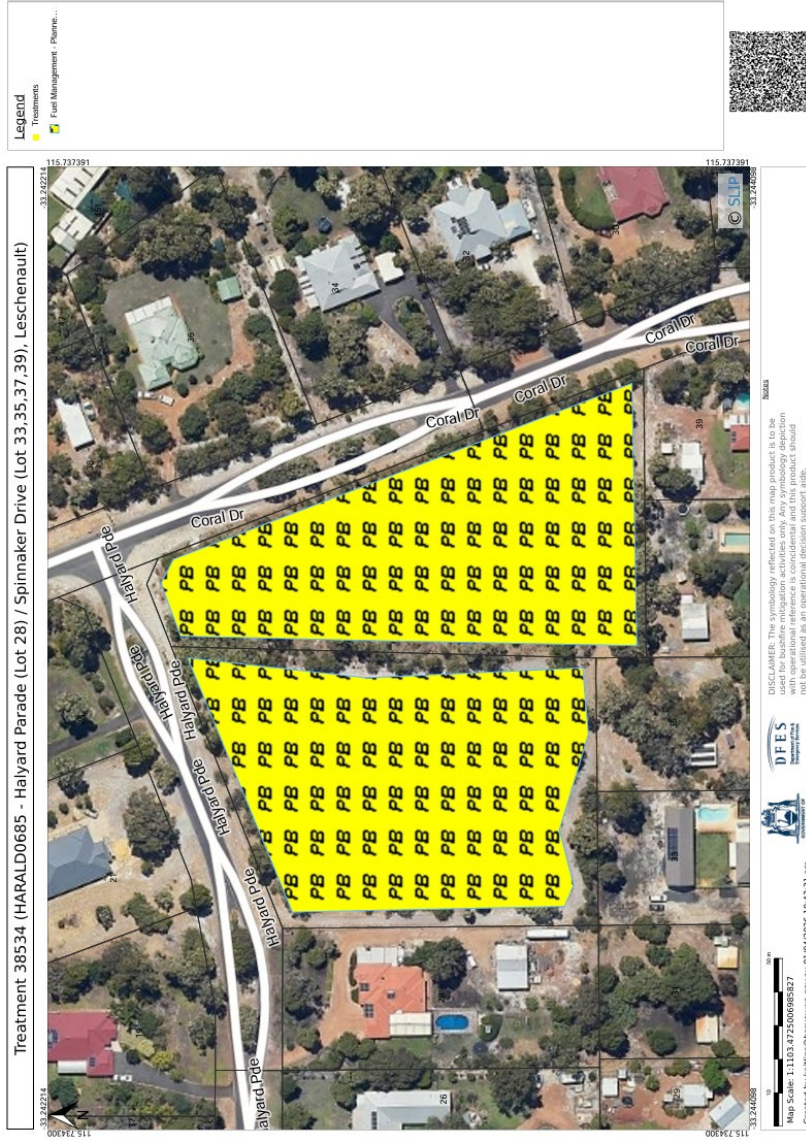
Total Amount:
\$186,077.60





Planned Burns

38534 Halyard Parad, Australind



MAF costing

\$1680

Objectives

To reduce the risk of bushfire impact on adjacent human settlement by reducing vegetation fuel loads to less than 2t/ha across 80% of the treatment area, through the implementation of a planned burn prior to 2027.

Instructions

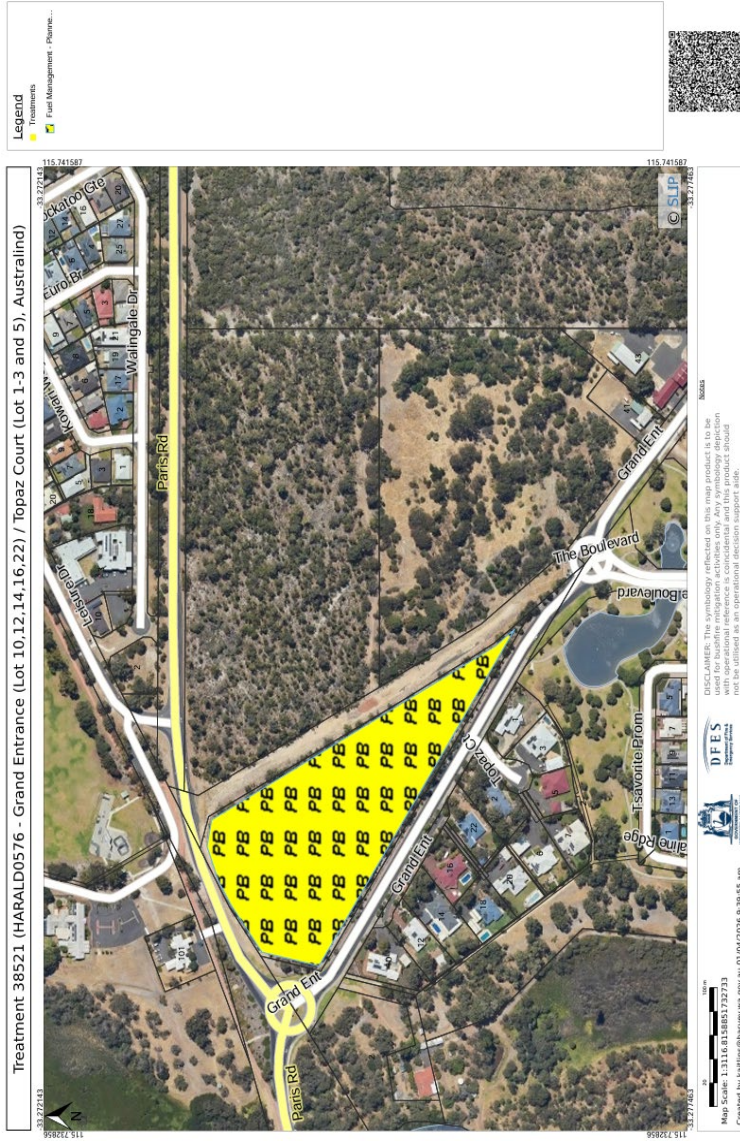
Conduct two separate planned burn cells at different times within 12 months, ensure burn security through firebreaks.
Prepare burn plan in consultation with BRMO and CBFCO

42031 Australind Road, Leschenault



42031 Australind Road, Leschenault	
MIAF costing	\$549.60
Objectives	To reduce the risk of bushfire impact on adjacent human settlement by reducing vegetation fuel loads to less than 2t/ha across 80% of the treatment area, through the implementation of a planned burn prior to 2027.
Instructions	Ensure burn is conducted strategically, utilise mosaic burning and raking around large trees. ensure flame height is minimal and no significant vegetation is damaged. Burn security to be established through mineral earth firebreaks/tracks. Prepare a burn plan in consultation with CBFCO and DFES.

38521 Grand Entrance, Australind



MAF costing

\$8951

Objectives

To reduce the risk of bushfire impact on adjacent human settlement by reducing vegetation fuel loads to less than 2t/ha across 80% of the treatment area, through the implementation of a planned burn prior to 2027.

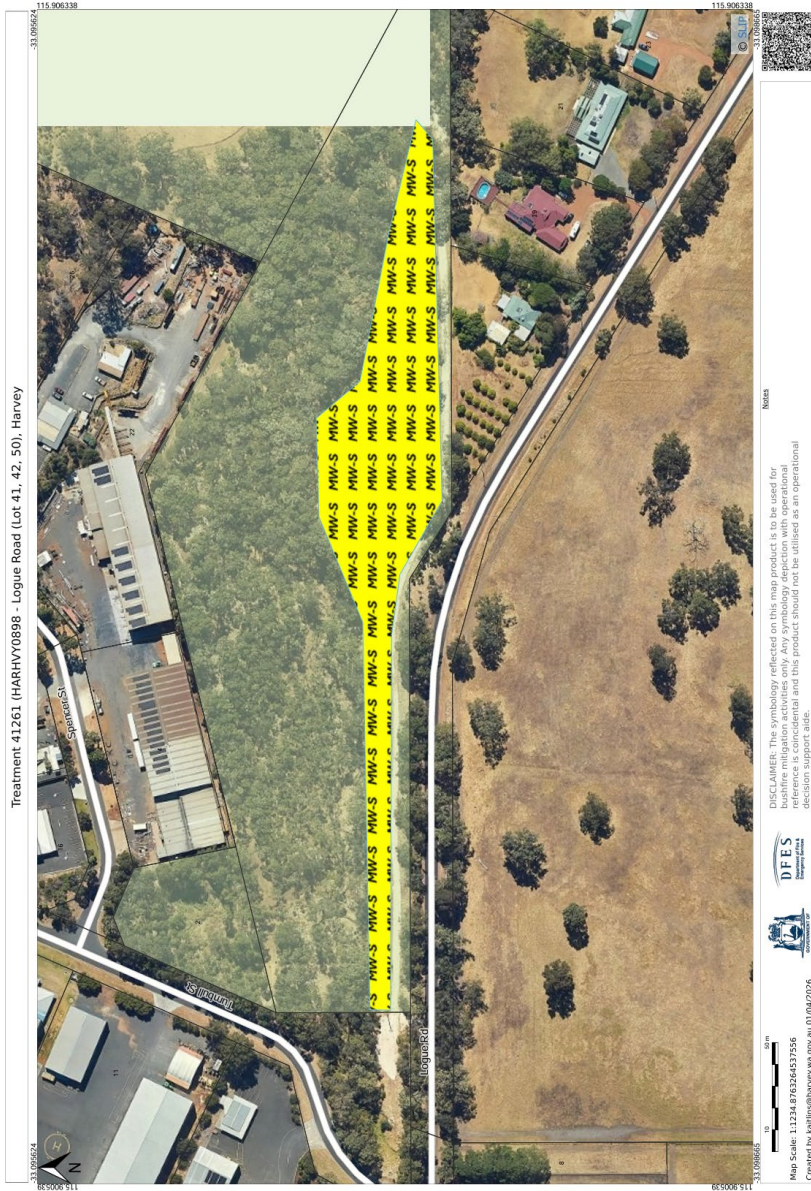
Instructions

Ensure burn is conducted strategically, utilise mosaic burning and raking around large trees. ensure flame height is minimal and no significant vegetation is damaged. Burn security to be established through mineral earth firebreaks/tracks. Prepare a burn plan in consultation with CBFCO and DFES. Traffic management plan will be required to conduct planned burn, due to operations within 6m of a public road.

Mechanical Works



41261 Logue Road, Harvey



MAF costing

\$1500

Objectives

To reduce the risk of bushfire impact on adjacent human settlement by reducing vegetation fuel loads to less than 2t/ha across 90% of the treatment area, through the implementation of mechanical slashing prior to 2027.

Instructions

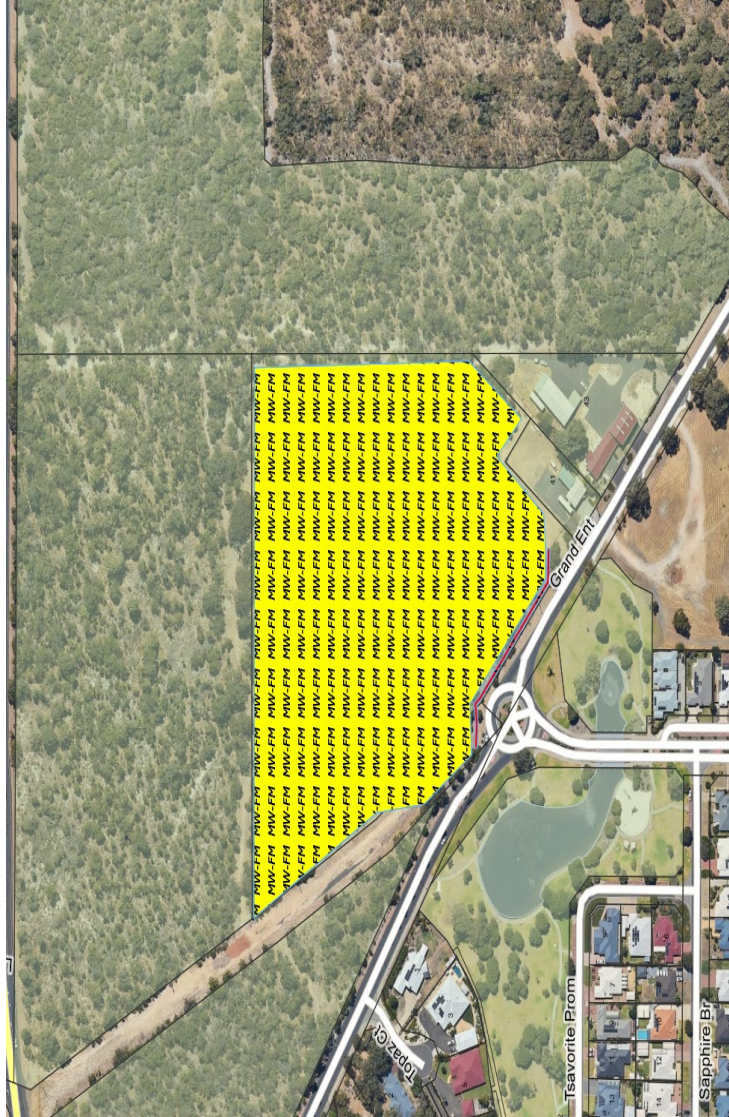
Slashed grassland vegetation to be less than 50mm in height across the entire treatment area. ensure a safe distance is kept from creek bank, areas are subject to erosion and may be unsafe.

41263 Sittella Drive, Harvey



MAF \$		Objectives	Instructions
\$1600		To reduce the risk of bushfire impact on adjacent human settlement by reducing vegetation fuel loads to less than 2t/ha across 90% of the treatment area, through the implementation of mechanical slashing prior to 2027.	Reduce grassland vegetation fire intensity by altering height through slashing, fast growing vegetation will require future slashing works to maintain low-threat area in front of Sittella Drive. Slashed grassland vegetation to be less than 50mm in height following treatment.

38564 Grand Entrance, Australind



MAF \$	Objectives	Instructions
<p>\$30563</p>	<p>To protect life, property and the environment by reducing fuel hazards adjacent to residential areas by modifying the vegetation structure through mulching.</p>	<p>In consultation with Shire of Harvey Environmental Officer, parkland clear treatment area to reduce ground vegetation to <8t/ha through slashing/mulching and uplifting of trees. Using a combination of slashing and mulching of understorey vegetation while maintaining an overstorey canopy of larger trees. Mulching and slashing of woody weeds, shrubs and saplings less than 150mm, to less than 100mm in height, mulched vegetation pieces greater than 6mm in size. Do not damage established trees, ensure clean cuts for understorey pruning. understorey pruning 2m from the ground removing all ladder fuels. Avoid wetlands, waterways. Do not remove grass trees.</p>

Firebreaks



41493 Salisbury Road, Cookernup



MAF costing	Objectives	Instructions
\$3,500.00	To reduce the risk of bushfire impact on adjacent human settlement by creating access for fire appliances to conduct suppression operations and LG staff to complete maintenance, through the installation of mineral earth traversable 3m wide, 4m high firebreaks prior to June 2027.	Maintain overgrown firebreaks to 3m wide and 4m high specifications, aligning with the local government requirements, through slashing/mulching to ensure firebreak is trafficable for heavy fire appliances.

41765 Gladstone Street, Cookernup



MAF costing	Objectives	Instructions
\$4000.00	To reduce the risk of bushfire impact on adjacent human settlement by creating access for fire appliances to conduct suppression operations and LG staff to complete maintenance, through the installation of mineral earth traversable 3m wide, 4m high firebreaks prior to June 2027.	Construct 3m wide 4m high mineral earth trafficable firebreak, connecting to gate at Gladstone, Riverdale Road and firebreaks to the south. Avoid creating windrows and damage to vegetation outside of the firebreak.

41343 Buckland Way, Australind



MAF costing	Objectives	Instructions
<p>\$6000.00</p>	<p>To reduce the risk of bushfire impact on adjacent human settlement by creating access for fire appliances to conduct suppression operations and LG staff to complete maintenance, through the installation of mineral earth traversable 3m wide, 4m high firebreaks prior to June 2027.</p>	<p>Create mineral earth trafficable firebreak 3m wide by 4m high to the Shire of Harvey standards, creating access behind lot 9 Buckland for fire appliances to complete suppression operations. Arborist - dismantle tree branches ensuring not to damage residential infrastructure</p>

42112 Wellesley Road ,BRUNSWICK



MIAF costing	Objectives	Instructions
<p>\$4000</p>	<p>To reduce the risk of bushfire impact on adjacent human settlement by creating access for fire appliances to conduct suppression operations and LG staff to complete maintenance, through the installation of mineral earth traversable 3m wide, 4m high firebreaks.</p>	<p>Establish traversable 3m wide 4m high mineral earth firebreak clear of all combustible material in accordance with the Shire of Harvey firebreak notice.</p>

41268 Honeymoon Road, Warawarrup



MAF costing	Objectives	Instructions
<p>\$15,000</p>	<p>To reduce the risk of bushfire impact on adjacent human settlement by creating access for fire appliances to conduct suppression operations and LG staff to complete maintenance, through the installation of mineral earth traversable 3m wide, 4m high firebreaks prior to June 2027.</p>	<p>Construct a traversable mineral earth firebreak, clear of all combustible material, to the specified 3m width and 4m height. Utilise existing track alignments where practicable to minimise ground disturbance. Remove, dismantle, and dispose of large fallen trees obstructing the firebreak alignment to achieve required clearance standards. Ensure final surface is stable and suitable for fire appliance access in all-weather conditions. Works must remain strictly within the marked and predetermined firebreak alignment. ESA-listed endangered orchids are present within the area; the Contractor must take all necessary care to avoid disturbance and prevent works outside the approved alignment. No additional clearing.</p>

41258 Ietto Way, Harvey



MAF costing	Objectives	Instructions
<p>\$30070</p>	<p>To reduce the risk of bushfire impact on adjacent human settlement by creating access for fire appliances to conduct suppression operations and LG staff to complete maintenance, through the installation of mineral earth traversable 3m wide, 4m high firebreaks prior to June 2027.</p>	<p>Create traversable mineral earth 3m wide, 4m high firebreaks within 6m of the boundary, as per Shire of Harvey Firebreak Notice. Clear of all combustible vegetation. Shire of Harvey to supply and install culverts and gravel at two locations traversable by 14 tonne fire appliances</p>

41344 Sadler Court, Australind



MAF costing	Objectives	Instructions
<p>\$28,000</p>	<p>To reduce the risk of bushfire impact on adjacent human settlement by creating access for fire appliances to conduct suppression operations and LG staff to complete maintenance, through the installation of an all-weather Fire Service Access Route prior to June 2027.</p>	<p>Established firebreaks in the area are currently not sufficient for fire vehicles suppression operations or LG vehicles for maintenance of reserve. Construction of an FSAR to allow access and provide a defendable space for adjacent residential houses. DBCA program outlines a similar FSAR within adjoining land east, Construction of the FSAR on Shire owned land contributes to concurrent construction of a FSAR network ensuring traversable access to all reserves. Construct limestone/gravel Fire Service Access Track</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 292m in length - 3m wide trafficable surface - 4m vertical clearance - maximum grade 1:10 (10% or 6%) - excavation of topsoil where required 3m wide - 150mm thick gravel/limestone base - compact gravel/limestone – suitable 14 tonnes

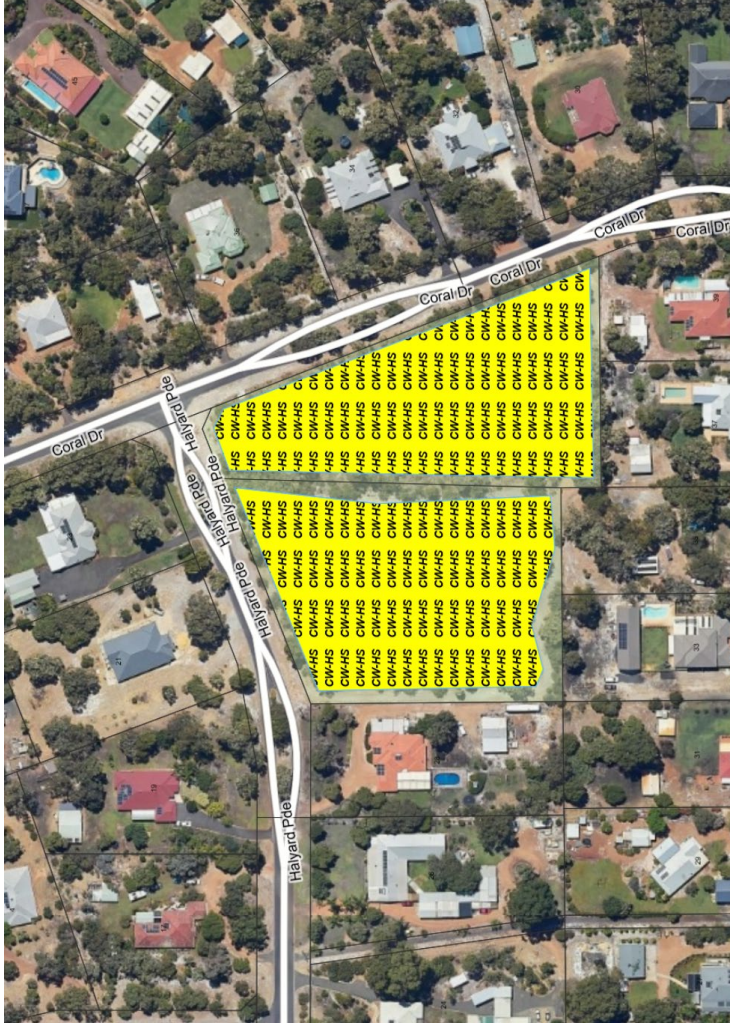


SHIRE OF
HARVEY
A Breath of Fresh Air

Chemical Spraying



41497 Halyard Parade, Australind



MAF costing	Objectives	Instructions
<p>\$4000</p>	<p>To reduce the risk of bushfire impact on adjacent human settlement by maintaining vegetation fuel loads to less than 8t/ha post planned burn, through the chemical management of vegetation fuel loads prior to 2027.</p>	<p>Conduct hand spraying to control weed/grass regrowth within treatment area post planned burn to maintain low fuel levels.</p>

42032 Australind Road, Leschenault



MAF costing	Objectives	Instructions
<p>\$1500</p>	<p>To reduce the risk of bushfire impact on adjacent human settlement by maintaining vegetation fuel loads to less than 8t/ha post planned burn, through the chemical management of vegetation fuel loads prior to 2027.</p>	<p>Chemically treat weeds and grass that revegetate post planned burn to maintain fuel loads to less than 8 t/ha</p>



SHIRE OF
HARVEY
A Breath of Fresh Air



Gates

42113 Wellesley Road, Brunswick



MAF \$	Objectives	Instructions
<p>\$1500.00</p>	<p>To reduce the risk of bushfire impact on adjacent human settlement by creating access for fire appliances to conduct suppression operations and LG staff to complete maintenance, through the installation of a gate.</p>	<p>Installation and supply of 1 rural gate, 2 strainer posts and associated fittings, with appropriate signage to replace broken gate and rotting wooden posts to establish access to reserve from Wellesley Road.</p>

42033 Honeymoon Road, Warawarrup





MAF \$	Objectives	Instructions
<p>\$3000.00</p>	<p>To reduce the risk of bushfire impact on adjacent human settlement by creating access for fire appliances to conduct suppression operations and LG staff to complete maintenance, through the installation of a gate.</p>	<p>Supply and install spider gate and associated fittings with appropriate signage, within existing fencing on Honeymoon Road easement providing traversable connection to reserve firebreaks for emergency vehicles and maintenance staff.</p>

41894 Bass Entrance, Leschenault



MAF \$	Objectives	Instructions
<p>\$3000.00</p>	<p>To reduce the risk of bushfire impact on adjacent human settlement by creating access for fire appliances to conduct suppression operations and LG staff to complete maintenance, through the installation of a gate prior to June 2027. Neighbour states google maps often confuses the easement as a through road directing public into the reserve.</p>	<p>Supply and install spider gate and associated fittings with appropriate signage, within existing fencing on Bass Entrance easement providing traversable connection to reserve firebreaks for emergency vehicles and maintenance staff.</p>

41494 Salisbury Road, Cookernup

		<p>MAF \$</p> <p>\$3000.00</p>	<p>Objectives</p> <p>To reduce the risk of bushfire impact on adjacent human settlement by creating access for fire appliances to conduct suppression operations and LG staff to complete maintenance, through the installation of a gate prior to June 2027.</p>	<p>Instructions</p> <p>Supply and install spider gate and associated fittings, with appropriate signage, within existing fencing providing traversable connection to reserve firebreaks for emergency vehicles and maintenance staff.</p>
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41496 Grand Entrance, Australind



MAF \$	Objectives	Instructions
<p>\$6000.00</p>	<p>To reduce the risk of bushfire impact on adjacent human settlement and environmentally sensitive reserves by restricting public access to reduce potential ignition sources, through the installation of a fence prior to June 2027.</p>	<p>Supply and install star picket and wire fencing, connecting to existing gate adjacent to St Johns Depot within Shire of Harvey managed reserve.</p>