



City of Busselton
Geographie Bay

**Bush Fire Advisory Committee
Agenda**

14 July 2020

City of Busselton, Kaloorup Room, 2 Southern Drive, Busselton on Tuesday 14th July 2020 commencing
at 7.30pm

CITY OF BUSSELTON

**AGENDA FOR THE BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD ON
14 July 2020**

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CITY OF BUSSELTON**MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA – 14 JULY 2020**

NOTICE is given that a meeting of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee will be held at the City of Busselton, Kaloorup Meeting Room, 2 Southern Drive, Busselton on 14th July 2020 commencing at 7:30pm.

Your attendance is respectfully requested.

MIKE ARCHER

Chief Executive Officer, City of Busselton

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Attendance:

Refer to attached list.

Apologies:

Grant Henley

Mayor, City of Busselton

Peter Thomas

DFES, District Officer Capes

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 Confirmation of minutes from meeting held 10 March 2020

Moved:

Seconded:

5. BUSINESS ARISING

6. PRESENTATIONS

6.1 Department of Parks & Wildlife power point presentation – Mark Moore

7. BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

- 7.1 Items eligible for ESL funding – Mark Fisher
- 7.2 Repairs and maintenance for Emergency Water Points in rural residential subdivisions – Mark Fisher
- 7.3 Specifications for water storage at EWP's in new subdivisions – Mark Fisher

8. OFFICER/DELEGATE REPORTS

Attachment 8.1 - Department of Fire and Emergency Services – Mark Norris

Attachment 8.2 - CoB/Department of Fire and Emergency Services – Blake Moore

Officer Recommendation

The committee receives the following reports and notes the comments therein:

- 1) Department of Fire and Emergency Services
- 2) City of Busselton/Department of Fire and Emergency Services

9. MATTERS OF URGENCY

10. OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY (OH&S)

11. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 15 September 2020 7:30pm at the City of Busselton (Kaloorup Meeting Room, 2 Southern Drive, Busselton).

12. CLOSURE

Attachment 8.1 Report to the City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) meeting to be held on 14 July 2020

Agency: Department of Fire and Emergency Services

Officer Representing: Mark Norris

Matters to be discussed:

City of Busselton BFAC Meeting
DFES LSW Region Report – 14 July 2020

Burn Smart Campaign

The Burn SMART campaign was created after an Office of Bushfire Risk Management investigation into escaped private planned burns in the South West and Great Southern Regions in May 2018.

The campaign is not about discouraging people from conducting planned burns. Instead it aims to improve people's perceived personal risk and sense of accountability when lighting a fire.

It recognises that it is essential for private property landholders to take responsibility to reduce fuel on their property.

The Burn SMART campaign material includes regional radio and social media and online advertising. It is accompanied by educational resources developed by the Bushfire Centre of Excellence to guide landholders in undertaking planned burns. This information is available on the DFES Website and the Volunteer Hub.

VFRS Incidents

As is common this time of year Brigades have had several Road Crash Recue incidents including a Log Truck leaving the road and ending up on its side and a driver in a 4WD towing a caravan lost control and ended up with his vehicle on its side with the caravan lucky remaining on its wheels

There has also been an increase in structure fires which together with the colder weather and covid stay at home restrictions the likely reasons for this.

SES Incidents

The state had its first decent storm impact our region from the 5th to the 6th of May. This created some wide spread damage to both homes, businesses, infrastructure and caused the blockage of several roads from fallen trees.

DFES LSW had staff and volunteers on standby to assist in both incident management and running of the Regional Operation Centre in Manjimup.

Local SES crews received 52 Requests for Assistance (RFA). 35 were completed by SES teams, 17 cancelled / referred / rejected for various reasons.

Most calls were for roof damage or fallen trees, ranging from replacing the water tank inspection hatch for an elderly caller, to making safe and tarping an entire farm house near Donnybrook.

Storm 24-25/May

This even was the most severe in the past two years, with forecast winds to 125km/h. Across the Lower-South West region we received more than 50 Requests for Assistance (RFAs, or call-outs) from Sunday after through to Monday night. Approximately two-thirds of these were in the Busselton area (Yallingup to Capel); 10 in Augusta-Margaret River, and the remainder across the inland areas. The

storm caused structural damage to two properties, with widespread minor damage, uprooting of trees, loss of power, and subsequent loss of telephone and communications networks.

Approximately 80 SES volunteers responded during the incident, with Donnybrook, Busselton and Margaret River SES units remaining in operation for over 24 hours. The most common call-outs were for trees on houses/vehicles and for roof damage.

Storm 28-29/June

This minor storm resulted in 22 Requests for Assistance (RFA) across the region; with most (14 RFAs) from the City of Busselton area. Widespread minor damage with roof damage, trees blocking access and minor flooding.

Land search 30 June

33 SES volunteers from across the SW and LSW regions supported WAPOL in searching for a missing person swept off rocks at Wyadup.

Training

To keep our volunteers up to date we have been conducting weekly teleconferences to supply the latest Covid19 news and any changes in our operating procedures. These have proved to be very successful with a nearly 100% attendance by Brigades from both the VFRS and SES.

During the main stages of the Covid19 restrictions brigades had limited the activities on stations to essential checks and incident response only. Training and other meetings had been cancelled. Cleaning and social distancing measures were adopted with an audit of all PPE conducted. In the last few weeks we have been able to gradually retract these conditions allowing brigades to resume training and other activities, if they meet the social distancing guidelines.

The Region has had to cancel some of its courses due to Covid19, a plan was put into place to reinstate training and investigate possible alternative training options like utilising web-based platforms to deliver courses.

Several volunteers were required to complete their annual Breathing Apparatus refresher. Due to the restrictions with Covid19 this made it a challenge, so a trial web-based session has been conducted with great success.

An initiative in sending out training themes to volunteers with articles to read and videos to watch has also been implemented. This allowed volunteers stuck at home to still be involved in brigade training and maintain enthusiasm.

BGU training has now largely returned to normal with social distancing and good personal hygiene practices still needing to be enforced

Courses are being entered onto E academy with an emphasis on essential training as identified during a training needs audit with more courses becoming available every week.

Circular Updates

COLLIE FACILITY PROJECT

The facility will bring volunteers and DFES staff into Collie from all over the state to undertake emergency driving training. It will provide regional fleet maintenance and management, undertake new vehicle commissioning for emergency vehicles built in Collie, establish the state's first purpose-built level 3 incident control centre (ICC), and provide ICT and radio communications frontline service support.

The tender for the facility construction was released 29 June 2020.

COVID-19: CURRENT SITUATION

In response to WA Health Department COVID-19 advice, the DFES Incident Response Team has supported the resumption of the SBGU activities including nonessential community-based activities like: • Building Inspections and • Community Engagement. These activities must still adhere to WA Health Department and DFES COVID-19 Guidelines. As guidelines change to suit the WA Government's COVID-19 roadmap, SBGU's can adapt their participation in these activities accordingly.

DFES Facilities and Vehicle Cleaning Guidelines for COVID-19 remains in place, the COVID 19 Incident Response Team have authorised the removal of additional facility sanitisation from 1 July 2020. Normal facility, fleet and equipment cleaning regimes should continue as should personal hygiene practices. In the meantime, we must continue to keep up physical distancing where possible and maintain good personal hygiene to better protect ourselves and the general health of our community

Bushfire Centre of Excellence welcomes first trainees

The Bushfire Centre of Excellence (BCoE) celebrated the commencement of three Aboriginal Trainees this month. The trainees will provide administrative support and help to deliver and promote the activities of the BCoE. This will include supporting the newly established Traditional Fire Program Alongside Traditional Fire Programs Coordinator Wayne Davis and Traditional and Cultural Fire Officer Clifton Bieundurry. The traineeship will take place over the course of a year with the possibility of an additional year of employment upon completion.

Drive Operate Appliance Introduction

The Drive and Operate a Firefighting Appliance (DOFA) qualification will be replaced with a Drive Operate Appliance (DOA) process. DOA assessments can be conducted by District Officers (DO), Area Officers (AO), Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM), Station Officers (SO) or a Brigade/Group/Unit (BGU) volunteer operational officer, subject to them holding the DOA qualification of the appliance/vehicle. All DOFA qualifications will be automatically updated to the appropriate DOA qualification. There is no requirement for you to complete a DOA on an appliance/vehicle when you had previously completed a DOFA qualification. DOA is required; for initial qualification on an appliance/vehicle type, or when that appliance/vehicle is superseded or has a cab/chassis variation.

ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT HAZARDS

On arrival at an incident treat all electrical components, including poles and supporting structures as though they are energised. Crews must not contact any part of a power pole or other electrical equipment until isolation is confirmed by the energy provider. What has happened? While trying to retrieve a power pole identification number, a crew member approached and touched the wet pole, resulting in a mild electric shock. The pole had not been isolated.

DFES Regional Staff

Regional staff had split into two teams, this was initiated to restrict the potential of an outbreak in the LSW which could have affected DFES operational capability. The teams were rostered 2 days in the office and 2 days at home, minimising contact between members however still maintaining service delivery.

Since the easing of restrictions, we have now returned to our normal working arrangements.

Manjimup District has had a change in titles for the fire managers,

DO Manjimup is now known as DO Nelson and AO South is now known as AO Warren/Blackwood

Chris Sousa was successful in obtaining the position of AO Warren Blackwood. Bridgetown Shire is currently identifying a temporary replacement for Chris old job as the CESM for Bridgetown.

DFES LSW Staff movements

29 June to 17 July: Superintendent Phil Brandret will be Acting Chief Superintendent Country South

29 June to 17 July: Acting Superintendent LSW will be Peter Thomas (peter.thomas@dfes.wa.gov.au or 0429 980 010)

29 June to 3 August: Adrian will be Acting District Officer Natural Hazards.

29 June to 17 July: Acting District Officer Capes will be Mark Norris Mark.norris@dfes.wa.gov.au or 0419791501

Regards

Mark Norris
A/District Officer Capes

Attachment 8.2 Report to the City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) meeting to be held on 14 July 2020

Agency: City of Busselton/Department of Fire & Emergency Services

Officer Representing: Blake Moore, Community Emergency Service Manager (CESM)

Incidents

- Tuart Drive bridge fire
- Pre-emptive fire control and community education during TFB, prior to cold front

Mitigation

- 37 Mitigation activities planned for the 2020/21 financial year
- Over \$500K to achieve activities
- Significant burns planned that will require significant assistance from brigades to achieve

Vehicles

- New Yallingup Coastal 3.4U replacing 2.4U
- Busselton 12.2 modifications complete and vehicle now back in service
- Hithergreen 4.4B order placed

Capes Fire Station

- Nil progress since last meeting due to COVID

Bart

- Roll out commenced

Defibs

- Arrived, now arranging a rollout plan

Training

- Courses Completed
 - Nil due to COVID-19
- Upcoming courses
 - Refer to calendar
 - Bush Fire Safety Awareness 15 & 16 August – Witchcliffe Fire Station
 - Advanced Bush Firefighting & Crew Leader 29 & 30 August – Ambergate Fire Station
 - On-Road Driving 12 & 13 September – Ambergate Fire Station
 - Bush Fire Firefighting Skills 12 & 13 September – Dunsborough Fire Station
 - Sector Commander 19 & 20 September – Rosa Brook Fire Station
 - Ground Controller 10 October – Cowaramup Fire Station
 - Bush Fire Safety Awareness 17 & 18 October – Ambergate Fire Station
 - Bush Fire Firefighting Skills 14 & 15 November – Witchcliffe Fire Station

Operational Circulars

- As per the attached