



Bush Fire Advisory Committee Minutes

13 June 2017

**Community Resource Centre, Meeting Room 1, 21 Camilleri Street, Busselton
on Tuesday 13 June 2017, commencing at 7.30pm.**

CITY OF BUSSELTON

**MINUTES FOR THE BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
13 June 2017**

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CITY OF BUSSELTON**MINUTES – 13 JUNE 2017****1. DECLARATION OF OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS**

The Chairperson, Allan Guthrie declared the meeting open at 7.34pm

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**Present**

Allan Guthrie	Chief Bushfire Control Officer
Robert Reekie	Councillor, City of Busselton
Oscar Negus	Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer, Hithergreen BFB
Chris Payne	Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer, Kaloorup District BFB
Todd Johnson	Fire Control Officer, Ruabon BFB
Peter Dawson	Fire Control Officer, Vasse BFB
Doug Walters	Fire Control Officer, North Acton Park BFB
Ian McGregor	Fire Control Officer, South Acton Park BFB
Mark Smith	Fire Control Officer, Sussex BFB
Paul Blight	Fire Control Officer, Yallingup Coastal BFB
Mark Fisher	Fire Control Officer, Yallingup Rural BFB
Mark Jolliffe	Fire Control Officer, Wilyabrup BFB
David Hunt	Fire Control Officer, Yallingup Rural BFB
Colin Sanderson	Fire Control Officer, Eagle Bay BFB
Ray Fokkema	Fire Control Officer, Metricup BFB
Ken Sue	Fire Control Officer, Ambergate BFB
Chris Ayres	Fire Control Officer, Yallingup Rural BFB
John Vitale	Fire Control Officer, Dunsborough BFB (interim)

In Attendance

Tanya Gillett	Manager- Environmental Services
Ian McDowell	Ranger & Emergency Services Coordinator
Phoebe Buntain-Barrie	Administration Officer
Jeremy Friend	Department of Parks and Wildlife
Danny Mosconi	Department of Fire and Emergency Services
Peter Stark	Acting CESM – DFES/City of Busselton
Mal Ballard	Captain Dunsborough BFB

Apologies

Barton Hatherly	Fire Control Officer, Dunsborough BFB
Neil MacDonald	Fire Control Officer, Kaloorup BFB

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Nil

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM MEETING HELD 14 MARCH 2017

Moved: Mark Smith

Seconded: Paul Blight

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING

4.2 Mark Jolliffe, Fire Control Officer, Wilyabrup BFB, Security systems in Brigade stations

Requesting the new brigade security alarms be checked to ensure they are self-arming after 9.00pm.

Peter Stark, Acting Community Emergency Services Manager responded with the action of contacting the Security Company and will provide a follow-up.

4.3 David Hunt, Fire Control Officer, Yallingup Rural BFB, Brigade vehicles

A raised concern for the internal light to be replaced in a Yallingup Rural vehicle that was serviced and the light was removed, Danny Mosconi responded with the matter being currently handled.

5. PRESENTATIONS

Nil

6. BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

6.1 Issuing of permits outside of FCO's Area, Doug Walters

Allan Guthrie reminded all FCO's that if the area FCO is unavailable to issue the permit the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer is to be notified for approval, in the absence of the Chief the Deputy's must be notified.

6.2 Allan Guthrie, Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, FCO permit refresher

Requested the new appointed CESM to hold a FCO permit refresher course prior to the upcoming Bush Fire season.

7. OFFICER/DELEGATE REPORTS

Attachment 7.1 - City of Busselton RESC Report, Ian McDowell

Attachment 7.2 - Department of Fire and Emergency Services/City of Busselton, Peter Stark

Attachment 7.3 - Department of Parks and Wildlife, Jeremy Friend

Attachment 7.4 -WA Bush Fire Brigade/City of Busselton, Allan Guthrie

Attachment 7.5- WA Bush Fire Brigade/City of Busselton, Allan Guthrie

Attachment 7.6- Department of Fire and Emergency Services, Danny Mosconi

Officer Recommendation

1. The committee receives the following reports and notes the comments therein:
 - a) City of Busselton Ranger & Emergency Services Coordinator
 - b) Department of Fire and Emergency Services/City of Busselton
 - c) Department of Parks and Wildlife
 - d) WA Bush Fire Brigade/City of Busselton
 - e) WA Bush Fire Brigade/City of Busselton
 - f) Department of Fire and Emergency Services

8. MATTERS OF URGENCY**8.1 Peter Dawson, Fire Control Officer, Vasse BFB, Security codes**

Raised concerns regarding the number of people who have access to the generic security codes for the brigade buildings fitted with security alarms.

Peter Stark, Acting Community Emergency Services Manager advised the process that has been set up is on the premise that most people will do the right thing. Tanya Gillett advised any suggestions on how this could be improved would be considered.

8.2 Mark Smith, Fire Control Officer, Sussex BFB. Road closure signs

Raised concerns about the road closures that took place during the Jindong-Treeton Road fire.

Ian McDowell provided information on the traffic control being responded to by Rangers in a timely manner and that the City is purchasing a variable message sign trailer that can be utilized by brigades during prescribed burns or emergency road closures that will reflect a more specific, tailored message.

8.3 David Hunt, Fire Control Officer, Yallingup Rural, Nominate new FCO

Nominated the application of Dunsborough FCO John Vitale be forwarded to Council

Moved: David Hunt

Seconded: Colin Sanderson

CARRIED

8.4 Allan Guthrie, Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, Letter of thanks

Requested a letter of thanks be sent from the City to Mark Standish, Fire Control Officer for Yallingup Siding, who has recently resigned from the position.

8.5 Peter Dawson, Fire Control Officer, Vasse BFB, Carburnup Reserve

A raised item at the Vasse AGM was the need for Carburnup Reserve to have a prescribed burn due to the heavy fuel loading

8.6 Peter Dawson, Fire Control Officer, Vasse BFB, Issuing permits

To request FCO's to be allowed to issue bush fire permits on Sundays and Public Holidays

Moved: Peter Dawson

Seconded: Chris Payne

CARRIED

8.7 Allan Guthrie, Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, Application for new brigade
For a new brigade to be established, Busselton 12.2

Moved: Ken Sue

Seconded: Peter Dawson

CARRIED

9. OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY (OH&S)

Nil

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 12 SEPTEMBER 2017 at 7:30pm TBC location.

11. CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 9.27pm

Attachment 1

Attachment 7.1 Report to the City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) meeting to be held on 13 June 2017

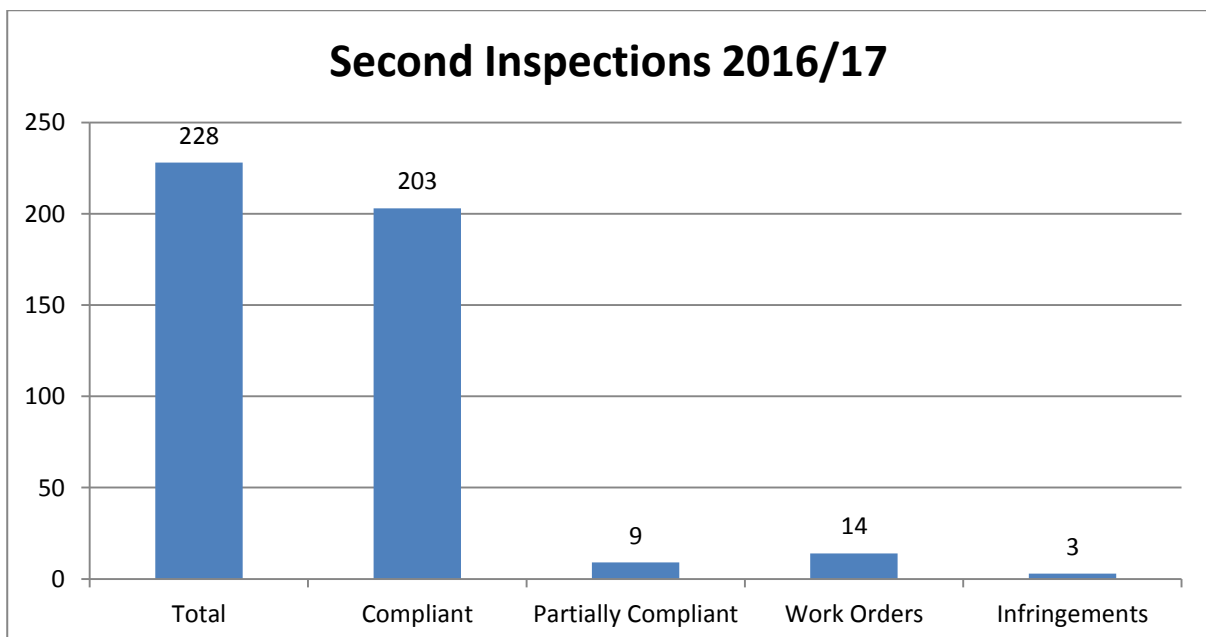
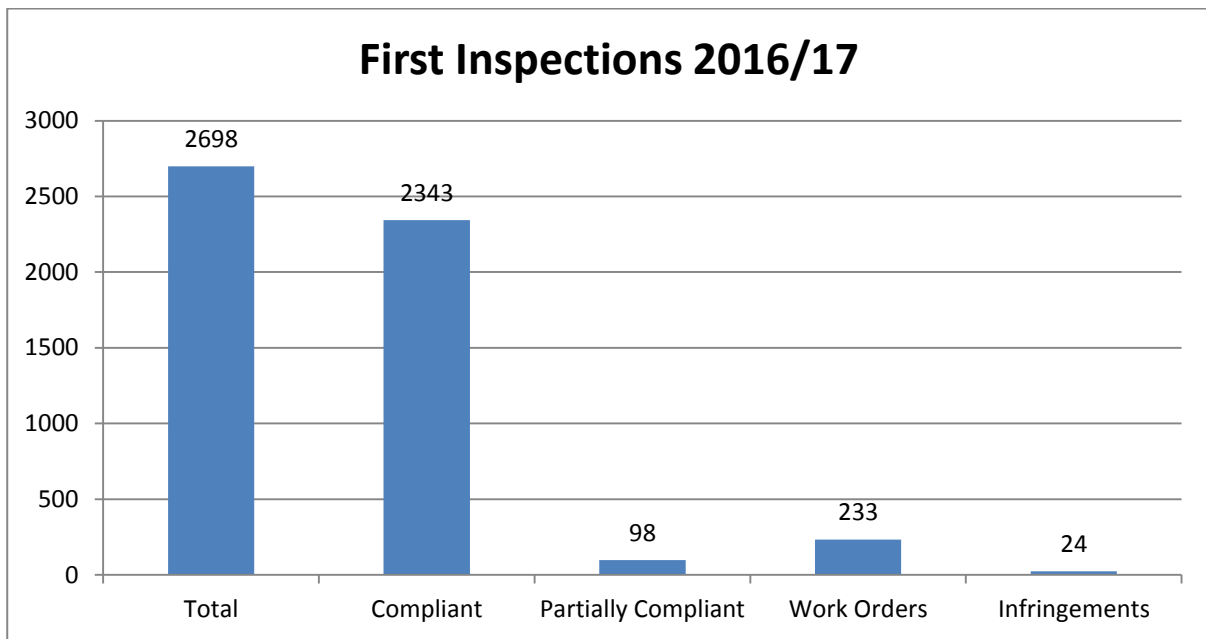
Agency: City of Busselton

Officer Representing: Ranger & Emergency Services Coordinator, Ian McDowell

Matters to be discussed:

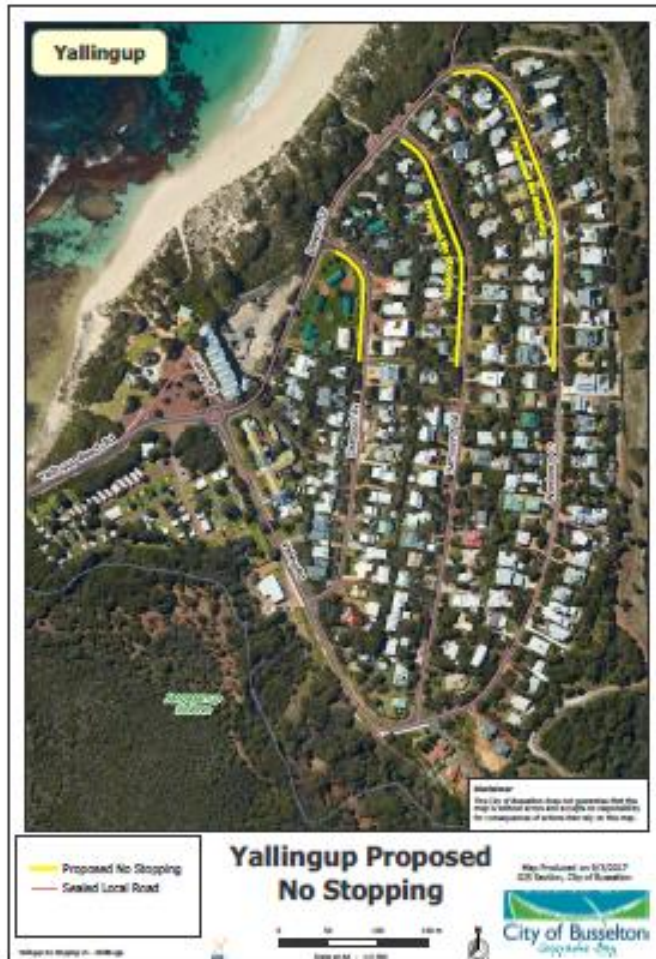
1. Annual Fire Inspections – Final Results

The focus of the annual fire break inspection program has been properties in high bushfire prone areas. The following is a graphical representation of the inspections for the year.



2. Yallingup Parking Review

Last meeting the committee was advised of proposed parking controls in Yallingup Townsite as a means of improving access for emergency services vehicles during an emergency. At its meeting on 10 May 2017 Council approved no stopping on the western side of Elsegood Avenue, Hammond Road, and Wardanup Crescent from Dawson Drive to the Public Access Way.



3. Fireworks on Private Property

At its meeting in December 2016 the committee discussed the conduct of fireworks events for private events during the prohibited and restricted burning season. As a result of this discussion the City has drafted an Operational Procedure with which to assess requests for these events.

Under the draft procedure (which is subject to our internal approvals process) fireworks will not be permitted:

- a. unless the application has been submitted through the Department of Mines and Petroleum (Resource Safety);
- b. during prohibited or restricted burning times; and
- c. Where the fireworks display is proposed to be held outside the preferred hours of 8am to 9pm Sunday to Thursday, 8am to 10pm Friday and Saturday.

4. Election of new Chair

To align the BFAC with other council committees the election of the new chair will be postponed until after the local government election. There is nothing in the *Bush Fires Act 1954* or the terms of reference for the committee that stipulates when the election will be held or the term of office.

The Terms of Reference will be reviewed and presented to BFAC in September. It include setting the election of the new chair at the first meeting following the Council election and will recommend the term of office be two years.

Attachment 7.2 Report to the City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) meeting to be held on 13 June 2017

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

Officer Representing: Acting Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM), Peter Stark

Matters to be discussed:**eAcademy**

- On 22nd May, all Brigade FCO's, Captains and Secretaries were emailed a proposal from Regional Training Coordinator Donna Virgo asking for feedback from Brigades about a revised eAcademy procedure which would see the transition from new member to initial training pathways smoother and quicker. All those Brigades that replied have unanimously endorsed the idea.

The proposal is that the Admin team manually enter the volunteer onto LSW VFF1 pathway once they receive a volunteer ID number. We will also need to make sure that all membership forms have an email as this is the mode of communication for the eAcademy. We believe this improvement will introduce our new volunteers to a simpler, more inviting process. Once the membership is confirmed we will be sending volunteers an email and steps on how to register for the portal and access the eAcademy, so they can access courses quicker and easier. This will save time with 1:1 individual contact which we are doing now which is not sustainable.

Those Brigades that haven't responded should email their approval to manjmiup.reception@dfes.wa.gov.au (and copy to Peter Stark) that the brigade/LGA are happy for this to occur.

- A further reminder that everyone who applies for a course must select their Brigade officer as their supervisor – not DO Danny Mosconi! The eAcademy will be changing the drop down box order so that this should be more logical. In the interim, please advise your Brigade training officers that they should train members on how to do this.

Training

- The previously reported Training Manual for City of Busselton Bushfire Fighters is under way. Collaboration between the Shires of Augusta Margaret River and Nannup will see each LGA follow a similar format and resources. This project will be ongoing and will hopefully pick up pace as a new CESM takes the chair!
- The Introduction to Firefighting and Bushfire Fighting courses scheduled for April/May were cancelled due to a lack of numbers. Brigade secretaries were asked to post ask new members for expressions of interest in participating in this courses. If we get sufficient numbers, we will run them prior to the next scheduled ones in spring.
- The midweek Introduction to Structural Firefighting was run on Tuesday 6th June with 7 participants from across the region. As a result, some other courses will also be offered midweek later in the year.

Security alarms at fire stations

- The installation at the first 7 brigade sheds is now complete and it is pleasing to see that there have been no further break ins since. Funding has been approved for the installation in a further five brigades in the new financial year.
- I have a number of Alarm stickers available tonight if any Brigades without fitted alarms would like to take them to fix to prominent areas of the sheds in the interim.

Updated brigade records

- Thanks to the brigades who sent in the updates of brigades some months ago. I will resend out records to all please review and update current membership and delete old or non-active members etc.

Membership Application Forms

- A number of Brigades are using the old style membership applications which does not require an email address or Next of Kin notification. All existing membership registration forms and books are to be discarded and all new applications should be done using the form available from the Volunteer Portal (under the BFB logo > Administration Forms). Any older forms will not be processed.

Operational Circulars

- Vertex handheld radios are designed for short distance communications and may not have the power to trigger a repeater. Operational Circular 40-2017 states that they can only be used as a backup on duplex channels (e.g. Ch. 182) and then only with approval from the Incident Controller and after radio checks to ensure they are capable in the specific terrain/conditions of being reliable in that situation.
- Operational Circular 39-2017 reinforces some basic information about the use of selcall. Crews that use selcall should register for a WAERN course (4.5 hours for both Basic and Advanced) to ensure they understand the limitations etc.

Volunteer Portal Upgrades

- The volunteer portal has received a number of upgrades and updates in recent weeks which makes navigation and use much simpler.

Thanks for patience

- The transition to a new CESM is taking a little longer than perhaps we would have liked and this has resulted in a backlog of some tasks. Thanks to everyone for your patience during this period. Be assured that all tasks are prioritised weekly and dealt with until the shiny new CESM catches up.



APPLICATION TO JOIN A BUSH FIRE BRIGADE

1.
BRIGADE NAME **LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

2. MR MRS MISS MS

3. **SURNAME** BLOCK LETTERS

4. **GIVEN NAMES** (IN FULL)

5. **DATE OF BIRTH** FEMALE MALE

6. **ADDRESS**

	HOME	POSTAL
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	POST CODE <input type="text"/>	POST CODE <input type="text"/>

7. **TELEPHONE**

	HOME	WORK	MOBILE	PAGER
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

EMAIL

8. **MEMBERSHIP TYPE**

ACTIVE [A person who will become involved in the operational work of the brigade]

(please ✓) AUXILIARY [A person involved only in a support role (e.g. Communications/Admin)]

CADET [An enrollee who is under 16 years of age]

9. **NEXT OF KIN DETAILS**

FULL NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE RELATIONSHIP

10. **BRIGADE TRAINING CARRIED OUT (IF KNOWN)**

Course Title	Location	Date of Course

I certify that the above particulars are true and correct

11. **APPLICANT** **PARENT /GUARDIAN (IF UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE)**

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
SIGNATURE	DATE	SIGNATURE	DATE

12. **AUTHORISED: BRIGADE CAPTAIN/SECRETARY**

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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FIRE SERVICE USE ONLY ENTERED INTO RMS	MEMBERSHIP NUMBER <input type="text"/>	INITIALS <input type="text"/>	DATE <input type="text"/>
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OPERATIONAL CIRCULAR 39/2017

File: D01361

MAY 2017

USE OF SELECTIVE CALLING (SELCALL) ON WAERN RADIOS

The Selective Calling (Selcall) feature on both VHF Mid and High Band radios provides the ability to send an alert to another radio. Where vehicles are fitted with both VHF Mid and High Band radios there could be potential confusion associated with Selcall operation due to different Selcall numbering protocols.

VHF Mid Band radios use a FIVE (5) digit Selcall number and VHF High Band radios use a SIX (6) digit Selcall number. Radios must also be on the same channel and band to enable Selcall communications.

High Band Protocols

Where a five (5) digit Selcall number is displayed, a zero (0) must be inserted between the third and fourth digit to create a six (6) digit Selcall number for use on High Band radios e.g. Selcall # 12456 is converted to 124056 to create a six digit Selcall number.

This also applies to a five (5) digit Selcall number where there is a gap after the third digit e.g. Selcall # 124 56 is converted 124056 to create a six digit Selcall number.

Mid Band Protocols

There is no requirement to insert any zeros between the five (5) digits.

Selcall numbers could be displayed in the following locations:

- Door of the vehicle
- Bonnet of the vehicle
- Roof of the vehicle and
- Radio screen immediately after it is turned on.

Radio operators must make themselves familiar with the vehicle radio Selcall numbers and also be aware of the correct Selcall numbering protocol for the type of radio that is being used.

The FES Academy is currently reviewing the WAERN TRK Basic and Advanced User Manual and will update the manual to reflect this additional information.

For more information please contact Superintendent Syd Bignell, Operational Communications on (08) 9395 9676 or email syd.bignell@dfes.wa.gov.au

**GARY GIFFORD
A/DEPUTY COMMISSIONER CAPABILITY**

Target Audience: All WAERN radio users				
A	B	C	D	Vol
O.I.C. is to communicate content to all relevant personnel under their command, discuss implications, and sign appropriate box above. Once completed Circulars shall be filed on station and forwarded to Information Resources at the end of each financial year.				
OC-39-17	Issue Date:	Removal Date:	Contact:	Operational Readiness & Standards Capability Command
Page 1 of 1	May 17	May 18	syd.bignell@dfes.wa.gov.au	



OPERATIONAL CIRCULAR 40/2017

File: D02116

MAY 2017

USE OF VHF HANDHELD RADIOS WITH REPEATER CHANNEL

The Vertex Standard VHF High Band handheld radio was introduced to enable firefighting crews to monitor VHF High Band radio communications when working away from a vehicle.

[Safety Circular 03/2014 – Use of VHF Hand Held Radios](#) stated;

"Handheld VHF High Band radios are only to be used for communications on simplex sector channels over short distances" and;

"The use of VHF handheld radios for other than simplex communications is to cease immediately".

Safety Circular 03/2014 is to be rescinded and replaced with this Operational Circular.

Repeater (duplex) channels are primarily used for Incident Command channels and the primary means of communicating with repeaters on VHF is to be the vehicle mounted radios. This ensures maximum signal strength and range, enabling the efficient transmission of information in a timely manner.

Handheld VHF radios are a resource that should be used at the appropriate time and situation at the discretion and direction of the Incident Controller – regardless of the type of incident or hazard. The use of a handheld radio for this type of communications is limited by a number of factors. All users of the handheld VHF radios are to be aware of the following:

1. The portable handheld power output is 5 watt compared to 25 watt of the vehicle mounted radio.
2. The VHF portable handheld to be used effectively, is required to be in open area and not shielded by obstacles
3. Ensure the appropriate repeater is selected.

VHF and UHF handheld radios are able to be used as a **backup** for repeater (duplex) communication if the Incident Controller has approved its use and the operator has conducted radio checks with the handheld radio to confirm its signal strength and quality.

Target Audience: All operational personnel currently using VHF handheld radios				
A	B	C	D	Vol
O.I.C. is to communicate content to all relevant personnel under their command, discuss implications, and sign appropriate box above. Once completed Circulars shall be filed on station and forwarded to Information Resources at the end of each financial year.				
OC-40-17	Issue Date:	Removal Date:	Contact:	Operational Readiness & Standards Capability Command
Page 1 of 2	May 2017	May 2018	syd.bignell@dfes.wa.gov.au	



At an incident the primary means of communication through a VHF or UHF repeater (duplex) is to be from a vehicle mounted radio to maximise radio working distances. VHF and UHF handheld radios are only to be used as an alternate means of repeater (duplex) communications if the Incident Controller authorises its use at their discretion.

Personnel are reminded of the importance of detailed Incident Communications Plans.

The use of VHF handheld radios for simplex communications is to remain as per existing SOP's.

For more information please contact Superintendent Operational Communications on 9395 9676.

GARY GIFFORD
A/DEPUTY COMMISSIONER CAPABILITY

Target Audience: All operational personnel currently using VHF handheld radios				
A	B	C	D	Vol
O.I.C. is to communicate content to all relevant personnel under their command, discuss implications, and sign appropriate box above. Once completed Circulars shall be filed on station and forwarded to Information Resources at the end of each financial year.				
OC-40-17	Issue Date:	Removal Date:	Contact:	Operational Readiness & Standards Capability Command
Page 1 of 2	May 2017	May 2018	syd.bignell@dfes.wa.gov.au	



Government of **Western Australia**
 Department of Fire & Emergency Services
 Operations



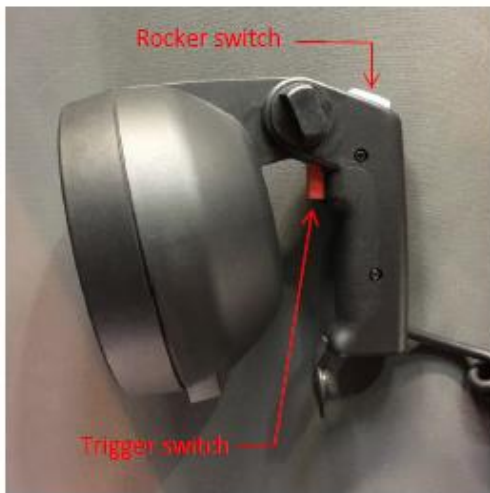
SAFETY CIRCULAR 07/2017
File: D02183

MAY 2017

USE OF CAB MOUNTED HANDHELD SPOTLIGHTS

Incidents have been reported where the cab mounted handheld spotlights have caused heat damage to cabin equipment. These incidents have occurred where the lights have been left on and either not returned to their storage post, or have been knocked off their storage post as the vehicle is exited.

These spotlights have two operating switches: a trigger switch and a rocker switch. The trigger switch will only enable the light to operate when it is held in place. This switch is the preferred use to prevent unattended operation of the spotlight.



Spotlight with switches shown



Spotlight mounted on storage post

Critical Message

Only use the trigger switch to operate the spot light
 Return the spotlight to its storage post after use

LLOYD BAILEY AFSM
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OPERATIONS

Target Audience: Operational Personnel who use Cab Mounted Handheld Spotlights				
A	B	C	D	Vol
O.I.C. is to communicate content to all relevant personnel under their command, discuss implications, and sign appropriate box above. Once completed Circulars shall be filed on station and forwarded to Information Resources at the end of each financial year.				
SC-07-17	Issue Date:	Removal Date:	Contact:	Operational Readiness & Standards Capability Command
Page 1 of 1	May 2017	May 2018	ORRD@dfes.wa.gov.au	



PEER SUPPORT OFFICERS

Lower South West

Greg Rees	VFRS	Bridgetown	0427 943 545
Peter Thomas	District Officer	Bridgetown	0429 980 010
Chris Hopkins	VFRS	Margaret River	0418 946 148
David Holland	VFRS, BFB & CBFCO	Margaret River	0428 923 326
Diane Holland	VFRS & BFB	Margaret River	0427 930 735
Danny Mosconi	District Officer	Manjimup	0400 899 574
Trelesa Weatherald	VMRS & BFB	Manjimup & Quirinup /Windy Har-	9773 1375
John Wilson	BFB	Margaret River	0427 586 493



Government of Western Australia
Department of Fire & Emergency Services



No. of Incidents Attended

From Date: 14/03/2017

To Date: 13/06/2017

This report shows the number of Incidents attended by the selected Brigade or Unit as Primary or Support, as recorded in IRS. It does not count multiple turnouts to the same Incident.

	2016/2017
ACTON PARK SOUTH BFB	
Primary	1
Support	1
Total:	2
AMBERGATE BFB	
Support	4
Total:	4
BUSSELTON SES	
Primary	2
Total:	2
BUSSELTON VFRS	
Primary	40
Support	4
Total:	44
CITY OF BUSSELTON	
Primary	3
Support	8
Total:	11
DUNSBOROUGH BFB	
Primary	3
Support	2
Total:	5



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of Fire & Emergency Services



No. of Incidents Attended

From Date: 14/03/2017

To Date: 13/06/2017

	2016/2017
DUNSBOROUGH VFRS	
Primary	12
Support	5
Total:	17
EAGLE BAY BFB	
Support	1
Total:	1
KALLOORUP & DISTRICT BFB	
Primary	1
Support	1
Total:	2
METRICUP BFB	
Primary	1
Support	1
Total:	2
SUSSEX BFB	
Primary	2
Support	1
Total:	3
VASSE BFB	
Primary	1
Support	2
Total:	3
WILYABRUP BFB	
Primary	2
Support	1
Total:	3
YALLINGUP RURAL BFB	
Primary	3
Support	1
Total:	4



Government of **Western Australia**
 Department of **Fire & Emergency Services**



No. of Incidents Attended

This report shows the number of Incidents attended by the selected Brigade or Unit as Primary or Support. It does not count multiple turnouts to the same Incident.

From Date: 14/03/2017

To Date: 13/06/2017

	2016/2017
CITY OF BUSSELTON	
False Call - Good Intent	3
Fire - Landscape	7
Fire - Other/Rubbish/Vehicle	1
Total:	11

Attachment 7.3 Report to City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting to be held on 13 June 2017

Agency: Department of Parks and Wildlife (Blackwood District)

Officer Representing: Jeremy Friend – Fire Operations Officer

Matters to be discussed:**FIRE SEASON 2016/17**

- 64 fires attended within the Blackwood District

PRESCRIBED BURNING

Areas treated during Autumn 2017

- BWD_039 (Nelson) – 90 ha (7km SW of Bridgetown)
- BWD_050 (Cambray Barrabup) – 17km edging (12 km NNW Nannaup)
- BWD_067 (Butler) – 11km edging (16km W of Nannup)
- BWD_078 (Camballan) – 1,400 ha (21km N of Boyup Brook)
- BWD_079 (Upper Capel) – 1,100 ha cell plus additional 12km of edging (12km SW of Donnybrook)
- BWD_102 (McGregor Millbrook) – 32km edging (20km SE of Busselton)
- BWD_105 (Pine Heaps) – 695 ha

Attachment 7.4 Report to the City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) meeting to be held on 13 June 2017**Agency:** WA Bush Fire Brigade/City of Busselton**Officer Representing:** Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, Allan Guthrie**Matters to be discussed:**

For discussion Busselton 12.2

Request email from Mike Terry:

Phoebe Buntain-Barrie

From: Mike Terry <miketerry174@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 29 May 2017 2:09 PM
To: ajguthrie
Subject: Busselton 12.2

Hi Alan

As discussed at our meeting the other day, the Busselton 12.2, as a stand-alone unit with Brigade status, would have access to grants, its own funding, crewing, shed and its own call out procedure. This would allow its maximum utilization and effectiveness as well as securing its future. Busselton 12.2 already has its own shed, call-out procedure and crew.

In particular, independence avoids problems affecting the operational capacity of the Station to which it is attached, as has happened in the past, and continues to do so with other Brigades with 12.2's.

Bridgetown has already followed this path with its 12.2 and has found it to be more efficient and successful.

Cheers

--
Mike Terry

Attachment 7.5 Report to the City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) meeting to be held on 13 June 2017

Agency: WA Bush Fire Brigade/City of Busselton

Officer Representing: Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, Chairperson, Allan Guthrie

Matters to be discussed:

Chairperson of Bush Fire Management Committee and Chief Bush Fire Control Officers Annual Report for 2017

We again have held four meetings for the year and this system is working well enough for our needs. It gives us the communication between DFES, The City of Busselton and Emergency Services and all the Fire Agencies. This gives us an avenue to have the opportunity to feed back to these bodies concerns any ideas we have that may make our jobs easier and more effective. While there is nothing broken in our system, there is always things that can be tweaked to make it better for everyone.

I have continued to represent us at the Regional Advisory Committee (ROAC) meetings. These are held 3 times a year. I am the Chairperson for this committee.

Following the Esperance and Yarloop fires there has been discussion about whether we should have only one fire authority or should brigades be under DFES or their local government control. The investigation held after the Yarloop fire by Euen Ferguson found issues needed to be dealt with. One major point was the formation of a Rural Fire Service. With a change of Government this has now I believe has been .put on hold.

Training is ongoing and registration for training has to be made through the eAcademy. This is through the volunteer portal. Please continue to ensure members register and make yourself and brigade members familiar with how this functions.

This year we had a reasonably quiet year on the fire front. We had no Major incidents in our patch. We assisted Donnybrook/Capel with an incident.

We have worked along side Fire and Rescue and DEPAW to control all fires in the City of Busselton. This arrangement between the agencies is working very effectively. We manage to contain the fires quickly and efficiently in our area.

The issue of when to open the season is a contentious topic. We have a large area in the City of Busselton and while one area has rain other areas are dry. We have people who are not as responsible as we would like, and when fires are allowed they lose them and then we are called out to sort the problem out. I continue to wonder "why are people hesitant getting a permit to burn," It costs them no more than a few phone calls and a bit of organization.

Like last year I would like to say "Thank goodness for the assistance or aerial support". It is a life saver and a wonderful tool to have at our finger tips.

This year we have lost Tim Wall as our CESM and Peter Stark filled in while Tim was away in Albany. Once Tim returned and resigned Peter Stark has stepped into one day a week roll. I would like to thank Peter for doing this. Hopefully a new CESM will be appointed soon.

Andrew Hunt has resigned as FCO of Dunsborough and is in Geraldton with DFES working.

Barton Hatherly has stepped down as FCO of Dunsborough after a long period as FCO and I would like to thank Barton for his many years of service in this role

I would like to thank both Tim and Andrew for their support over their time involved with Busselton Bush Fire .

Please thank all of your brigade members and your families for allowing you to be the fire fighters you are, giving your time so freely.

Attachment 7.6 Report to the City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) meeting to be held on 13 June 2017

Agency: Department of Fire and Emergency Services

Officer Representing: District Officer Capes, Danny Mosconi

Matters to be discussed:

- Staffing changes across Lower South West DFES:
 - Area Officer Andrew Wright promoted to DO Emergency Management in SW Region (Bunbury);
 - Area Officer Leeuwin Andy Thompson will take on Area Officer Geographe portfolio - this will include the five "traditional VFRS in LSW (Augusta/Margaret River/Dunsborough/Busselton/Nannup);
 - Nathan Hall promoted to Area Officer Leeuwin - this portfolio will include the VFRS brigades at Dual Registered Brigades (Witchcliffe/Wallcliffe/Cowaramup/Yallingup Rural). Nathan will also be the representative for DFES at LEMC
 - The above changes took effect on the 29th May.
 - Busselton CESM Tim Wall has also been successful in obtaining an Area Officer position in Albany. The process to appoint for that position is underway.
- The 4th May was International Firefighter's day, a day to remember fallen firefighters and also recognise current serving firefighters. A memorial service was held at Busselton VFRS station and was well attended. This will become an annual event;
- On the 13th June, we will attend a familiarisation visit at the Busselton Airport to view a VARA Fokker 100. The visit is targeted at any emergency services personnel who could be deployed to BMRA in the event of an aircraft emergency. Key DFES staff and volunteers will attend.
- On the 17th June, DFES staff and volunteers will be involved in the BRMA Emergency Field Exercise.
- The Department of Fire and Emergency Services is preparing to launch its annual WinterSAFE campaign, which urges the community to stay safe from the hazards of winter storms and home fires. This year's campaign is focusing on members of our community who have been affected by storms and home fires in recent years, bringing their stories and lessons learned to the attention of others.
- More than 1,000 operational vehicles and 300 portable units now have AVL capability. The AVL system provides real-time visibility of operational vehicles with automated features that enhance crew safety.

Monthly testing is required for all AVL equipped operational vehicles and portable AVL units to:

- Confirm that the AVL equipment is functioning correctly;
 - Confirm that the connection to the AVL server is functioning correctly;
 - Provide an opportunity for Pinpoint software updates (including fixes and enhancements) to be received;
 - Proactively identify faults; and
 - Address feedback from AVL users who suggested regular tests.
- The nominations for the annual Volunteer Employer Recognition Awards (VERA) are now open. The awards recognise the significant role employers and self-employed volunteers play in the delivery of emergency services in Western Australia.

Many employers allow our emergency services volunteers to take time off work to respond to incidents or attend training, enabling them to deliver the essential services that keep our communities safe.

Without their support, our emergency services volunteers would find it difficult to uphold their commitments as volunteers and our internationally accredited VERA program is a way to acknowledge their support.

If you know of an employer or self-employed volunteer who should be recognised for their contribution then go to the Volunteer Portal and nominate now.

- Dunsborough VFRS will soon receive a new firefighting appliance (Country Pumper). The new truck is the first of its kind and will improve the capability of the Dunsborough VFRS when attending a variety of emergencies.