



**City of Busselton**  
*Geographie Bay*

**Bush Fire Advisory Committee  
Agenda**

**14 June 2016**

**Community Resource Centre, Meeting Room 1, 21 Cammilleri Street, Busselton  
on Tuesday 14 June 2016, commencing at 7.30pm.**

**CITY OF BUSSELTON**

**AGENDA FOR THE BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD ON  
14 JUNE 2016**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

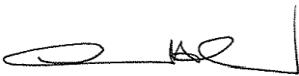
<b>ITEM NO.</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>PAGE NO.</b>
1.	Declaration of Opening	2
2.	Attendance and Apologies	2
3.	Disclosure of Interests	2
4.	Election of Chairperson	2
5.	Confirmation of Minutes	
5.1	Confirmation of Minutes From Meeting Held 8 December 2015	2
5.2	Confirmation of Minutes From Meeting Held 8 March 2016	3
6.	Presentations	3
6.1	eAcadamy (A Wright and T Wall)	
7.	Business Before the Committee	3
7.1	Alternative Community Fire Warning Systems	4-10
7.2	Amendment to Firebreak Deadline Date	11-13
8.	Officer/Delegate Reports	14
8.1	City of Busselton RESC (Dean Freeman)	15-16
8.2	Chairman and Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (Allan Guthrie)	17
8.3	Volunteer Bush Fire Control Officer, Sussex (Mark Smith)	18
8.4	Department of Fire and Emergency Services (Andy Wright)	19-20
8.5	Department of Fire and Emergency Services/City of Busselton (Tim Wall)	21-30
8.6	Department of Parks and Wildlife (Jeremy Friend)	31
9.	Matters of Urgency	14
10.	Occupational Health & Safety (OH&S)	14
11.	Next Meeting	14
12.	Closure	14

**CITY OF BUSSELTON****MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA – 14 JUNE 2016**

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**NOTICE** is given that a meeting of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee will be held at the Community Resource Centre, Meeting Room 1, 21 Cammilleri Street, Busselton on 14 June 2016 commencing at 7:30pm.

Your attendance is respectfully requested.



**MIKE ARCHER**  
Chief Executive Officer, City of Busselton

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**A G E N D A****1. DECLARATION OF OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS****2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

See Attendance List

Apologies:

**3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS****4. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON**

The June meeting of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee is referred to as the Annual General Meeting and the position of Chairman is declared vacant and nominations are invited for this position.

The Chairperson will vacate the chair to allow for the position to become vacant for the purpose of election. The Ranger & Emergency Services Coordinator will then invite nominations for the position of Chairperson.

Upon filling the office of Chairperson, nominations will then be invited for the position of Deputy Chairperson.

**5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

5.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM MEETING HELD 8 DECEMBER 2015

Moved:

Seconded:

5.2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM MEETING HELD 8 MARCH 2016

Moved:

Seconded:

**BUSINESS ARISING**

**6. PRESENTATIONS**

6.1 eAcadamy ( A Wright and T Wall)

**7. BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE**

## 7.1 ALTERNATIVE COMMUNITY FIRE WARNING SYSTEMS

<b>SUBJECT INDEX:</b>	Bush Fire Control and Emergency Services
<b>STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:</b>	1.1 – A community where people feel safe, empowered, included and enjoy a sense of good health and well being.
<b>BUSINESS UNIT:</b>	Environmental Services
<b>SERVICE:</b>	Ranger and Emergency Services
<b>REPORTING OFFICER:</b>	Dean Freeman Ranger & Emergency Services Coordinator
<b>AUTHORISING OFFICER:</b>	Paul Needham Director Planning & Development Services
<b>DATE OF COMPLETION:</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> July 2016
<b>VOTING REQUIREMENT:</b>	Simple majority
<b>ATTACHMENT(S):</b>	Attachment A - DFES acknowledgement of Sentinel Alert as a redistributor of DFES Public Warnings

### PRÉCIS

This report presents an overview of the suitability and practicality of public warning systems for fire, and in particular within the Yallingup locality.

### BACKGROUND

At the meeting of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee held in June 2015, documentation relating to the Sentinel Alert Bush Fire Warning System was tabled by the Yallingup Rural brigade delegate.

At the September 2015 meeting of the Committee, the developers of Sentinel Alert were invited to make a presentation on the technology of a public paging system facility for early advice of impending danger.

The presentation addressed matters such as:

- the facilitation of monitoring DFES RSS advice and warnings,
- all round daily FDR and Weather information,
- the broadcasting location specific to Sentinel Alert home alarms in that particular region,
- 24/7 monitoring and,
- Engineering support.

A copy of a letter from DFES to the Director of Sentinel Alert Pty Ltd dated 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014 acknowledging that Sentinel Alert has been acknowledged as a redistributor of DFES Public Warnings, a copy of which is included with this report as Attachment A.

Correspondence has also been received by DFES direct relating to the provision of a Community Fire Warning System for Yallingup. In this instance, the correspondent is recommending the installation of a siren which will be activated by authorised persons in accordance with guidelines adopted for this purpose.

### STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Section 36 of the Bush Fires Act 1954 provides that a Local government may expend moneys in connection with control and extinguishment of bush fires including for the purchase and maintenance of appliances, equipment, and apparatus for the prevention, control and extinguishment of bush fires.

#### **RELEVANT PLANS AND POLICIES**

The City's Bush Fire Strategic Plan, adopted in 2005 and is the overarching plan for the City's management of bush fire issues. The Plan does not make reference to announcements to the community/warning systems.

WESTPLAN Fire, adopted by the State Emergency Management Committee provides the following which is relevant to this matter:

WestPlan Fire under Section 4.2.1 Public Information and Media Management DFES, P&W and LGs are responsible for the provision and management of public information for a fire they are controlling under section 1.8 of WestPlan Fire.

Where the fire is a property fire unrelated to a bush fire and involves a structure, DFES in conjunction with the WA Police are responsible for the provision and management of public information.

State Emergency Management (EM) Plan, under section 5.5.1 Emergency Public Information, details the State emergency management arrangements for provision of emergency public information.

State EM Plan Section 5.3.1 and State EM Public Information Plan, further detail the responsibilities and requirements for emergency management agencies in providing accurate and timely emergency public information to warn communities about an emergency and direct them to take appropriate precautions.

The Incident Controller(IC) in the case of an emergency is responsible for activating the public information system by following agency Safe Operating Procedures. The IC will perform the Public Information Officer (PIO) role until delegated to an alternative officer. All emergency management organisations must coordinate their public information with that of the Controlling Agency and only comment on matters within their jurisdiction as per State EM Plan section 5.3.1 and the State EM Public Information Plan.

#### **Bush Fire Warning System**

Western Australia fire agencies have agreed to a national approach to community warnings for bush fire. This approach includes a scaled approach with three levels of Warning and an All Clear. The alert levels change to reflect the increasing risk to life. The frequency of alerts depends on the level of threat.

The fire agencies agreed bush fire warning system is:

- **ADVICE:** a fire has started and there is no immediate danger, this is general information to keep you informed and up to date with developments. Issued at 11am and 4pm daily.

- **WATCH AND ACT:** a fire is approaching and conditions are changing, you need to leave or prepare to actively defend to protect you and your family. Issued at least every two hours. Broadcast in full on ABC Local Radio and 6PR every half hour on the quarter hour.
- **EMERGENCY WARNING:** you are in danger and you need to take immediate action to survive as you will be impacted by fire. Issued at least every hour. Broadcast in full on ABC Local Radio and 6PR every 15 minutes. This message will start with a siren sound called the Standard Emergency Warning Signal (SEWS).
- **ALL CLEAR:** the danger has passed and the fire is under control, but you need to remain vigilant in case the situation changes. Issued to close the incident.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There will be costs associated with implementing any early warning system within the community. These costs will include, but not be limited to infrastructure, “up line communication” monitoring, and potentially costs to individual landowners for receiver devices for individual properties.

These costs have not been explored in any detail but will be sought for inclusion in any further reports should the Council resolve that an alternative community fire warning system is warranted and justified.

**STRATEGIC COMMUNITY OBJECTIVES**

Consideration of this matter is consistent with Key Goal 1 - Caring and Inclusive Community - Community Objective 1.1 - A community where people feel safe, empowered, included and enjoy a sense of good health and wellbeing.

**RISK ASSESSMENT**

An assessment of the potential implications of not implementing the officer recommendation has been undertaken using the City’s risk assessment framework. The assessment sought to identify ‘downside’ risks only rather than ‘upside’ risks and where the risk, following implementation of controls, has been identified as medium or greater.

Risk	Controls	Consequence	Risk Level	Risk Level
Reputational risk should warning system implemented fail to meet community expectations in terms of accuracy, relevance and timeliness of the information provided.	Acceptance by community as a compulsory and effective community warning system	Major	Possible	H18

## **CONSULTATION**

The City has received a Discussion Paper, dated March 2016 - Implementation of Sentinel Alert Communication System in the Yallingup Rural Bushfire Brigade District. This paper has been prepared by the Bushfire Ready Facilitator, Yallingup Rural Volunteer Bushfire Brigade.

The proposal to implement a Sentinel Alert Communication System has been discussed informally at the June and September meetings of the BFAC. Subsequent to discussions on the Sentinel Alert community warning system, a proposal to install a siren to provide an early warning system for the Yallingup townsite has also been received and the merits of these systems is discussed further in this report.

## **OFFICER COMMENT**

Previous discussions relating to the Sentinel Alert system have acknowledged the potential capital costs of establishing this system and that there will be ongoing operations costs.

These costs aside, and particularly if they are to be funded by the private landowners; the effectiveness of the Sentinel Alert system is reliant on two key factors:

1. Take up of the system in sufficient numbers by private landowners, and
2. The monitoring of existing channels of communication to redistribute this communication via Sentinel Alert

In regards to the installation of a siren for the Yallingup townsite the following is to be considered:

- The siren will only serve as a “heads up” about a fire within the general proximity, but people would still have to revert to alternative established forms of communication (ie DFES Website, ABC Radio etc) to ascertain further information upon which to act.
- The “Emergency Alert” mobile telephone system remains available to Incident Controllers and indeed the operability of this service has been improved with the recent upgrading of mobile telephone infrastructure within this region.
- Caution as to many “false alarms” may lead to community complacency.
- The community would not accept a 20 – 30-minute delay (at best) between the activation of the siren and the availability of more detailed information via alternative established forms of communication which are activated by firefighters arriving at the fire ground.
- An early warning system should not be just confined to Yallingup and should be able to be replicated in other discrete communities within the City such as Smiths Beach, Eagle Bay, or Bunker Bay?
- Potential for confusion/mixed message with the sirens used by Surf Life Saving WA to warn swimmers of sharks.
- The importance of and priority given to public information within the AIIMS structure.
- The importance of maintaining a “one source – one message” on information to the community in emergencies.



## **CONCLUSIONS**

It is acknowledged that the provision of information to the community in the event of any emergency, including fire, is of great importance in minimising the impact of the emergency.

It is considered that the proposed systems (Sentinel Alert or community sirens) are “heads up” systems for the community to seek information from traditional sources of emergency warnings. These systems also have varying degrees of financial outlay, and will require 24 hours per day monitoring by volunteers within the community, thus placing further time expectations on our volunteers.

## **OPTIONS**

The Committee and Council may consider the use of alternative community bush fire communications systems would be of benefit for communities within the City of Busselton and recommend that a detailed report including financing and operating requirements be prepared for further consideration by the Committee.

## **TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

This implementation of the Officer Recommendation will be subject to Council's decision on whether or not the use of alternative community bush fire communications systems would be of benefit to the community.

## **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That the Council:

Not support the implementation of alternative community fire warning systems, due to the ongoing commitment requiring volunteers to operate the siren warning system and warning systems that essentially redistribute information already provided through other sources.

Attachment A – DFES acknowledgement of Sentinel Alert as a redistributor of DFES Public Warnings



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



Our Ref: 12775; 14/40611  
Your Ref:

Mr Sean Groombridge  
Director and Chief Executive Officer  
Sentinel Alert Pty Ltd  
60 Coghlan Road  
SUBIACO WA 6008

Dear Mr Groombridge

**SENTINEL ALERT**

Thank you for your letter dated 28 October 2014 providing an update in regard to progress and status of Sentinel Alert.

I would like to acknowledge the progress your company has made in continuing to develop and refine the Sentinel Alert community warning system and also note successful results of the trial in Jalbarragup published in your report of December 2011.

The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) is committed to community safety and supports the ongoing development of systems that complement established methods and means of providing warnings and advice for all types of emergencies.

In supporting developments such as Sentinel Alert, DFES places significant emphasis on the importance of only communicating officially approved community warnings and advice. This is vital to the credibility and success of warning systems and to the safety of the community.

This approach is consistent with the "one source, one message" initiatives that DFES and other WA fire agencies currently utilise with respect to bushfire and other emergency warnings.

I have noted your work in conjunction with DFES Lower South West officers, who on 16 April 2014, attended the Jalbarragup Fire Station and witnessed a successful trial whereby DFES RSS fed emergency warnings were accurately received and re-broadcast by the Sentinel Alert system. These messages were in turn accurately received and displayed on the Sentinel Alert receiver unit at the fire station.


While DFES is not in a position to 'endorse' Sentinel Alert, DFES acknowledges that the conditions of my letter dated 29 February 2012 have been met and approves Sentinel Alert system as a redistributor of DFES public warnings.

Emergency Services Complex, 20 Stockton Bend, Cockburn Central WA 6164, PO Box P1174 Perth WA 6844  
Tel (08) 9395 9300 Fax (08) 9395 9384 dfes@dfes.wa.gov.au www.dfes.wa.gov.au

Further to the above, DFES does not authorise use of DFES brand or logo in any way to market the Sentinel Alert product.

Congratulations on your work and endeavours to improve the distribution and coverage of community warnings, particularly in areas that may have limited telecommunications or radio coverage.

Yours sincerely



**STEVE FEWSTER  
ACTING COMMISSIONER**

3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014

## 7.2 AMENDMENT TO FIREBREAK INSTALLATION DATE

<b>SUBJECT INDEX:</b>	Bush Fire Control and Emergency Services
<b>STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:</b>	6.3 - An organisation that is managed effectively and achieves positive outcomes for the community.
<b>BUSINESS UNIT:</b>	Environmental Services
<b>SERVICE:</b>	Ranger and Emergency Services
<b>REPORTING OFFICER:</b>	Dean Freeman Ranger & Emergency Services Coordinator
<b>AUTHORISING OFFICER:</b>	Paul Needham Director Planning & Development Services
<b>DATE OF COMPLETION:</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> November 2016
<b>VOTING REQUIREMENT:</b>	Simple majority
<b>ATTACHMENT(S):</b>	Nil

### PRÉCIS

This report asks the Committee to consider the date(s) by which firebreaks and bush fire risk mitigation measures must be installed in accordance with the City's Firebreak and Fuel Hazard Reduction Notice.

### BACKGROUND

The Bush Fires Act 1954 (the Act) provides the power for Council to appoint a BFCO to carry out duties as outlined in the Act, for the prevention and control of bushfire within the district of Busselton.

### STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954 empowers a Council to require the occupier of land to undertake the installation of fire-breaks and to act as and when specified in the notice with respect to anything which is upon the land, and which in the opinion of the local government or its duly authorised officer, is or is likely to be conducive to the outbreak of a bush fire or the spread or extension of a bush fire, and further to stipulate by when such measures shall be implemented.

### RELEVANT PLANS AND POLICIES

The City's Bush Fire Strategic Plan was adopted in 2005 and is the overarching plan for the City's management of bush fire related issues.

The Bush Fire Strategic Plan is however silent on any matters which may have been taken into account in determining the provisions within the current Firebreak and Fuel Hazard Reduction Notice.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There will be minor costs associated with advertising any change of dates if agreed to, however this can be accommodated within budget allocations.

**STRATEGIC COMMUNITY OBJECTIVES**

Consideration of this matter is consistent with Community Objective 6.3 - An organisation that is managed effectively and achieves positive outcomes for the community – of the City of Busselton Strategic Community Plan 2013.

**RISK ASSESSMENT**

An assessment of the potential implications of implementing the officer recommendation has been undertaken using the City's risk assessment framework.

The assessment sought to identify 'downside' risks only rather than 'upside' risks and where the risk, following implementation of controls has been identified is medium, or greater. No such risks were identified.

**CONSULTATION**

No external consultation has been undertaken on this matter.

**OFFICER COMMENT**

The current City of Busselton Firebreak and Fuel Hazard Reduction Notice requires the occupier of land to implement measures by the following dates:

- Completion of firebreaks/fuel hazard reduction on all rural residential, urban and industrial land is required to be completed by 1 December 2015 and must be maintained until 12 May 2016
- Completion of firebreaks/fuel hazard reduction on all rural land is required to be completed by 15 December 2015 and must be maintained until 12 May 2016

Climate conditions are changing however and we are now experiencing "fire sympathetic" weather conditions much earlier than we are used to.

As such, it is considered that the measures required of landowners/occupiers to mitigate the risk of bush fire should similarly be required to be implemented earlier.

It is acknowledged that on rural lands, many landowners would not have completed harvesting of crops for hay/animal sustenance earlier than the current dates and as such, no change to the dates currently required for rural land are proposed.

It is however considered appropriate that for all other lands within the City, the date by fire mitigation measures must be implemented can be brought forward by two weeks.

The implementation of an earlier date for compliance with measures under the Notice issued by the City will enable earlier commencement of the inspection program by City staff. This will

in turn lead to a greater percentage of properties within the City being bush fire ready prior to the height of the fire season.

It should be noted that this matter is only looking at the date by which current measures are to be implemented on rural residential, urban and industrial land. It is not considering any variation to the current works required of land owners/occupiers.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

The changing nature of our climate and the earlier commencement of heightened fire compatible conditions is readily apparent.

It is considered that there will be an increase in fire mitigation works on private land prior to the height of the fire season within the City as an outcome of implementing the proposed date change.

As such, it is recommended that the Committee support changing the date for compliance with the City's annual Firebreak and Fuel Hazard Reduction Notice for all rural residential, urban and industrial land from 1 December to 16 November.

### **OPTIONS**

The Committee could elect to recommend to Council that no changes are made to the current dates for the establishment of firebreaks/fire mitigation measures under the City's Firebreak and Fuel Hazard Reduction Notice.

### **TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

This matter will be completed upon the date established by the Council for the implementation of firebreaks/fire mitigation measures as required under the Bush Fires Act 1954.

### **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That the Council pursuant to section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954, amend the date for compliance with the requirements of the City of Busselton annual Firebreak and Fuel Hazard Reduction notice for all rural residential, urban and industrial land from the 1 December to the 16<sup>th</sup> November in each year.

**8. OFFICER/DELEGATE REPORTS**

Attachment 8.1 - City of Busselton RESC Report (Dean Freeman)

Attachment 8.2 - Chairperson and Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (Allan Guthrie)

Attachment 8.3- Circulation of Minutes, Volunteer Bush Fire Control Officer, Sussex (Mark Smith)

Attachment 8.4 - Department of Fire and Emergency Services (Andy Wright)

Attachment 8.5 - Department of Fire and Emergency Services/City of Busselton (Tim Wall)

Attachment 8.6- Department of Parks and Wildlife (Jeremy Friend)

**Officer Recommendation**

1. The committee receives the following reports and notes the comments therein:
  - a) City of Busselton Ranger & Emergency Services Coordinator
  - b) Chairman and Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
  - c) Sussex Volunteer Bush Fire Control Officer
  - d) Department of Fire and Emergency Services
  - e) Department of Fire and Emergency Services/City of Busselton
  - f) Department of Parks and Wildlife
2. Minutes of meetings of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee be distributed to committee members within 10 working days following the meeting.

**9. MATTERS OF URGENCY****10. OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY (OH&S)****11. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held on 13 September 2016 at 7:30pm in the Community Resource Centre, City of Busselton, 21 Cammilleri Street, Busselton.

**12. CLOSURE**

**Attachment 8.1 Report to City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting to be held on 14 June 2016**

Agency: City of Busselton

Officer Representing: **Dean Freeman – Ranger & Emergency Services Coordinator**

Matters to be discussed:

**1. Voting at Committee Meetings.**

The matter of a possible anomaly involving the voting membership of the City's Bush Fire Advisory Committee has been raised.

The (Shire of Busselton) Bush Fire Strategic Plan (last amended in 2005), in relation to membership of the BFAC provides **ONE BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICER** - (Appointed by the Shire in accordance with the Act) from each of the Bushfire Brigades.

At the Special Meeting of the Council held after each ordinary election, Council reaffirms that the membership of the BFAC as being the all the Fire Control Officers. The Council resolution does not restrict the number of "voters".

There is a belief that the intent" of voting on the BFAC was that each brigade should have an equal vote, however current practice appears to be all FCO's voting.

The concern is that the brigades with multipole FCO's have more voting power, and as such carry more weight on the Committee than single FCO brigades.

Currently the City has 24 Volunteer Bush Fire Control Officers, but only 18 brigades.

From a voting perspective, it has been confirmed that as the Council resolution from the Special Meeting of the Council held after each ordinary election, reaffirms that the membership of the BFAC as being the all the Fire Control Officers and does not restrict the number of "voters" then all FCO's are eligible to vote.

It is possible that the voting structure of the Committee was previously structured around the operational structures of the brigades when each brigade only had one FCO.

Over time however, some brigades have been amalgamated but retained the FCO's. Hithergreen for example is the amalgamation of Hithergreen, Tutenup, Ruabon & Yalyaup.

It could be argued that the multiple FCO brigades are larger, have more brigade members and also have a larger portion of the City's population residing within their brigade boundary. It is also noted that the current practice at meetings of the Committee is that anyone wishing to speak on a matter may, with the permission of the Chairman, do so.

The Committee is asked to consider how it believes the voting on matters before the Committee should be apportioned – whether by each volunteer FCO having a vote, or limiting the votes to one vote per brigade. The view on this Committee will then be referred to Council for change to the existing 1 FCO/ 1 vote arrangements to a 1 vote per brigade arrangement.

Whichever is the preferred arrangement, it will then be ratified at each subsequent special Meeting of the Council held following the Ordinary Council Elections.



## **2. Identification Cards – Volunteer Bush Fire Control Officers**

Bush Fire Control Officers are appointed by the Council in accordance with Section 38 of the Bush Fires Act 1954.

Section 38 (2E) of the Act provides that “a bush fire control officer appointed by a local government under the provisions of this section shall be issued with a certificate of appointment by the local government”.

Any FCO’s who do not have a current certificate of appointment are requested to provide a passport size photograph to the Ranger and Emergency Services Coordinator who will arrange for the new certificate to be prepared.

## **3. Fire Incident Reports – Statistics to Committee**

Now that some brigades are entering their own Fire Incident Reports direct into the DFES system, City staff no longer have the capacity to manually generate the statistical reports previously provided to the Committee.

The reports generated by the DFES system are as contained in Attachment 7.1 to this agenda.

Committee is asked to determine whether these statistics are sufficient.

**Attachment 8.2 Report to City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting to be held on 14 June 2016**

Agency: Chairperson and Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Officer Representing: **Allan Guthrie- Chairperson and Chief Bush Fire Control Officer**

Matters to be discussed:

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

I represent us at the Regional Advisory Committee (ROAC) meetings held 3 times a year. I am now the Chairperson for this committee. Since last AGM the Volunteer Vehicle and Equipment Advisory Committee (VVEAC) which I was the lower southwest representative has been disbanded.

This year we saw Esperance and Yarloop as major fires with other smaller incidents also occurring. Our City brigades attended these events outside and within the city and represented us very well. I was proud and it was a pleasure for me to work alongside all of you and your brigade members at Yarloop and our local fires. Your efforts were appreciated greatly by myself and all the City Councilors. At the recent Volunteer Sundowner held at the Sussex brigade shed, appreciation was expressed to all brigades that attended the major fires and those that stayed back to protect our own patch. Nola Marino, Libby Mettam, Grant Henly, John Tillman (Superintendent) & Wayne Gregson (Commissioner) all asked for their thanks to be passed onto to all brigade members and their families.

The Sundowner is held annually in appreciation for what all our volunteers do. Each year it is held in a different fire brigade area and neighboring brigades and those receiving service medals are invited. As the years go by all brigades will eventually have their turn to attend.

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 reason this is being discussed is that some local governments do not look after their brigades like they should. We are fortunate that the Busselton City has planned and provided the support so that we have such a strong reliable and united rural bush fire brigades. This is appreciated by everyone.

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

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.

In conclusion thank you to Tim Wall & Dean Freeman for their support of me and all the brigades.

**Attachment 8.3          Report to City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting to be held on  
14 June 2016**

Agency: Sussex Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

Officer Representing: **Mark Smith – Volunteer Bush Fire Control Officer**

Matters to be discussed:

**Circulation of Minutes of BFAC Meetings**

Over recent times, minutes of the meetings of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee have not been distributed until they are sent out with the agenda of the next BFAC meeting.

This not only makes it difficult for committee members to recall the business of the meeting when asked to confirm the minutes, it also delays the use of the minutes as a tool to convey information to brigade members on matters discussed at the BFAC.

I would like to have formalised the requirement for minutes of the BFAC be distributed to committee members within 10 working days following the meeting.

**Attachment 8.4 Report to City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting to be held on 14 June 2016**

Agency: Department of Fire & Emergency Services

Officer Representing: **Andy Wright- Acting District Officer Capes**

Matters to be discussed:

- Well done to all brigades for being proactive regarding Hazard Reduction Burning across the City. Of particular note was the joint cities burn completed on Naturaliste Rd, Meelup Park and the DFES burn in the Windlemere Reserve.
  - Over the past 12 months a group of volunteers and A/Supt MOSCONI have been working to establish a new capability to assist with defending Critical Infrastructure / Structures during bushfires. This was a result of some work Danny was tasked with in Canada in 2014 and a subsequent Project Proposal. The Critical Infrastructure Structural Protection trailer (CrISP) is a cache of sprinklers, portable pumps, collar tanks and associated ancillary equipment which can be used to set up a wet line around identified infrastructure at a fire.
  - On 23rd July, ROAC was held in Nannup. Prior to this meeting, feedback from the Shire regarding the Waroona Fire Debrief was collated with the other 6 LGs from across the LSW and presented to the ROAC members as a consolidated document. VFRS Captains were also invited to attend. The group looked at what worked well, what could be improved and then agreed on "Recommendations" to address areas we could improve on. In total, 18 Recommendations with a person responsible for ownership of the item were identified.  
The most significant Recommendation to be identified was the need for maintenance/qualification training regarding the Sector Commander role:  
***R1: CBFCOs and Captains to identify Sector Commanders within their brigades and assess capability. DFES and LG will work collaboratively to facilitate Sector Commander Courses where capability needs improving.***  
***For existing Sector Commanders, DFES and LG will work together to facilitate Sector Commander Refresher Courses before summer 2016/17. Course content may include: AIIMS refresher; Role & Responsibilities; Fatigue Management and Safety; Communication and Sitreps; IAPs and Map Reading; Span of Control; Situational Awareness; Briefing & Debriefing; Changeovers, etc. (RESPONSIBILITY: Donna VIRGO)***
- We will be working with all LGs before next summer to address the above, along with the other 17 recommendations to ensure we continue to improve our capability to respond to bushfires;
- DFES facilitated the State Storm Exercise on 29th April. An ICC was established in Busselton with the Margaret River SES building being used as a Divisional Point. This was another great opportunity to test interagency procedures and build relationships across the region. The response from the COB volunteers taking part was commendable.
  - We are endeavouring to run some Winter Burning presentations across the Capes Region in the coming months. We are looking to run this session at Commonage in winter and will be looking advertise soon to maximise community participation. Proposed dates are 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> July.
  - DFES, COB, DPaW and AMR recently held a meeting with local wildlife group FAWNA. They are seeking to be more proactive at bushfire incidents and would like to work with firefighters to secure the best outcomes for injured wildlife. DFES and the other stakeholders are guiding the wildlife groups to draft their own MOU between themselves and DPaW and are providing low level AIIMS

training to ensure they are conversant with the structure at Bushfire incidents. This will be a great opportunity to establish a working relationship with these groups to ensure a collegiate response.

**Attachment 8.5            Report to City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting to be held on  
14 June 2016**

Report to City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting to be held on 14 June 2016

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

Officer Representing: Tim Wall

Matters to be discussed:

- 1) Annual plant servicing schedule will start in July 2016, please ensure your vehicle(s) are ready. If there are any faults or work required on the vehicle(s) please fill out the vehicle fault report book leaving it in the appliance, hose pressure testing dates TBA. Schedule to be handed out on the night.
- 2) Reserve burns, thank you to the brigades who have assisted to date. Unfortunately, the wet weather came in a bit earlier this season so more burns will have to be undertaken as the weather allows.
- 3) Brigade turnout reports, YTD month by month and comparison figures for the past 6 years for each brigade - see attachments.
- 4) eAcademy now operating, the eAcademy provides a streamlined approach to managing, delivering and participating in training. The course can now only be applied for online via eAcademy and registering through pathways. Updated pathways flow charts are handed out on the night.
- 5) eAcademy information/ training night for two members from each brigade will be held in June - date and location TBA.
- 6) Station's computers, trial computers and printers at select stations will enable brigades to entry their own FIRS reports on station access to eAcademy, volunteer portal, training videos and materials to assist with brigade training and general circulars.
- 7) Introduction to Structural Firefighting Course (Pathway 2 courses), this training provides participants with the appropriate knowledge and skills to undertake external defensive firefighting operations safely, efficiently and confidently. This training is primarily aimed at rural and settlement bush fire brigades. Training dates - 21 & 22 June (mid-week) and 17 & 18 September (weekend) both courses held at Dunsborough fire station, more courses will be scheduled if there is a demand.
- 8) New Vehicle crew protection fit-out, will commence in the next couple of months.
- 9) Full face respirators training, will continue at Vasse & Dunsborough Fire Stations from July to September -dates TBA and as required. Any brigade members can attend one of the training sessions; flyer s will be out soon with application through eAcademy.
- 10) Captains Club, I will be holding 1/4 meetings with Brigade Captains. These meetings will allow the Captains to discuss brigade operational readiness, equipment and training, as well as giving them the opportunity to undertake some general networking amongst themselves.
- 11) Fuel cards, current limit of \$2,000 has been extended to \$4,000.

- 12) Uniforms washing, reminder if any fire uniforms need washing please take to Cape Cleaners in Dunsborough after the new financial year has started (August). We have an account running 12 months of the year, if you are dropping off some uniforms please let me know so I can keep a track of them.
- 13) Membership updates, still some outstanding from some brigades, thanks to the brigades who have sent in their updates.
- 14) BFAC Minutes, please ensure the minutes are displayed at your station after the meeting to assist in keeping all members informed, allowing them to have their input and to supply feedback to the committee via their brigade FCO.
- 15) Coming up -
  - Local property owner winter burn program in July date TBA;
  - Exercise Commonage 2016, Operations Point conducive for managing a Level 2/3 incident. A fully functioning Operations Point to support a 'field' Rural Urban Interface (RUI) exercise running simultaneously. October 29 or 30 date TBA;
  - Refresher Burn over blank and drills prior to summer;
  - New Vehicle crew protection training as the vehicles are fitted out training will be undertaken; and
  - 2016 Bush Fire forum in Margret River 3 September 2016



Government of Western Australia  
Department of Fire & Emergency Services



## City of Busselton Bush Fire Service

### No. of Incidents Attended

From Date: 01/07/2009

To Date: 26/05/2016

*This report shows the number of incidents attended by the selected Brigade or Unit as Primary or Support, as recorded in FIRS. It does not count multiple turnouts to the same incident.*

	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016
<b>ACTON PARK NORTH BFS</b>							
Primary	1	3	4	0	5	1	0
Support	0	2	5	3	1	0	1
Total:	1	5	9	3	6	1	1
<b>ACTON PARK SOUTH BFS</b>							
Primary	4	1	1	2	1	1	1
Support	5	8	2	2	6	1	5
Total:	9	9	3	4	7	2	6
<b>AMBERGATE BFS</b>							
Primary	1	4	3	2	4	0	2
Support	7	8	8	5	4	4	6
Total:	8	12	11	7	8	4	8
<b>CARBUNUP BFS</b>							
Support	0	0	0	1	0	0	0



<i>Total:</i>	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
<b>CITY OF BUSSELTON</b>							
<i>Primary</i>	3	3	10	3	7	8	4
<i>Support</i>	11	14	9	15	7	5	11
<i>Total:</i>	14	17	19	18	14	13	15
<b>DUNSBOROUGH BFS</b>							
<i>Primary</i>	1	7	7	13	12	18	14
<i>Support</i>	9	11	13	9	9	6	17
<i>Total:</i>	10	18	20	22	21	24	31
<b>EAGLE BAY BFS</b>							
<i>Primary</i>	7	4	8	6	3	4	3
<i>Support</i>	2	2	3	1	1	1	4
<i>Total:</i>	9	6	11	7	4	5	7
<b>HITHERGREEN DISTRICT BFS</b>							
<i>Primary</i>	4	8	8	7	4	5	6
<i>Support</i>	7	6	5	4	8	3	4
<i>Total:</i>	11	14	13	11	12	8	10
<b>JARRAHWOOD BFS</b>							
<i>Primary</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<i>Support</i>	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Total:</i>	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
<b>KALLOORUP &amp; DISTRICT BFS</b>							
<i>Primary</i>	5	4	9	6	6	5	5
<i>Support</i>	10	5	6	3	5	2	7
<i>Total:</i>	15	9	15	9	11	7	12

	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016
<b>METRICUP BFS</b>							
Primary	5	0	1	3	5	4	3
Support	3	1	5	2	4	3	3
Total:	8	1	6	5	9	7	6
<b>SUSSEX BFS</b>							
Primary	6	7	5	8	6	2	2
Support	9	19	13	13	20	11	12
Total:	15	26	18	21	26	13	14
<b>VASSE BFS</b>							
Primary	4	9	12	6	4	4	8
Support	8	9	11	7	9	12	11
Total:	12	18	23	13	13	16	19
<b>WILYABRUP BFS</b>							
Primary	2	4	3	4	9	8	3
Support	6	2	5	3	5	11	2
Total:	8	6	8	7	14	19	5
<b>YALLINGUP COASTAL BFS</b>							
Primary	3	4	4	4	1	3	1
Support	5	6	5	5	5	4	4
Total:	8	10	9	9	6	7	5
<b>YALLINGUP RURAL BFS</b>							
Primary	9	15	14	9	8	20	11
Support	9	8	8	6	9	13	11
Total:	18	23	22	15	17	33	22

	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016
<b>YOONGARILLUP BFS</b>							
Primary	1	2	4	3	2	2	1
Support	2	2	4	1	1	0	2
<b>Total:</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>



Government of Western Australia  
Department of Fire & Emergency Services



**No. of Incident Attended**

Brigade: ACTON PARK NORTH BFB  
From Date: 01/07/2015  
To Date: 27/05/2016

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.  
NOTE: For HAZMAT information, please use one of the reports labelled HAZMAT

Incident Type	December
Fire - Landscape	1
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>1</b>

**No. of Incident Attended**

Brigade: ACTON PARK SOUTH BFB  
From Date: 01/07/2015  
To Date: 27/05/2016

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.  
NOTE: For HAZMAT information, please use one of the reports labelled HAZMAT

Incident Type	December	January	February
Fire - Landscape	3	2	1
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

**No. of Incident Attended**

**Brigade:** AMBERGATE BFB  
**From Date:** 01/07/2015  
**To Date:** 27/05/2016

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.  
 NOTE: For HAZMAT information, please use one of the reports labelled HAZMAT

Incident Type	September	November	December	January	February
Fire - Landscape	0	0	2	2	1
Fire - Other/Rubbish/Vehicle	1	0	0	0	0
Good Intent Calls	0	1	0	0	1
Totals:	1	1	2	2	2

**No. of Incident Attended**

**Brigade:** DUNSBOROUGH BFB  
**From Date:** 01/07/2015  
**To Date:** 27/05/2016

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.  
 NOTE: For HAZMAT information, please use one of the reports labelled HAZMAT

Incident Type	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	May
Fire - Landscape	0	0	1	4	3	5	3	1	3	1
Fire - Other/Rubbish/Vehicle	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
General Service Calls	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Good Intent Calls	2	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	0
Rescue - RCR and MVA (incl. MVA without rescue)	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals:	2	1	1	8	4	7	4	1	3	1

**No. of Incident Attended**

**Brigade:** EAGLE BAY BFB  
**From Date:** 01/07/2015  
**To Date:** 27/05/2016

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.  
 NOTE: For HAZMAT information, please use one of the reports labelled HAZMAT

Incident Type	September	November	December	January	March
Fire - Landscape	0	0	1	1	1
Fire - Other/Rubbish/Vehicle	0	0	1	0	0
Good Intent Calls	1	1	1	0	0
Totals:	1	1	3	1	1

**No. of Incident Attended**

**Brigade:** HITHERGREEN DISTRICT BFB  
**From Date:** 01/07/2015  
**To Date:** 27/05/2016

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.  
 NOTE: For HAZMAT information, please use one of the reports labelled HAZMAT

Incident Type	July	October	November	December	January	February	March
Fire - Landscape	0	0	2	1	2	1	1
Fire - Other/Rubbish/Vehicle	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Good Intent Calls	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Totals:	1	1	3	1	2	1	1

**No. of Incident Attended**

Brigade: JARRAHWOOD BFB  
 From Date: 01/07/2015  
 To Date: 27/05/2016

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.  
 NOTE: For HAZMAT information, please use one of the reports labelled HAZMAT

Incident Type	January
Good Intent Calls	1
Totals:	1

**No. of Incident Attended**

Brigade: KALLOORUP & DISTRICT BFB  
 From Date: 01/07/2015  
 To Date: 27/05/2016

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.  
 NOTE: For HAZMAT information, please use one of the reports labelled HAZMAT

Incident Type	September	October	November	December	January	March	April	May
Fire - Landscape	0	0	0	3	1	1	2	1
Fire - Other/Rubbish/Vehicle	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Good Intent Calls	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Totals:	1	1	1	3	1	1	2	2

**No. of Incident Attended**

Brigade: METRICUP BFB  
 From Date: 01/07/2015  
 To Date: 27/05/2016

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.  
 NOTE: For HAZMAT information, please use one of the reports labelled HAZMAT

Incident Type	October	January	March	April
Fire - Landscape	0	1	1	1
Fire - Other/Rubbish/Vehicle	0	0	0	1
Good Intent Calls	2	0	0	0
Totals:	2	1	1	2

**No. of Incident Attended**

Brigade: SUSSEX BFB  
 From Date: 01/07/2015  
 To Date: 27/05/2016

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.  
 NOTE: For HAZMAT information, please use one of the reports labelled HAZMAT

Incident Type	September	October	November	December	January	February
Fire - Landscape	0	0	2	4	1	2
Fire - Other/Rubbish/Vehicle	0	1	1	0	0	0
Good Intent Calls	1	1	0	0	0	1
Totals:	1	2	3	4	1	3

**No. of Incident Attended**

Brigade: VASSE BFB  
 From Date: 01/07/2015  
 To Date: 27/05/2016

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.  
 NOTE: For HAZMAT information, please use one of the reports labelled HAZMAT

Incident Type	July	October	November	December	January	February	March
Fire - Landscape	0	0	0	8	3	4	1
Fire - Other/Rubbish/Vehicle	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Good Intent Calls	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Totals:	1	1	1	8	3	4	1

**No. of Incident Attended**

Brigade: YALLINGUP COASTAL BFB  
 From Date: 01/07/2015  
 To Date: 27/05/2016

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.  
 NOTE: For HAZMAT information, please use one of the reports labelled HAZMAT

Incident Type	October	December	January
Fire - Landscape	1	1	2
Fire - Structure	0	1	0
Totals:	1	2	2

**No. of Incident Attended**

Brigade: YALLINGUP RURAL BFB  
 From Date: 01/07/2015  
 To Date: 27/05/2016

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.  
 NOTE: For HAZMAT information, please use one of the reports labelled HAZMAT

Incident Type	October	November	December	January	May
Fire - Landscape	4	4	3	4	0
Fire - Other/Rubbish/Vehicle	0	1	0	0	1
Fire - Structure	0	0	1	0	0
Good Intent Calls	2	1	1	0	0
Totals:	6	6	5	4	1

**No. of Incident Attended**

Brigade: YOONGARILLUP BFB  
 From Date: 01/07/2015  
 To Date: 27/05/2016

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.  
 NOTE: For HAZMAT information, please use one of the reports labelled HAZMAT

Incident Type	December	January	February
Fire - Landscape	1	1	1
Totals:	1	1	1

**No. of Incident Attended**

Brigade: WILYABRUP BFB  
 From Date: 01/07/2015  
 To Date: 27/05/2016

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.  
 NOTE: For HAZMAT information, please use one of the reports labelled HAZMAT

Incident Type	October	November	January
Fire - Landscape	2	1	1
Good Intent Calls	0	1	0
Totals:	2	2	1

**No. of Incident Attended**

Brigade: CITY OF BUSSELTON  
 From Date: 01/07/2015  
 To Date: 27/05/2016

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.  
 NOTE: For HAZMAT information, please use one of the reports labelled HAZMAT

Incident Type	July	October	November	December	January	February	March	May
Fire - Landscape	0	1	0	1	3	1	2	1
Fire - Structure	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Good Intent Calls	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Totals:	1	1	1	1	5	2	2	1

**Attachment 8.6 Report to City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting to be held on 14 June 2016**

Agency: Department of Parks and Wildlife (Blackwood District)

Officer Representing: **Fire Operations Officer – Jeremy Friend**

Matters to be discussed:

**FIRE SEASON 2015/16**

- 70 bushfires attended by Parks and Wildlife Staff in the Blackwood District, (approximately 442ha).
  - 9 of these were within the City of Busselton
- Blackwood crews/staff also attended 24 out of District bushfires.
- Thank you to all brigade members for their support and assistance throughout the season.

**PRESCRIBED BURNING AUTUMN 2016 (as at 01/06/2016)**

	<b>Area (ha)</b>
BWD_006 – Bramley	25
BWD_008 – Greenbushes	50
BWD_011 – Hester	48
<b>BWD_041 – Yelverton</b>	<b>205</b>
BWD_043 – Biljedup	99
BWD_047 – Argyle	107
BWD_048 – Argyle	54
BWD_049 – Barrabup	128
BWD_051 – Catterick	194
BWD_058 – Red Gully	5785
BWD_073 – Rapids	227
BWD_078 – Camballan	109
BWD_097 – FPC Pine Heaps	521
BWD_098 – McCorkhill Research Plots	9
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>7560</b>