



MINUTES

BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING 20 March 2023

Commencing at 3:00 pm

The Chief Executive Officer recommends the endorsement of these minutes at the next Meeting of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee.

Signed:
(CEO)

Date: 21 March 2023

These minutes were confirmed at the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting held on 5/10/23

Signed:

(Presiding Member at the meeting at which minutes were confirmed)

Date: 5/10/23

Acknowledgement of Noongar People

The Shire of Narrogin acknowledges the Noongar people as traditional custodians of this land and their continuing connection to land and community. We pay our respect to them, to their culture and to their Elders past and present.

Naatj ngiyen Birdiya Gnarojin kep unna nidja Noongar Moort ngaala maya nidja boodjera baarlap djoowak karlerl koolark. Ngalak niny ngullang karnan balang Bibolman baalap borong koora wer boorda.

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Please note that meetings may be recorded for minute taking purposes.

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BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

20 MARCH 2023

1. OFFICIAL OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Presiding Member, President Ballard, declared the meeting open at 3.10 pm.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Voting Members

Elected Members Present

Mr Leigh Ballard – Shire President (Presiding Member)

CBFCO

Pip Porter

DCBFCO

Vern Gibson

Stuart Moyses

FCO's

Keiran Quartermaine

Nathan Walker

Braden Lange

Troy Smith

Non-Voting Attendance

Staff

Mr Azhar Awang – Executive Manager Development and Regulatory Services

Mr Guy Maley – Senior Ranger

Mr Noel White – Ranger

Ms Vanessa Ward – Executive Assistant (minutes)

Other

Snr Sgt Shannon McGeown – Narrogin Police

Simon Vogel – DFES

Scott Reeves – Narrogin Volunteer Fire and Rescue

Blake Halford

Apologies

Murray Saunders

Russell Ashley

Lewis Hardie

Daryl Kilpatrick

Clayton Hardie

Jon Rick

Mr Dale Stewart – Chief Executive Officer

Mrs Wendy Russell – Executive Support Officer

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION AND COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Stuart Moyses

Seconded: Pip Porter

That the minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting held on 19 September 2022 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

CARRIED

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

5. MATTERS WHICH REQUIRE DECISIONS

5.1 ANNUAL APPOINTMENT OF FIRE OFFICERS

Attachment 1– List of current appointees

A list of the current CBFCO, DCBFCO, Weather Committee, FCO's, Brigade Captains and Dual FCO's is required to be endorsed by Council annually prior to the fire season.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Nathan Walker

Seconded: Keiran Quartermaine

There be a recommendation to Council to appoint the following with all previous appointments being rescinded.

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Chief Bush Fire Control Officer | - Pip Porter |
| First Deputy CBFCO | - Vern Gibson |
| Second Deputy CBFCO | - Stuart Moyses |
| Base Radio Operator | - Stuart Moyses |

Bush Fire Brigade Fire Control Officer's:

| | | |
|-------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Highbury | Captain | Pip Porter |
| | 1st Lieutenant | Stuart Moyses |
| | 2nd Lieutenant | Murray Saunders |
| Minigin | Captain | Clayton Hardie |
| | 1st Lieutenant | Lewis Hardie |
| | 2nd Lieutenant | Russell Ashley |
| Narrogin | Captain | Vern Gibson |
| | 1st Lieutenant | Jon Rick |
| | 2nd Lieutenant | Leigh Ballard |
| Nomans Lake | Captain | Nathan Walker |
| | 1st Lieutenant | Daryl Kilpatrick |
| Ockley | Captain | Troy Smith |
| | 1st Lieutenant | Keiran Quartermaine |
| | 2nd Lieutenant | Braden Lange |

Fire Weather Officers

Pip Porter
Vern Gibson
Stuart Moyses

Weather Committee

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Boundain | Keiran Quartermaine | Alternative Member |
| Highbury East | Pip Porter | Stuart Moyses |
| Highbury South | Murray Saunders | |
| Minigin | Clayton Hardie | Lewis Hardie |
| Narrogin Central | Vern Gibson | Leigh Ballard |
| Nomans Lake | Nathan Walker | Daryl Kilpatrick |
| Ockley | Troy Smith | Braden Lange |

Dual Fire Control Officers

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Cuballing | Guy Maley, Clayton Hardie, Keiran Quartermaine |
| Wagin | Stuart Moyses, Nathan Walker |
| West Arthur | Murray Saunders |
| Wickepin | Troy Smith |
| Williams | Clayton Hardie, Murray Saunders, Russell Ashley |

CARRIED

6. MATTERS WHICH REQUIRE DISCUSSION

6.1 ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE SHIRE FIRE ORDER

Attachment 2 – 22/23 Fire Order

The Shire of Narrogin Fire Order is to be reviewed annually.

- The Committee requested that the Mobile Fire Fighting Unit capacity be increased to 800 litres.

6.2 REGIONAL SAFETY MESSAGE

Attachment 3 – DFES Regional Safety Message - Electrical Hazards at Bushfires.

For information.

6.3 TRAINING

Attachment 4 – Copy of letter from the Department of Fire & Emergency Services *Volunteer Bushfire Training Information*

Summary

The Shire of Narrogin has received a letter from the Department of Fire & Emergency Services (DFES) as per Attachment 4, as a result of the request from local governments seeking guidance from the DFES on minimum training standards for local government Bush Fire Brigade members. The request was made due to the recent enactment of the *Work, Health and Safety Act 2020 (WA)*.

Background

Due to the concern raised by local governments with the recent adoption of the Work, Health and Safety Act 2020, DFES has provided the minimum recommended standards training courses for Volunteer Bush Fire Service Bush Firefighters. These are as follows:

The minimum recommended standard for Farmer Response/Pastoral Brigades without a Local Government Grants Scheme Fire Appliance is completion of the Rural Fire Awareness Course;

The minimum recommended standard for Bush Fire Brigades with a Local Government Grants Scheme Fire Appliance is completion of the Bushfire Safety Awareness and Firefighting Skills courses, consistent with DFES managed volunteers who are required to undertake both courses prior to commencing operational duties.

The Shire has also adopted a Council Policy on Bush Fire Brigades - Management and due to this advice from DFES, the following changes are recommended to the existing Policy, under clause 7 – Training, to include reference to the minimum recommended training for volunteer Bushfire fighters.

The proposal is to include a new section c) under clause 7 – Training, of the Policy as follow

7. Training

- a) All Fire Control Officer's (FCO's) must as a minimum complete the FCO's course training within the first 12 months of being appointed and complete a refresher at least once every 10 years;

- b) A sub-committee consisting of the Chief Bushfire Control Officer and the two (2) Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officers, be authorised to assess volunteer fire fighter's competency with regards to the *Rural Fire Awareness*, *Bushfire Safety Awareness*, and *Firefighting Skills* and if satisfied, to recommend to the Shire's CEO that their previous experience be accepted as Recognised Prior Learning (RPL), although FCO's should be encouraged to complete the training.
- c) With effect from 1 October 2023:
 - i) only volunteers fire fighters that have successfully completed or have been RPL assessed for and passed the DFES approved *Bushfire Safety Awareness* and *Firefighting Skills* courses are permitted to drive or operate Shire Fire Trucks; and
 - ii) only volunteer firefighters that have recognised RPL for, or passed the DFES approved *Rural Fire Awareness* course, either in person or online, are eligible to be registered as an active operational (in the field) Shire Volunteer Firefighter.

Consultation

- The Department of Fire & Emergency Services; and
- Chief Executive Officer.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

OFFICERS' RECOMMENDATION

That the Bush Fire Advisory Committee recommend to Council the following change to Council Policy 5.2 clause 7 as follow:

1. Training

- a) All Fire Control Officer's (FCO's) must as a minimum complete the FCO's course training within the first 12 months of being appointed and complete a refresher at least once every 10 years;
- b) A sub-committee consisting of the Chief Bushfire Control Officer and the two (2) Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officers, be authorised to assess volunteer fire fighter's competency with regards to the *Rural Fire Awareness*, *Bushfire Safety Awareness*, and *Firefighting Skills* and if satisfied, to recommend to the Shire's CEO that their previous experience be accepted as Recognised Prior Learning (RPL), although FCO's should be encouraged to complete the training.
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 - ii) only volunteer firefighters that have recognised RPL for, or passed the DFES approved *Rural Fire Awareness* course, either in person or online, are eligible to be registered as an active operational (in the field) Shire Volunteer Firefighter.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: Keiran Quartermaine

Seconded: Guy Maley

That the Bush Fire Advisory Committee recommend to Council the following change to Council Policy 5.2 clause 7 as follow:

1. Training

- a) All Fire Control Officer's (FCO's) must as a minimum complete the FCO's course training within the first 12 months of being appointed and complete a refresher at least once every 10 years;
- b) A sub-committee consisting of the Chief Bushfire Control Officer and the two (2) Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officers, be authorised to assess volunteer fire fighter's competency with regards to the *Rural Fire Awareness*, *Bushfire Safety Awareness*, and *Firefighting Skills* and if satisfied, to recommend to the Shire's CEO that their previous experience be accepted as Recognised Prior Learning (RPL), although FCO's should be encouraged to complete the training.
- c) With effect from 1 October 2023:
 - i) only volunteer fire fighters that have successfully completed or have been RPL assessed for and passed the DFES approved *Bushfire Safety Awareness* and *Firefighting Skills* courses should drive or operate Shire Fire Trucks; and
 - ii) only volunteer firefighters that have recognised RPL for, or passed the DFES approved *Rural Fire Awareness* course, either in person or online, are eligible to be registered as an active operational (in the field) Shire Volunteer Firefighter.

CARRIED

The Committee felt that there should be some discretion in the event of an emergency with respect to having all trained volunteers operating and driving the Shire Fire Trucks.

Attachment 5 - 2023 Upper Great Southern Volunteer Training Calendar

Attachment 6 - Training Service Program

The training calendar and program are attached for your information and action as required.

6.4 BUSH FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN (BMP) UPDATE

The Shire is making application for funding from MAF 2023-24 Round 1, which closes on 1 May 2023. The proposed mitigation works include:

- Speedway: Fire Access Tracks and Gates;
- White Road Refuse Site: Fire Access Tracks and Mechanical Clearing;
- Williams Road (Foxes Lair/Caravan Park): Fire Access Tracks and Prescribed Burning;
- Mokine Road: Fire Access Tracks and Spraying;
- Burley Road: Spraying;
- Banister Street: Fire Access Tracks and Mechanical Clearing;
- Granite Road: Fire Access Tracks;
- Graham Road: Fire Access Tracks and Fire Breaks;
- Cullen Street: Planned Burning; and
- Williams-Kondinin Road (Shotgun/vintage motorcycle): Mechanical Clearing.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

Changes to 2024/2025 Burning Times

The committee requested that the burning times for the 2024/2025 year be amended, subject to determining whether the Townsite can be identified as a separate zone from the rural areas, to:

- Prohibited – 1 November until 1 March
- Restricted – 2 March until 14 April
- Unrestricted – 15 April until 31 October

Town Firebreaks

Administration staff to investigate changing the requirements for properties located within Townsites to be established and maintained to an area of 4m wide and 4m high.

Operation Vulcan

Snr Sgt Shannon McGeown of Narrogin Police advised that an offender had been caught and recently sentenced by the Courts.

Fire Maps

Executive Manager Development and Regulatory Services advised that the new fire maps would be available prior to the start of the fire season.

8. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business to discuss, the Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 4.55 pm

Bush Fire Appointments 2022/23 Fire Season

| | | Name |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Chief Bush Fire Control Officer | | Pip Porter |
| First Deputy CBFCO | | Vern Gibson |
| Second Deputy CBFCO | | Stuart Moyses |
| Base Radio Operator | | Guy Maley |
| Bush Fire Brigade | Brigade Rank | Fire Control Officers |
| Highbury | Captain | Pip Porter |
| | 1st Lieutenant | Stuart Moyses |
| | 2nd Lieutenant | Murray Saunders |
| | 3rd Lieutenant | Leigh Ballard |
| Minigin | Captain | Clayton Hardie |
| | 1st Lieutenant | Lewis Hardie |
| | 2nd Lieutenant | Russell Ashley |
| Central | Captain | Vern Gibson |
| | 1st Lieutenant | Jon Rick |
| | 2nd Lieutenant | Guy Maley |
| | 3rd Lieutenant | Noel White |
| Nomans Lake | Captain | Nathan Walker |
| | 1st Lieutenant | Daryl Kilpatrick |
| | 2nd Lieutenant | Mark Hoysted |
| Ockley | Captain | Keiran Quartermaine |
| | 1st Lieutenant | Troy Smith |
| | 2nd Lieutenant | Braden Lange |
| Shire of Narrogin Fire Control Officers | | |
| Senior Ranger | | Guy Maley |
| Ranger | | Noel White |
| Weather Committee | | Alternative member |
| Boundain | Mark Hoysted | Keiran Quartermaine |
| Highbury East | Pip Porter | Stuart Moyses |
| Highbury South | Murray Saunders | |
| Minigin | Clayton Hardie | Lewis Hardie |
| Central | Vern Gibson | |
| Nomans Lake | Nathan Walker | Daryl Kilpatrick |
| Ockley | Troy Smith | Braden Lange |

DEFINITIONS

Authorised Officer: An officer appointed as a Shire of Narrogin Fire Control Officer.

Ban On The Movement Of All Vehicles: includes machinery and the operation of internal combustion engines within the Shire or a part of the Shire and during a time as specified in a Notice or broadcast with the exception of the movement of vehicles and machinery on constructed gazetted roads, internal vehicle access and yards;

Firebreak: means a strip of land cleared to the specified width by ploughing, cultivating, scarifying, burning or otherwise clearing;

Flammable Material: includes bush (as defined in the Bush Fires Act), timber, boxes, cartons, paper and like flammable materials, rubbish and also any combustible matter, but does not include green standing trees, or growing bushes and plants in gardens, or lawns;

Harvest Ban: applies on the operation of all grain harvesting machines including swathing, baling or slashing machines within the Shire or part of the Shire and during a time, as specified in a notice or broadcast;

Harvesting: includes grain harvesting, swathing, baling or slashing of stubble or hay in any crop;

Internal Vehicle Access: is defined as a trafficable surface, free of all flammable material, a minimum width of four metres, and with overhanging vegetation pruned back so as not to come into contact with parts of a vehicle;

Mobile Fire Fighting Unit: is defined as having a minimum water carrying capacity of four hundred (400) litres, fitted with a hose and pump capable of delivering water through an adjustable nozzle in the spray and jet configurations;

Yard: is defined as an area, greater than four metres wide, with a constructed, trafficable surface, free of all flammable material save live standing trees.

DEFINITIONS

Prohibited Burning: This period commences on 1 November of each year until and including 1 March of the following year. This time may be amended, subject to prevailing seasonal conditions.

Restricted Burning Time: This period commences on 2 March until and including 1 May and recommences on 1 October until and including 31 October of any year. This time may be amended, subject to the prevailing seasonal conditions.

Unrestricted Burning Time: The time period each year where a permit to burn is not required, in areas zoned rural under the Shire of Narrogin Town Planning Scheme. This period commences on 2 May until and including 30 September. This time may be amended, subject to the prevailing seasonal conditions.

Firebreak Time: The time each year where fire hazard reduction works must be maintained as specified in this Fire Control Order. This period commences on 1 November each year until and including 1 May of the following year.

Fire Control Enquiries

Phone: 08 9890 0900, 8.30 am – 5.00 pm

email: ranger@narrogin.wa.gov.au

General Enquiries

Shire of Narrogin

89 Earl St

Narrogin WA 6312

Phone: 9890 0900

email: enquiries@narrogin.wa.gov.au

Visit the Shire office between

8.30 am – 4.30 pm, Monday to Friday

A Standard Australian Fire Danger Ratings System (AFDRS) will be implemented Australia wide on 1 September 2022. Details are available on the Shire Website.



Shire of
Narrogin

Love the life

Fire Control Order

Effective for 2022-23



FIRST AND FINAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the *Bush Fires Act 1954 section 33*, owners or occupiers of land situated within the Shire of Narrogin are required by law to comply with the prescribed Fire Control Order here within.

1. Land Zoned General Agriculture, Rural Smallholding & Rural Residential

1.1. Firebreaks

(a) at least 2.5 metres wide shall be maintained inside and within 20 metres of the boundary of all land; and surrounding such other positions as is necessary to divide land in excess of 400 hectares into area not exceeding 400 hectares, each completely surrounded by a firebreak.

(b) at least 6 metres wide shall completely encircle all buildings and haystacks.

(c) fuel tanks, whether containing fuel or not, shall have the ground surface cleared to a distance of 6 metres from and encircling the tank/s of all flammable material.

1.2. Fire Fighting Equipment – Where the land owners total land holding is 100 hectares or greater a readily mobile operational fire fighting unit containing a minimum of 400 litres of water on standby and available for inspection is required during the period from 1 November to 1 May, inclusive.

1.3. Harvesting – A person shall not undertake or allow harvesting during the Prohibited Burning period unless–

(a) one hand held water filled fire extinguisher with a minimum capacity of 7.5 litres is filled in a readily accessible position on the machine, and

(b) a readily mobile fire fighting unit of a minimum of 400 litre capacity powered by an engine driven pump is in attendance in or adjacent to the entrance of the paddock being harvested.

1.4. Harvest bans and other bans – permitted activities

(a) Water carting for stock and domestic purposes provided it is accompanied by a mobile fire fighting unit, or alternatively, the water carting vehicle acts as the mobile fire fighting unit and meets minimum specifications.

(b) Checking of stock and water for stock, provided it is accompanied by a mobile fire fighting unit, or alternatively, the water carting vehicle acts as the mobile fire fighting unit and meets minimum specifications.

(c) All necessary travel to and from and within piggeries, sheep or cattle feed lots, provided this is undertaken with a mobile fire fighting unit in attendance.

(d) All necessary carting of livestock, provided that such a vehicle is accompanied by a mobile fire fighting unit.

(e) Essential service provider checking for telecommunications, power or utility water services, provided they are accompanied by a mobile firefighting unit.

(f) Activities which received specific exemptions from the Shire or the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer.

1.5. Public Holidays

(a) A harvest ban and a ban on the movement of all vehicles and machinery and the operation of internal combustion engines is imposed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day each year.

(b) All other activities or operations may only be undertaken during a ban on the movement of all vehicles and machinery and a ban on the operation of internal combustion engines after approval has been granted by the Shire. Approval has to be sought on an individual basis, and is subject to specified conditions. It should be noted that approval may not be granted.

2. All Other Land, Including Residential, Rural Townsite, Service Commercial, and Industrial

(a) Where the area of land is 4,000 m² in area or less – all flammable material on the land shall be reduced to a height of less than 10 cm.

(b) Where the area of land exceeds 4,000 m² in area –
(i) firebreaks shall be maintained at least 2.5 metres wide immediately inside all external boundaries of the land and surrounding all buildings situated on the land; and

(ii) flammable material on the remainder of the land shall be reduced to a height of less than 10 cm.

(iii) A special control zone or other land not elsewhere specified in this Notice, shall comply with the higher level measures required by adjoining land unless varied under clause 5.2.

3. Open Air Fires

(a) Open air fires are permitted during the Restricted Burning period, subject to compliance with the provisions relating to Restricted Burning periods and Shire of Narrogin Local Laws eg. requiring a permit.

(b) Open air fires are not permitted at all during the Prohibited Burning period (including garden refuse).

(c) No fires in the open air are permitted on any day when the fire danger rating is "High" or above.

4. Properties with Fire Management Plans

All properties with approved fire management plans shall comply with the plan and or this notice whichever is the greater.

5. General

5.1. If the requirements of this Notice are carried out by burning, such burning must be in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Bush Fires Act. A permit to burn is required during the Restricted Burning periods from an Authorised Officer.

5.2. If it is considered to be impracticable for any reason to clear firebreaks or to remove flammable material from the land or any other provisions required by this notice you may apply to the Shire or its duly Authorised Officer not later than 1 October, for permission to provide firebreaks in alternative positions or to take alternative action to manage fire hazards on the land. If permission is not granted by the Shire or a duly authorised person, you shall comply with the requirements of this notice.

5.3. Penalties apply to persons who fail to comply with the requirements of this Notice.

5.4. A person who fails to comply with the notice is also liable, whether prosecuted or not to pay the cost of performing the work directed in this notice if it is not carried out by the owner or occupier by the date required by this notice.

Regional Safety Message - Electrical Hazards at Bushfires

One of the greatest hazards to firefighters is the application of water to “live” (energised) electrical equipment (buildings, structures, power poles, powerlines, electrical installations, and electrical equipment). DFES SOP 3.4.8 – Electrical Hazards and SOP 3.5.10 – Crew Safety at Bushfires details how to minimise these risks.

Electrical Hazards

- Spraying water on/near electrical equipment is potentially deadly.
 - Fallen powerlines in contact with the ground may transfer electricity through the ground
 - Fallen powerlines can transfer power through conductors e.g. fences, vehicle bodies etc.
 - Powerlines under tension may move or break increasing the size of the hazardous area.
 - If buildings are on fire, the power must be switched off at the meter box and may need to be disconnected by the energy provider before it is safe to start firefighting.
- Note:**
- Solar panels present an electrical hazard and may be difficult to isolate.
 - VFRS and VFES have training and equipment for responding to structural fires
- Heavy smoke may cause high voltage powerlines to arc between lines or to the ground.
 - Extension cords and wiring around buildings may be damaged / burnt exposing “live” wires
 - Heat can cause powerlines to sag, reducing clearance between the lines and from the lines to the ground.

What to do:

- If an electrical hazard is found immediately inform the Incident Controller and all firefighters (Red Flag Warning).
- Treat all powerlines and electrical components, as “live” until confirmed otherwise.
- **Do not apply water until isolation has been confirmed.** The energy provider must isolate power. Comcen can arrange for the energy provider to assess and isolate the risk. Comcen can be contacted on ‘000’ or 1800 198 140.
- Keep 10 metres away from fallen lines and treat as “live”. Keep others away by demarcating the area (e.g. hazard tape) or have people onsite at a safe distance to keep others away.
- Do not park under or work in the area where poles or lines may fall.
- Where personnel receive an electric shock, no matter how mild, IMMEDIATE medical attention must be sought. Effects of an electrical shock to your body may not present until sometime after the event.
- Do not fight the fire within 25m of the high voltage powerline zone if the smoke is heavy and in contact with the lines. Water streams of no more than 1.5m in height can be directed inside the zone **provided the smoke is not impinging on the power lines.**
- Do not attempt to aid any casualty who is in contact with electrical wires unless safe to do so, or until the electrical supply has been isolated.



Our Ref: 23/008825

Mr Dale Stewart
Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Narrogin

Via email: CEO@narrogin.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr Stewart

ESTABLISHMENT OF BUSH FIRE BRIGADES - *BUSH FIRES ACT 1954*

As you are aware, a local government (**LG**) may establish and maintain bush fire brigades (**BFB**) as a part of its organisation for the prevention, control and extinguishment of bush fires. If a BFB is established, then this must be done in accordance with a LG's local law, pursuant to the powers given by section 41 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* (**BF Act**).

In circumstances where there are no BFB local laws and BFBs have been set up informally by the LG (for example, by LG policies and procedures), the BFBs will not be in compliance with section 41 of the BF Act and will not be considered BFBs within the BF Act.

There is a very high risk that the volunteers in the BFBs not established in accordance with local laws, as required by section 41 of the BF Act, will not:

1. be able to exercise the powers of a "registered volunteer";
2. be covered by the protection from personal liability in Part 7 of the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1988* (WA) (**FES Act**); or
3. be covered by the compensation provisions in Part 6B of the FES Act.

Given the risk to volunteers, the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (**DFES**) is undertaking a state-wide audit to confirm compliance with section 41 of the BF Act.

To assist DFES, please provide a copy of your LG's BFB local law or confirm that your LG does not have any BFBs, by email to legal.legislation@dfes.wa.gov.au. I note that DFES is considering changes to its procedures to ensure that this information is captured and regularly updated when new BFBs are registered.

DFES is working collaboratively with WALGA on this issue, and as such, information you provide regarding the status of your BFBs and BFB local laws may be shared with WALGA. WALGA is available to provide advice and assist LGs to manage the above risks. James McGovern, Manager, Governance and Procurement can be contacted on 9213 2093 or JMcGovern@walga.asn.au

Local governments may also wish to seek their own independent legal advice regarding this matter.

Should you have any queries or require further information on this request please contact Leah Brown, Principal Legislation Officer on 0423 250 204 or leah.brown@dfes.wa.gov.au

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DK', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**DARREN KLEMM AFSM
COMMISSIONER**

11 January 2023

2023 Upper Great Southern Volunteer Training Calendar

| Month | Date | Course | Location |
|----------|--------------|--|------------------------------|
| February | 24 – 26 | Bushfire Safety Awareness | Boddington CRC |
| March | 4 -5 | SES Team Leader | Gnowangerup SES |
| | 06 | LABOUR DAY | |
| | 10 & 11 | WAGIN WOOLARAMA | WAGIN |
| | 13 | Breathing Apparatus PSS7000 Refresher / Entry Control Officer | Kulin VFRS |
| | 15 | Breathing Apparatus PSS7000 Refresher / Entry Control Officer | Narrogin VFRS |
| | 16 | Breathing Apparatus PSS7000 Refresher / Entry Control Officer | Williams VFRS |
| | 15 & 16 | Bushfire Safety Awareness | Cuballing BFB |
| | 18 | Field Radio Operator | Kondinin VFES |
| | 19 | Storm & Water Damage RSS | Kondinin VFES |
| | 20 | Breathing Apparatus PSS7000 Refresher / Entry Control Officer | Corrigin VFRS |
| | 22 | Breathing Apparatus PSS7000 Refresher / Entry Control Officer | Lake Grace VFRS |
| | 23 | Breathing Apparatus PSS7000 Refresher / Entry Control Officer | Pingelly VFRS |
| | 24 & 25 | Pump Operations | Hyden VFES |
| | 25 & 26 | Structural Fire Fighting | Brookton VFRS |
| April | 1 - 2 | Breathing Apparatus Draeger PSS7000 / Entry Control Officer (ECO) | Brookton VFRS |
| | 7 - 10 | EASTER | |
| | Term 1 Break | 7 April to 23 April | |
| | 25 | ANZAC DAY | |
| | 29 & 30 | On Road Driving | Hyden VFES |
| | 29 & 30 | On Road Driving | Dumbleyung / Lake Grace VFRS |
| May | 06 & 07 | Off Road Driving | Kulin VFRS |
| | 14 | MOTHERS DAY | |
| | 20 & 21 | Incident Control Centre (ICC) Team Member Fundamentals | Pingelly SES |
| | 19 | Casualty Transfer | Hyden VFES |
| | 20 & 21 | Manage Injuries | Hyden VFES |
| | 23 | Breathing Apparatus PSS7000 Refresher / Entry Control Officer | Wagin VFRS |
| | 27 & 28 | Structural Fire Fighting | Narrogin Training Centre |
| | 27 & 28 | On Road Driving | Williams VFRS |
| June | 5 | WA DAY | |
| | 9 | Mental Health First Aid Refresher | Narrogin Training Centre |
| | 10 - 11 | Mental Health First Aid | Narrogin Training Centre |
| | 10 - 11 | Incident Reporting System (IRS) Essentials | TBA |
| | 10 - 11 | Structural Fire Fighting | Hyden VFES |
| | 24 | Advanced Bush Fire Fighting | Hyden VFES |
| | 25 | Crew Leader | Hyden VFES |
| | 24 & 25 | Storm Damage Ground & Roof | Pingelly SES |
| | 24 & 25 | Breathing Apparatus PSS7000 / Entry Control Officer | Narrogin Training Centre |

| Month | Date | Course | Location |
|-----------|----------------|---|--------------------------|
| July | Term 2 Break | 1 July to 16 July | |
| | 08 & 09 | AIIMS 2017 | Narrogin Training Centre |
| | 23 | Internal Structural Firefighting - Module 1 (Theory) | Meeting room WALD Street |
| | 22 & 23 | Sector Commander | Narrogin Training Centre |
| | 22 & 23 | 2023 Leaders' forum | Dryandra |
| | 29 | Storm Damage RSS | Pingelly SES |
| | 30 | Internal Structural Firefighting - Module 1 (Theory) | Narrogin Training Centre |
| August | 05 & 06 | SES Team Leader | Wagin SES |
| | 05 & 06 | Incident Controller Level 1 Part 1 | Narrogin Training Centre |
| | 12 & 13 | Incident Controller Level 1 Part 2 | Narrogin Training Centre |
| | 18 | Casualty Transfer | Narrogin Training Centre |
| | 19 & 20 | Manage Injuries | Narrogin Training Centre |
| | 26 & 27 | Internal Structural Firefighting - Module 2 (Practical) | Academy Forrestfield |
| September | 3 | FATHERS DAY | |
| | 2 - 3 | Emergency Driving Training @Collie | Koolinup ESC |
| | 16 & 17 | Storm Damage Ground & Roof | Narrogin SES |
| | 06 07 | Newdegate Field Day | |
| | 08 to 10 | WAFES | |
| | 14 | Breathing Apparatus PSS7000 Refresher / Entry Control Officer | Pingelly VFRS |
| | 16 & 17 | Road Crash Rescue | Narrogin VFRS |
| | 20 | Breathing Apparatus PSS7000 Refresher / Entry Control Officer | Narrogin VFRS |
| | 21 | Breathing Apparatus PSS7000 Refresher / Entry Control Officer | Williams VFRS |
| | | | |
| | Term 3 Break | 23 September to 8 October | |
| 25 | KINGS BIRTHDAY | | |
| October | 16 | Breathing Apparatus PSS7000 Refresher / Entry Control Officer | Corrigin VFRS |
| | 23 | Breathing Apparatus PSS7000 Refresher / Entry Control Officer | Kulin VFRS |
| | 24 | Breathing Apparatus PSS7000 Refresher / Entry Control Officer | Wagin VFRS |
| | 25 | Breathing Apparatus PSS7000 Refresher / Entry Control Officer | Lake Grace |
| | 28 | Storm Damage RSS | Narrogin SES |
| | 30 | Breathing Apparatus PSS7000 Refresher / Entry Control Officer | Dumbleyung VFRS |
| November | 18 & 19 | Search Team Leader | Wagin SES |

| | |
|--------------|---------------------------|
| Term 1 Break | 7 April to 23 April |
| Term 2 Break | 1 July to 16 July |
| Term 3 Break | 23 September to 8 October |
| Term 4 | 15 December |

| |
|------------------------------|
| Volunteer Fire and Rescue |
| Volunteer Emergency Services |
| State Emergency Services |
| Bush Fire Brigade |
| ALL |

NOTES:

- All courses are **subject to change** date or location. Please check eAcademy for the latest information.
- **Extra** courses can be added through your Area Officer OR District Officer if the BGU have enough volunteers – liaise with a DFES officer



Bush Fire Service Training Program

Local induction to be completed at Brigade/Local Government level. If no local induction exists, the DFES Volunteer Firefighter Induction may be used.

❖ This diagram is to be read in conjunction with the Training Program Implementation Guide

