



Annual Report 2018/19

Department of Fire and Emergency Services

dfes.wa.gov.au



FOR A SAFER STATE

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Statement of Legislative Compliance

for the year ended 30 June 2019



The Honourable Francis Logan MLA

Minister for Emergency Services

To the Honourable Francis Logan MLA

Minister for Emergency Services

In accordance with section 63 of the *Financial Management Act 2006*, I hereby submit the Annual Report of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services for the financial year ended 30 June 2019, for your information and presentation to Parliament.

The Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006* as well as the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1998*, the *Fire Brigades Act 1942* and the *Bush Fires Act 1954*.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D Klemm', written over a light grey background.

D Klemm AFSM
Accountable Authority
23 August 2019

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This publication is available in alternative formats on request.

Commissioner's Foreword



Darren Klemm AFSM

Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner

The Department of Fire and Emergency Services' purpose is to help create a safer State for the people of WA. We work in partnership with community and government to protect lives, infrastructure, our environment and the economy.

Over the last year we responded to more than 29,000 incidents across the State. This is testament to the dedication and commitment of our people supporting the community.

Staff and volunteers battled a number of significant fires threatening country and city communities. This included combatting bushfire in over 230,000 hectares within the Great Southern and Goldfields regions, as well as responding to a bushfire which came close to homes and businesses in the Forrestdale area.

In March 2019 Severe Tropical Cyclone Veronica, one of the largest cyclones in a decade, formed off the northern WA coast. Expected to impact Port Hedland and Karratha with potentially devastating consequences, communities in the Pilbara were subject to one of the longest recorded Red Alerts. Working with the local community and our emergency management partners, our staff and volunteers were able to assist in reducing Veronica's impact. Thankfully no lives or homes were lost.

On water, our volunteers often do amazing things in challenging times. The rescue of a missing kite surfer in Geraldton last January and then the rescue of two fisherman 28 kilometres off the coast of Hopetoun in February illustrates the important role of marine rescue in keeping our community safe on the water.

Our focus this year has been on three key priorities:

- **Culture and community** – enhancing our culture and engagement with the community.
- **Emergency Management** – broadening our attention from response to emergency management.
- **Volunteers** – valuing the expertise and contribution of our volunteers.

Our cultural reform journey has entrenched our approach to a more inclusive and diverse workforce and strengthened relationships with our volunteers. We have continued to support local governments and community members to build their resilience, and in doing so, reduce the risk of the wide range of hazards for which we are responsible.

Broadening our remit to support people before, during and after emergencies has meant taking on new responsibilities. This includes greater involvement in State recovery, mitigation, risk profiling and providing Secretariat support to the State Emergency Management Committee.

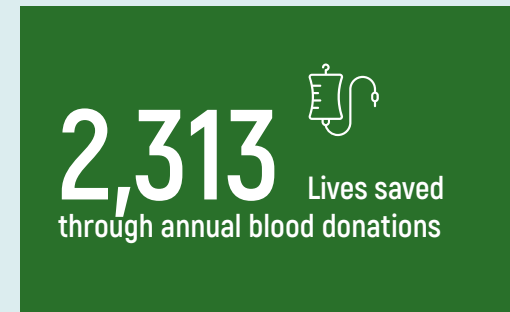
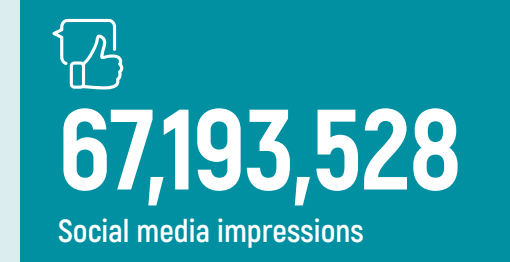
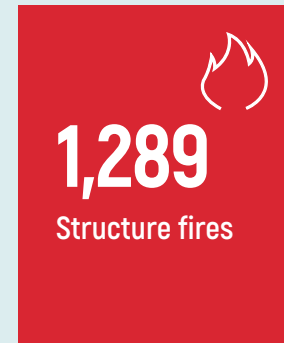
In 2018-19 we also made great progress towards establishing a world leading Bushfire Centre of Excellence. This important State Government initiative will create a centre of strategic advice for the management and mitigation of bushfire as well as enhancing research and training. Through the work of our Rural Fire Division we have increased our capacity in fire behaviour analysis, improved our bushfire prone maps and continued to develop bushfire risk management policies.

A highlight this year was hosting the national conference for Australia and New Zealand's National Council for fire, emergency services and land management in Perth. A prestigious emergency services conference, this event brought emergency management people from across Australia and overseas to share ideas, experiences and to network – continuing to provide opportunity for us to improve.

As I reflect on my role as Commissioner, I would like to acknowledge and thank all emergency management staff, volunteers and partners, who give their time to ensure a safer WA. Without them, the vital work we do for our communities would not be possible. I look forward to the coming year as we look to our future and how we can work together to build a safer State.

Our Year





Our Year in Review



Focus on the Community

The State of Recovery

This year we have taken on the State Recovery role. We are taking the lead in making a positive difference in our communities, providing support and leadership following a disaster.

Our people-centred recovery focus helps WA communities prevent, prepare for and recover from emergencies.

As a community we rely on roads, buildings and bridges to connect us and bring us together. Coordinated and well managed disaster recovery helps communities move into medium to long term recovery more quickly, leading to better outcomes not only for communities but also the State.

A key achievement in 2018-19 has been our focus in planning for recovery much earlier in the response phase of a major emergency incident. To improve the recovery journey for communities, our priorities are to:

- increase recovery capability and capacity at the State and local levels
- ensure recovery is effectively coordinated to deliver the best outcomes for impacted communities.

To achieve these, our strategies have focused on the sharing of information, building collaborative partnerships and improving skill development.

State Recovery Controllers

A State Recovery Controller's role is to be the conduit between the State Government and impacted local governments when incidents require a complex recovery period.

Feedback from the 2016 Waroona/Yarloop bushfires highlighted opportunities to enhance our cadre of suitably qualified Recovery Controllers. Since taking on the State Recovery role, we have engaged with stakeholders and held workshops across WA, including the Department of Premier and Cabinet to establish a State Recovery Controller cadre.

Revised Impact Statement

Understanding the impacts of an emergency as early as possible is vital and we have reviewed our recovery processes. Our simplified Impact Statements:

- are aligned to local government Local Recovery Plans
- include a detailed action plan identifying responsible agencies and work completion dates.

The new Impact Statement and Impact Statement Guidelines were trialled over nine emergency incidents and the final documents include feedback from those local governments.

State Recovery Network

In partnership with Western Australian Local Government Association to strengthen community resilience and working relationships, we have established a State Recovery Network. The network:

- builds local government and recovery sector skills and capabilities
- shares lessons learned
- develops and shares best practice.

Our recovery program monitoring and evaluation framework will ensure State Recovery programs meet the needs of the communities we serve.

Esperance Fires and Engaging the Community

Early in February 2019 severe bushfires swept through areas around Esperance. Like a lot of WA, this area has many culturally significant and sacred sites for the region's Aboriginal communities.

Our Aboriginal Advancement Unit travelled to Esperance with the Incident Management Team to meet with local Aboriginal Elders. By being 'on the ground', we were able to facilitate communication between the Elders and response teams so all parties were represented in planning meetings.

"Including our Aboriginal Advancement Unit in the Incident Management Team was an excellent strategy and ensured everyone was on the same page," Richard Burnell, Executive Director Corporate Services said.

Consultation with Elders

Well before the Esperance bushfires, the Aboriginal Advancement Unit had formed a close relationship with the Tjaltjraak Aboriginal Rangers through emergency management planning and 'Ready on Country' training.

Mr Burnell said this close relationship with the Rangers helped ensure culturally significant and sacred sites were protected when firefighting machinery was deployed.

"Our discussions with the Elders, Traditional Owner Mr Doc Reynolds, family group representatives and the Tjaltjraak Native Title Corporation gave us vital information, which helped us identify ways to care for country and avoid sites the Traditional Owners wanted left undisturbed," Mr Burnell said.



Commissioner Darren Klemm, Doc Reynolds, the Hon. Francis Logan and Gail Reynolds-Adamson discuss the identification of culturally significant and sacred sites.

Impact

Once the culturally significant sites were identified, plans were developed for their protection. Maps with the sites clearly marked were made available to operational staff working in those areas so machinery and fire appliances could be coordinated to avoid damage. Because of the cultural sensitivity of the maps, they were only available to responders working in the identified areas.

Tjaltjraak Rangers were sent to the Mickel Farm frontline and used the maps to guide the machinery creating fire tracks ensuring the culturally significant sites were protected.

Commendation for Brave Conduct

On 28 March 2019 Governor General Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd) announced The Australian Bravery Decorations Honours List.

Air Attack Supervisor and Station Officer Rohan Aird, and Air Attack Pilot, Lindsay Hawke, both received a Commendation for Brave Conduct for an act of bravery. On 14 January 2018 Rohan and Lindsay were part of the aerial firefighting response to a large bushfire in the Beelu National Park.

They noticed the firefront moving quickly towards a campsite and Lindsay spotted someone isolated by the fire. After confirming the man's location they devised a rescue plan.

"Despite the extremely hot and windy conditions, Lindsay flew the helicopter on a low and slow approach onto a rocky and sloping outcrop on the edge of the campsite, directly in the path of the approaching firefront," Rohan said.

Lindsay said that, due to the strong hot winds and updraughts, it was difficult to hold the aircraft in position.

"There was little room to rest the helicopter on the rock and, with flames encroaching, I spotted another small clearing towards the east," Lindsay said.

He manoeuvred the helicopter to the clearing and, even with the conditions, was able to hold the aircraft on top of the sloping rock face.

Rohan left the helicopter and walked quickly in the direction of the fire, where it was advancing from behind the camp site.

"Smoke was billowing close by as Rohan disappeared into the bush, but he located the trapped man and led him back to the helicopter," Lindsay said.

Lindsay was then able to take off and fly the helicopter away from the path of the fire and to safety.

New Bushfire Campaign

In 2018 we launched a State Government funded million-dollar bushfire awareness campaign to help communities consider bushfire risks and dangers. More than 90% of WA is classified as bushfire prone so a strong campaign was needed to raise community awareness.

The campaign was based on the New South Wales Rural Fire Service 'I am Fire' campaign but was adapted to capture the unique WA context.

We ran the campaign from December 2018 to May 2019 using a variety of media including real-time and on demand television, radio, regional press, digital and social platforms, plus outdoor advertising such as billboards, bus backs and sides, posters on trains and digital panels at regional shopping centres.

Resource kits containing social media assets and posters were also developed and distributed to local governments and volunteers to help them promote consistent messaging.

The campaign encouraged people to visit firechat.wa.gov.au where they are guided through the Fire Chat process before being prompted to download the Bushfire Preparation Tool, access factsheets and develop a written plan to use in the event of a bushfire.

Key messages of Fire Chat include:

- Fire can travel up to 25 kilometres an hour and send burning embers flying for kilometres, sparking new fires.
- Fire radiates heat so extreme it can shatter windows and melt tyres.
- The radiant heat from a fire can burn your skin from 100 metres away.

***You can't outrun it, or outlast it.
So take five minutes to outsmart it.***

Fire Chat and the Bushfire Preparation Tool help the community to develop a bushfire survival plan by asking three important questions:

- When will you know to leave?
- Where will you go?
- Which way will you go?

Research conducted after the campaign indicated that once people heard about the Fire Chat resources, around 70% of them went on to have the five minute fire chat with their families.

Traffic to the Fire Chat website increased significantly compared to the 2017-18 bushfire season with people getting the message to find out more about preparing for bushfire.

More than 110,000 people visited the website, and more than 21,000 fact sheets were downloaded.



Bushfire Patrol

The Bushfire Patrol education program was developed in 2013 to educate primary school children about bushfire.

Bushfire Patrol was relaunched in 2018 following recommendations from the Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre child-centred disaster risk reduction project.

The multi-media resource includes videos, photographs and illustrations to help students to:

- identify safe and unsafe bushfire behaviour
- understand the bushfire season and unsafe fire times and risks
- develop a range of skills and behaviours to prepare for, respond to and stay safe during a bushfire
- understand the impact of deliberately lit fires on communities and the environment.

Banksia Hill – Young People in Emergency Services

In partnership with the Department of Justice, we launched a pilot program to deliver emergency services training to the young people in Banksia Hill Detention Centre.

The aims of the program were to:

- develop an awareness of emergency services response
- provide the young people with emergency services skills and knowledge
- inform the young people of volunteering services, which they could join upon release.

The young people at the detention centre will be able to take these skills back to their communities. The program was delivered by emergency service volunteers and staff and is based on our existing Emergency Services Cadet Corp program.



[Click on the photo to watch a video about the training.](#)

The program was piloted at the Centre over six weeks and delivered training on:

- casualty handling
- knot tying
- fire safety and awareness
- water safety awareness
- an overview of firefighting equipment
- introductory first aid
- working with the State Emergency Service Canine Unit.

The pilot was a success with opportunities being explored to deliver further training at Banksia Hill.

Improving Safety in Aged Care Facilities

We have been working with aged care providers with a focus on the water supply for fire systems. As infrastructure ages and urban infill increases demand, ensuring adequate water supply for fire systems is of growing importance.

We identified aged care facilities as a high risk group because they:

- rely on adequate water supply for fire control
- require assisted evacuations
- depend heavily on safety systems for fire detection and suppression.

Of the Perth metropolitan area's 119 aged care facilities, 48 fire safety inspections were completed in 2018-19.

Bidyadanga VFES Official Opening

The Bidyadanga Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services Facility officially opened on 14 November 2018. Kimberley Superintendent Grant Pipe was responsible for developing this capability in the region.

“We have 96 Aboriginal communities in the Kimberley and all of them have experienced a fire at some stage. Being so remote they need the capacity to be able to respond to incidents themselves,” Grant said.

WA’s largest Aboriginal community, Bidyadanga is 190km south of Broome and a regional service centre for surrounding communities. During law time and ceremonies the population of 750 residents swells to 1,500.

“The new unit operates from a property we fitted out with firefighting equipment including a new light tanker and protective personal clothing,” Grant said.



[Click on the photo to watch a video on the impact of the new facility.](#)

District Officer Lee Vallance provided firefighting training for 14 volunteers from the local community.

“The volunteers are from Bidyadanga’s municipal services and local Karajarri Rangers. They are highly regarded in the community and seen as role models and mentors,” Lee said.

Lee said the volunteers were now encouraging other community members to join the unit to increase awareness of fire risks, including high fuel loads and the need to cook in the open.

Bushfire Mitigation Forum 2018

As part of the Government's consultation on bushfire mitigation, the 2018 Bushfire Mitigation Forum was held on 4 October 2018 in Kalamunda.

More than 200 people attended the forum including bushfire response volunteers and other stakeholders involved in bushfire management. The forum's purpose was to increase collaboration in bushfire mitigation.

Executive Director Murray Carter said the forum built on outcomes from previous bushfire stakeholder events, reflected a renewed priority on bushfire mitigation, and established a strategic foundation for detailed, volunteer-focused discussions.

"The forum also helped us reflect on progress we've made over the past 18 months since the rural fire reform package was introduced in April 2018," Murray said.

Emergency Services Minister Francis Logan provided the keynote address, reflecting on his conversations with bushfire volunteers during his recent visits to more than 200 regional brigades, groups and units. His speech established the context for workshop discussions and provided an overview of recent bushfire sector changes, including the new Bushfire Centre of Excellence and unprecedented funding of \$35 million for bushfire mitigation.

He outlined his expectations for the Bushfire Centre of Excellence "that it be a world-class institution providing advice, expertise and leadership, and a home for all involved in bushfire management." Minister Logan and Commissioner Darren Klemm encouraged participants to consider their expectations of the centre and to be forthright in their contributions to discussions.

Participants were encouraged to ask questions directly of the Minister and the Commissioner.

Participants raised the importance of adequate long-term bushfire mitigation funding, asked about progress on the emergency services legislation review and sought clarification of the State's position on activities insurance.



Executive Director Murray Carter, Commissioner Darren Klemm and the Hon. Francis Logan with volunteers at the Bushfire Mitigation Forum.



Focus on Volunteers

Gold category Volunteer Employer Recognition Award winner Andrew Alston with Commissioner Darren Klemm. Click on photo to watch the awards highlights.

Volunteer Employer Recognition Awards

In November 2018 a record 102 WA businesses were recognised through the Volunteer Employer Recognition Awards. We have more than 26,000 emergency services volunteers around the state and many juggle their volunteering commitments with their employment. The annual awards present an opportunity for us to thank our volunteers' employers for their support.

For the first time ever two award ceremonies were held in 2018, with the first in Perth on 2 November and the second in Busselton on 9 November.

Commissioner Darren Klemm attended both ceremonies and commended the business owners on their commitment to their staff and the community. He also praised the 26 self-employed volunteers, whose commitment can often mean their businesses are put on hold when an emergency occurs.

Landscaper Andrew Alston owns the Jardinier Garden Centre in Carnarvon and has been a volunteer firefighter for more than a decade. He said he was humbled to receive an award in the highest category.

"To be recognised in the gold category was not expected and I am proud my contribution has been recognised outside the communities I have helped," Andrew said.

Andrew's commitment has required him to take many hours away from his business for training and to attend incidents, which include large scale bushfires in the Gascoyne region, Harvey, Yarloop and Yalbalgo, multiple road crash rescues, structure fires and the response to Tropical Cyclone Olwyn.

"The recovery effort for Cyclone Olwyn ran for a week, which meant I had to close the business for that entire time. For smaller jobs the impact isn't as significant and my clients are sympathetic but for longer jobs the impact is far greater because I have to work weekends to catch up and that means more time away from my family."

The full list of award recipients can be found on our [website awards page](#).

New Positions to Support Volunteers

To strengthen volunteer relationships as part of the State Government's rural fire reform, 15 new positions were introduced in 2018-19.

Volunteer Management Support Officers located across the state are now able to support volunteer leaders, managers and local governments.

The Support Officers help with volunteer promotion, recruitment and retention, and relieve some administrative burden so volunteers can focus on providing vital community services. The Support Officers are located in Joondalup, Belmont, Kwinana, Broome, Karratha, Geraldton, Northam, Bunbury, Manjimup, Albany and Narrogin.

We have also recruited two Volunteer Liaison Officers to support volunteer relationships, associations and advisory committees. The liaison officers report to the Office of the Commissioner to give volunteers more input into emergency management and to provide a direct channel for communication to the Commissioner.



Volunteer Liaison Officers Hazel Darkin and Kristi Milana

In 2018, the State Government provided unprecedented funding to Volunteer Marine Rescue Services. As a result of that funding, two new Marine District Managers have joined the Marine Services team and are based in Karratha and Albany along with another Marine District Manager, who is based in Geraldton. This means the Marine District Managers will be closer to their Volunteer Marine Rescue Services groups, increasing their capability to provide face-to-face support.

We also established a vessel replacement and refit program to streamline purchasing and maintenance. The program is on track to be implemented in 2019-20.

A Safer State in the Water

Our Volunteer Marine Rescue Services volunteers often do amazing things in challenging times when searching for missing people and vessels along WA's treacherous coastline.

In January 2019, the Geraldton Volunteer Marine Rescue crew received a call for missing kite surfer, Matt Wing. They set off in horrendous conditions, hoping for a miracle.

After being missing for more than 16 hours, Matt was found following a coordinated land, sea and air search involving State Emergency Service (SES) volunteers, Western Australian Police Force (WA Police), Surf Life Saving WA and the Australian Maritime Safety Authority.

In a separate incident in May 2019, experienced kite-surfer Sam Thompson was enjoying time on the water off Woodman Point when an unexpected wind drop left him stranded more than 1.5 km from the shore.

Cockburn Volunteer Sea Search and Rescue received a call from an observer on the beach, and quickly found Sam, who was very cold but otherwise safe.

Sam said it was a lesson that forecasts cannot always be trusted, and kite surfers should stay nearer to the shore in unreliable winds.

In June 2019, Carnarvon Volunteer Sea Rescue received a call from a man's worried partner. Rescue crews immediately headed out and quickly located three men safe and well. Their boat had taken on a significant amount of water and had fortunately been washed ashore.

This rescue reinforced the importance of telling someone your plans before you head out onto the water, as well as logging on and off with the Volunteer Marine Rescue Service in your area.



Click on the photo to watch a video of Matt Wing's rescue.

Volunteer Recruitment Website

Our public volunteer recruitment website was launched in April 2019 in collaboration with Volunteering WA.

Based on research undertaken by the University of Western Australia and Curtin University for the Bushfire Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre, the website provides information about our different services and opportunities for people to get involved.

Staff, volunteer managers and brigades, groups and units can advertise specific or generic roles on the website. People can express interest in positions, helping brigades, groups and units with the recruitment process.

The website is linked to Seek Volunteer and Go Volunteer, and has seen a steady increase in traffic with more than 5,000 visitors a week since its launch.

We encourage regional teams and volunteers to use the website to raise their profiles and get their recruitment message out.



AFAC 2018

AFAC 2018

This year we hosted the Australasian Fire Authorities Council's (AFAC) annual conference at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre from 5 to 8 September. Now in its 26th year, the AFAC conference has become Australasia's premier emergency management conference and exhibition, staged by the industry for the broader emergency management sector.

The 2018 conference brought together 2,814 attendees, made up of:

- a record 1,493 delegates
- a record 592 exhibitors including more than 40 international exhibitors from 14 countries
- 729 visitors to the exhibition.

With a program of more than 130 presentations over the three days, delegates learned about cutting-edge emergency management and natural hazards research, listened to internationally respected keynote speakers, including Air Force Colonel Mike Mullane, a former pilot and NASA astronaut, Mr Craig Fugate, Former FEMA Administrator, Commissioner Eric Yap, Singapore Civil Defence Force and Mr Robert Glasser, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction.

As well as the five-stream AFAC18 program, delegates also had access to the inaugural Australian Disaster Resilience Conference, hosted by the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience.

More than 370 emergency managers and researchers attended the Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre's Research Forum on the first day of the conference, with attendees learning about the innovative ways that the work of cooperative research centres is helping keep communities safer from natural hazards.

Key features of the conference included:

- two-day AFAC18 conference
- one-day research forum
- trade exhibition, featuring the expo stage and live demonstrations
- professional development program
- AFAC18 gala dinner with the 2018 Fire and Emergency Services Awards ceremony.



The Hon. Francis Logan, Mr Murray Lang, Mr Bradley Warr and Commissioner Darren Klemm

Fire and Emergency Services Awards

Firefighting Award Winners

Two firefighting brigades, Tom Price Bush Fire Brigade and Tom Price Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service received the Team Achievement Award for firefighting, recognised for uniting to protect their isolated Pilbara community when a bushfire threatened the town in October 2017.

Callum O'Connell from Tom Price Emergency Services Cadet Corp was recognised for his work in promoting fire safety messages to local primary school children and devising a new road safety initiative along Tom Price-Paraburdoo Road.

Lower South West District Officer Phil Brandrett was awarded the Career Fire and Rescue Service Award for his professionalism and dedication to volunteers, local governments and fellow staff. The lower South West is one of the state's highest bushfire risk areas and Phil regularly goes beyond expectations to resolve issues and take care of volunteer firefighters.

Gyula Bogar won the WA Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service Award for his efforts in protecting his community and ensuring he has a happy and engaged volunteer crew available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Bradley Warr was awarded the Murray Lang Bush Fire Service of WA Award. For Bradley, training and mentoring the Dwellingup Bush Fire Brigade emergency services responders of tomorrow has been a passion for many years. He provides a focus for youth in the area, organising regular boot camps or arranging weekends away to learn and share knowledge and skills with other firefighters.

WA Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services Award was presented to Chris Unstead of the Bullsbrook Volunteer Fire and Emergency Service for his adaptability in all situations and hazards. His excellent incident management and planning skills have helped his brigade ensure their local community has not suffered any significant impacts from bushfire in recent years.

State Emergency Service Award Winners

Belmont/Victoria Park SES volunteer Sarah Hamilton received the Youth Achievement Award. Sarah is an inspiring young volunteer, and the first woman to design and implement a new SES badge for Scouts.

Wanneroo Joondalup SES Training Manager Stephen Faulkner was presented the Peter Keillor Award for his exceptional commitment to SES Cadets, encouraging the next generation of volunteers and ensuring they are well prepared for any emergency.

The SES Team Achievement Award was presented to volunteers from Bayswater, Swan, Kalamunda, Gosnells and Stirling SES units who competed together as a team in the National Disaster Rescue Challenge. Their technical and teamwork skills were put to the test, undertaking eight rescue scenarios.

Volunteer Marine Rescue Services Award Winners

Fremantle Sea Rescue, one of Australia's busiest marine groups, was awarded the Volunteer Marine Rescue Services Team Award for leading the way in adapting cutting-edge marine search and rescue technology. The new technology allows remote monitoring of 11 marine radio channels from any smart device anywhere in the world.

The Commander's Award went to the Volunteer Marine Rescue Services Training Group for their tireless work developing, delivering and streamlining their training package. Eight people from various volunteer rescue groups worked on the training package while continuing their normal volunteer duties.

MAPS-WA Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services Unit

The volunteers of the MAPS-WA unit are mapping professionals that assist with emergency services incidents.

They operate in metropolitan and regional operations centres or at remote locations.

The volunteers' ability to provide mapping expertise throughout long running incidents was rigorously tested this year during Tropical Cyclone Veronica and the Lewana and Esperance bushfires.

The volunteers developed storm surge modelling for Cyclone Veronica and used linescan technology to identify Aboriginal culturally sensitive areas for these bushfires.

A MAPS-WA team member was sent to Esperance bushfires to be part of the Incident Management Team. Their support provided better fatigue management while maintaining mapping support throughout the incident.

State Emergency Services Volunteers' Listening Forum

Emergency Services Minister Francis Logan and Commissioner Darren Klemm facilitated a listening forum for SES volunteers at the Duxton Hotel over the weekend of 1 and 2 December 2018. More than 100 SES volunteers from around the state attended including SES local managers, unit members, the SES Volunteers Association executive team, and select staff.

Volunteers tabled various issues affecting their roles. Robust question and answer sessions were held with the Minister and Commissioner, and a survey was conducted to gather attendees' feedback.

In January 2019 the Commissioner accepted five initiatives from the forum to progress and by March 2019, six working groups consisting of SES volunteers and led by SES District Officers were established.

The groups developed scopes, objectives and milestones for the initiatives and commenced activities for the projects. Quarterly progress reports are presented to the Commissioner to ensure visibility of each initiative. A program control group comprising of staff from Operations Executive, Strategy and Emergency Management and the Office of the Commissioner oversees the program.

The Commissioner provides regular updates to the Minister and initiatives are due for completion by the end of November 2019.

Statement of Strategic Intent: For a Safer State

Our purpose is to make WA a safer state through building resilient communities by helping them prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies.

With this in mind, in 2019 we launched our Statement of Strategic Intent, which outlines our future direction. We recognise that people hold the key to building an effective emergency management service, and so the Statement of Strategic Intent's key initiatives include:

- A cultural change roadmap
- A greater focus on volunteers
- Developing volunteer support frameworks
- Involving volunteers in our planning
- Providing training in working better with volunteers.

Our strategy is driven by community needs, and building a more supportive culture will enable us to address those needs and enhance safety.

The Statement of Strategic Intent is available on our website.



[Click on the document to read our Statement of Strategic Intent.](#)



Focus on Operations

A Very Big Day

From January to May 2019, WA experienced our driest conditions on record. This meant that fuel loads were highly combustible.

Preceding a cold front through the South West, on 6 June 2019 we recorded our third busiest day in history with 284 emergency incidents reported. More than 170 of these incidents were fires, one of which was a complex of fires at Jarrahwood in the South West. In Kewdale, response crews fought a large factory fire.

Earlier in the week, the Bureau of Meteorology had warned us of increasing winds and severe fire conditions, so we were prepared.

Based on our assessment of the heightened risk, the following preparations were implemented:

- a Total Fire Ban was declared over southern parts of the State
- prescribed burning activities were halted
- the availability of staff from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions to attend incidents, if required, was confirmed
- career and volunteer crews were put on standby
- the number of Communications Centre staff and supervisors was increased
- an additional Situation and Analysis Officer was provided
- two helitacs were contracted for the Perth metropolitan area
- six fixed wing bombers were contracted within the South West land division.

While our preparedness and response was effective, we always strive to improve our emergency management services. A review through our lessons learned program helped identify how we may do things even better next time.

Tropical Cyclone Veronica

Tropical Cyclone Veronica, a Category 4 severe tropical cyclone, impacted the Kimberley and Pilbara regions of WA between 18 and 31 March 2019. It was the strongest cyclone in the southern hemisphere this year.

At its peak, there were sustained winds of 195 kilometres per hour bringing significant rainfall and storm surges along the coast. Fortunately, there were no lives lost.

By the morning of 25 March 2019, the cyclone had weakened to a Category 1 system, with winds of 85 kilometres per hour gusting up to 120 kilometres per hour. In the afternoon, the emergency declaration was formally revoked and recovery plans for Port Hedland, Karratha and their surrounding communities were implemented.



The Hon. Francis Logan, Commissioner Darren Klemm and Premier Mark McGowan with volunteers responding to Tropical Cyclone Veronica.

Incident control in Port Hedland was handed over to the local SES manager with ongoing recovery activities by DFES, SES and emergency management partners.

While the damage caused by Tropical Cyclone Veronica to infrastructure was minor, there was significant economic impact with over 2,000 cattle dying from strong wind exposure and heavy rainfall, the major highway was closed for five days and the Pilbara Ports were inoperative for three days.

Staff, volunteers and emergency management partners agree that the preparation, mitigation and response activities were critical in reducing the potential impact of Tropical Cyclone Veronica to people, infrastructure, agriculture and industry. The coordination of agencies in multiple locations to address community needs across multiple incidents was key.

Specifically, rapid response and recovery activities by key emergency management partners in Karratha and Port Hedland, including utility providers and local government, were important during and after the cyclone.

Rural Fire Division Update

Bushfire Centre of Excellence

The Bushfire Centre of Excellence was established in partnership with the bushfire management sector. More than 200 stakeholders provided 1,330 ideas for the service delivery model and key functions of the centre.

Chief Superintendent John Tillman said the centre would harness knowledge and provide valuable information and experience in bushfire management and be a network for research, planned burning practices, lessons learned and training for rural firefighters, including volunteers.

“Premier Mark McGowan and the Minister for Emergency Services Francis Logan announced in March that the Centre will be constructed in the Peel Business Park outside of Pinjarra and work is already underway to find a site in the new Peel Business Park near the shire’s planned Agri-Innovation Precinct,” John said.

The building’s design will include input from the local Bindjareb Community and the Shire of Murray.

The Centre, while expected to be completed in 2020, will operate from a temporary facility in Pinjarra until then.

The centre’s strategic objectives, priorities and principles for 2019-20 can be found [here](#).

The [Bushfire Centre of Excellence](#) webpage provides more information.

Bushfire Mitigation

Hazard reduction is a critical component of effective bushfire risk management and reducing the impact of bushfire on communities. More than 92% of WA’s land area is Crown land with responsibility to manage bushfire risk shared across a number of government agencies.

Having taken on management of almost one million hectares of Crown land on behalf of the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, our new responsibilities include mitigation activities such as prescribed burning, chemical and mechanical fuel modification and community engagement activities.

To improve coordination and funding for this important activity, a new interdepartmental Committee for ‘Bushfire Mitigation on Crown Land’ was established. This new Committee effectively supports a whole of government, State wide risk based approach to manage bushfire mitigation on the State’s Crown land.

A number of the 2018-19 burns, conducted in Glen Forrest, Mahogany Creek and Sawyers Valley, were part of the government reserves management strategy.

Superintendent Mark Bowen of the Bushfire Risk Management Branch said the mitigation burns were a joint operation between staff, volunteers, local governments and other stakeholders.

“Our staff not only helped with on-ground resources, but also mentored trainee burn controllers, overseeing all aspects of the burns,” Mark said.

Our Bushfire Risk Management Planning Program supports local governments implement bushfire mitigation plans in their local area. To support local governments, we have 11 Bushfire Risk Management Officers who assist in identifying risks and developing Bushfire Risk Management Plans. They are also key facilitators in the assessment, prioritisation and mitigation processes to reduce bushfire risk.



Volunteers conducting bushfire mitigation burns.



Click on the photo to see the new Incident Response and Information System.

Incident Response and Information System

In 2018 the new mobility solution, the Incident Response and Information System (IRIS), was introduced into career fire and rescue appliances in metropolitan and country locations. Installation is expected to be completed next financial year. IRIS provides real-time incident information to improve situational awareness for responding crews and reduces the need for radio communications. We expect the IRIS implementation to improve our reported emergency response times.

The IRIS dashboard was designed to increase users' capability by providing access to live weather reports, aerial fire suppression support and operational links and information. IRIS improves our service delivery to the community.

Total Fire Bans

On 2 October 2018 Emergency Services Minister Francis Logan announced new tougher penalties for breaches of total fire bans.

Minister Logan said total fire bans were issued to protect the community and emergency services personnel on days when weather conditions would make a bushfire extremely hard to control or when firefighting resources were stretched.

"During the 2016-17 bushfire season almost one-third of out of control fires on total fire ban days started as a result of banned fire activities. This is unacceptable and we are taking a tougher stance on people who ignore total fire bans this summer," Minister Logan said.

Minister Logan said the introduction of a \$1,000 on the spot fine brought the penalty for breaching a total fire ban in WA into line with other states.

"The new penalties reflect the seriousness of breaching a total fire ban and I am confident they will help reduce the risk of devastating bushfires during summer," Minister Logan said.

Along with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, WA Police and local governments, we now have authority to issue penalties.

Agencies can also take further action by prosecuting repeat offenders or more serious offences with a fine of up to \$25,000 and/or 12 months imprisonment.

Total fire bans prohibit the lighting of any open air fire. This includes deliberately lit fires, burn offs, cooking with open-fire appliances or campfires; or activities that could start a fire including using an incinerator, welding, grinding, soldering or gas cutting.



[Click on the Total Fire Ban logo to watch the Minister's announcement.](#)

Decision Support Tool for Mitigating the Impacts of Emergencies in WA

WA is exposed to natural hazards and, as the risk of these hazards increase with climate change, our policy, planning and investment decisions need to change appropriately. Managing the changing risks presented to communities and assets by natural hazards is a complex challenge and requires collaboration across agencies and an understanding of the drivers of risk.

We have partnered with the University of Adelaide's Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre and received funding from the National Disaster Resilience Plan to develop and apply the Unified Natural Hazard Risk Mitigation Exploratory Decision (UNHARMED) support tool.

Mr Tim McNaught from the Office of Bushfire Risk Management said UNHARMED would help model future scenarios and assess the policy, planning and investment options for optimal hazard reduction.

"UNHARMED will also help us determine the best mitigation options for bushfires, coastal inundations and earthquakes using cost benefit ratios for preparedness," Tim said.

"It will be able to run scenarios such as the application of construction standards over a developing area versus the absence of standards and highlight the different impacts of a hazard on a community."

The software uses the knowledge of 11 government agencies, local governments and the University of Western Australia, and is applied to an area of WA from Gingin to Augusta-Margaret River and east to Boyup Brook, including the Perth metropolitan area.

Tim said individual agencies and inter-agency partners would use the UNHARMED tool to design scenario exercises to further refine the software and help improve planning for managing emergencies.



An Urban Search and Rescue team exercising a structural collapse scenario.



Trained Urban Search and Rescue dog Banjo took part in the exercise. Click on the photo to watch the video.

"Training for the project's first phase was provided for key state government stakeholders in March 2019 and several scenario workshops are planned with local governments in September 2019," Tim said.

"Training across government will be rolled out in early to mid-2020".

Urban Search and Rescue Major Exercise

We are responsible for managing building collapses and landslide incidents including any subsequent search and rescue operations.

To make sure we are ready, it is imperative we exercise our skills each year. In October 2018, we held our annual Urban Search and Rescue exercise at the decommissioned Hamilton Hill High School. The scenario involved a light aircraft crashing into a multi-story school building causing a gas leak explosion and trapping dozens of students in debris, cutting them off from escape.

Superintendent Jon Newman said the multi-agency field exercise was designed to test our capabilities in the event of building collapse.

"The simulation ran for 24 hours with personnel from the Career Fire and Rescue Service, Urban Search and Rescue and Volunteer Canine Unit, as well as St John Ambulance, Department of Health and WA Police" Jon said.

"The exercise tested many aspects of responding to a complex structural collapse including command, control and coordination of multi-agency operations, technical and canine search techniques, rescue of people trapped under debris, and treatment and transfer of casualties in a difficult, hazardous environment."

Jon said the exercise was a success and reinforced the value of regular inter-agency training activities.

Lending a Helping Hand

Over 70 fires caused by lightning strikes occurred in Tasmania in December 2018 and January 2019. These were the largest fires in Tasmania since 1967.

Several world heritage sites were threatened by the fires as they burned through bushland across the State of Tasmania.

The huge response required was unable to be met by the Tasmania Fire Service so a request to assist was made to fire and emergency service agencies across Australia.

Six taskforces from WA were formed with 66 people from our own ranks and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. A local government fire control officer joined the teams deployed to assist Hobart and Burnie.

The size of this deployment was a considerable undertaking for WA as the Tasmanian request came at the height of our own southern bushfire season.

Fortunately, through the efforts of all the responders, no lives were lost and property damage was kept to a minimum.

Emergency Rescue Helicopter Service

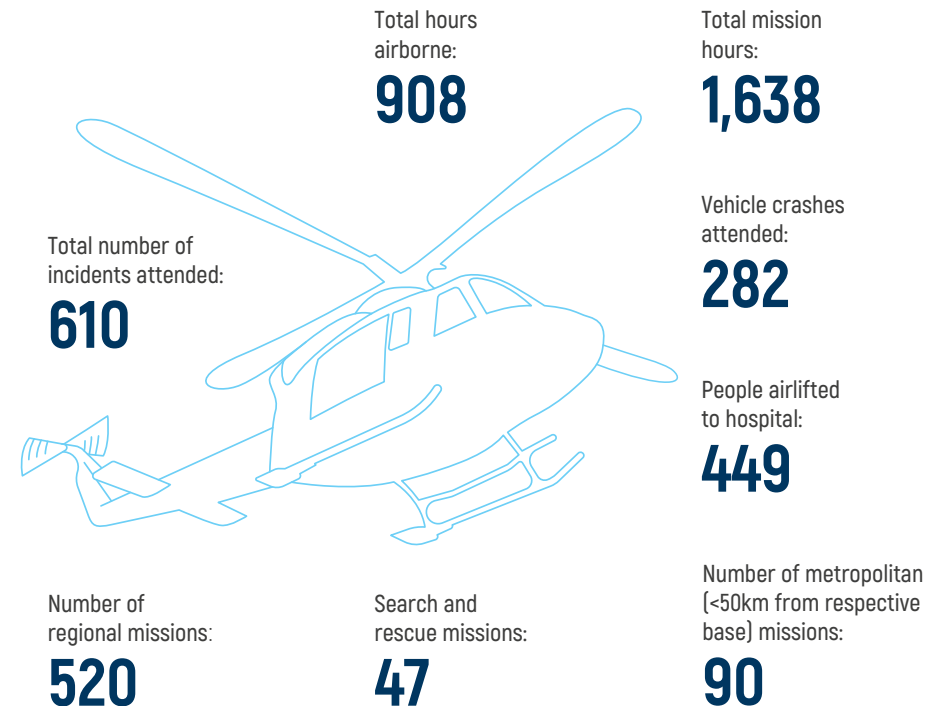
Our two emergency rescue helicopters, one based in Perth and one in Bunbury, cover 95% of the state's population.

The helicopters flew more than 600 missions last year, providing crucial medical and transport services to people involved in road crashes, farming accidents and marine incidents.

Since the inaugural flight in August 2003, the two helicopters have completed more than 6,600 missions.

The crews include a pilot, air crew officer and St John Ambulance critical care paramedic. A doctor may also be on board during critical hospital transfers.

Emergency rescue helicopters 2018-19 performance (Jandakot and Bunbury combined):

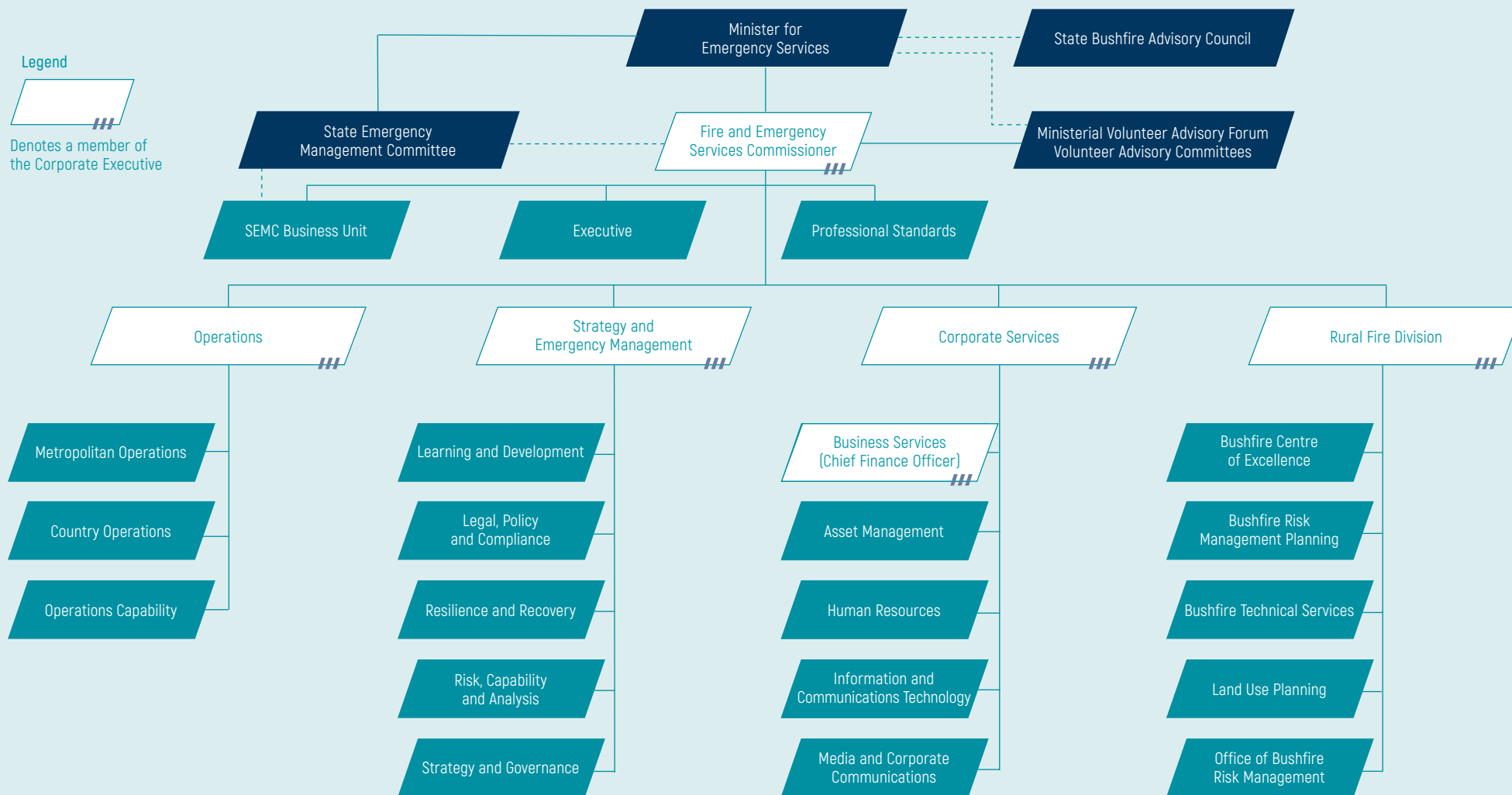


This vital air service transports critical care specialists to an incident and airlifts the injured to the nearest or most suitable hospital. The helicopters significantly reduce transport time which means higher survival rates, reduced hospital time, shorter rehabilitation periods, and better patient and community outcomes.



Corporate Structure

Organisational Chart as at 30 June 2019





Commissioner Darren Klemm AFSM

(Fire and Emergency Services)

Commissioner Darren Klemm was appointed on 18 September 2017. Commissioner Klemm has more than 27 years' experience in fire and emergency services, including three years with the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service before joining the WA Fire Brigades Board in 1993.

Commissioner Klemm is a member of a number of national emergency management committees and holds a Graduate Certificate in Management from the Australian Institute of Management. He was awarded the Australian Fire Service Medal in 2017.

The Office of the Commissioner is made up of:

- Executive
- Professional Standards
- SEMC Business Unit.



Deputy Commissioner Gary Gifford ESM

(Operations Command)

Deputy Commissioner Gary Gifford has more than 40 years' experience in the defence and emergency services industries.

Deputy Commissioner Gifford has been involved in emergency management at a national level for more than 15 years and holds a Graduate Certificate in Emergency Management. He was awarded the Australian Emergency Services Medal in 2010.

Operations Command is made up of:

- Country Operations
- Metropolitan Operations
- Operations Capability.



Deputy Commissioner Mal Cronstedt AFSM

[Strategy and Emergency Management Command]

Deputy Commissioner Mal Cronstedt has more than 41 years' experience in volunteer and career fire and emergency services.

After joining the WA Bush Fires Board in 1982, he held various operational and support roles in WA and NSW before becoming the inaugural Director, Office of Bushfire Risk Management in 2012, the Executive Director of the State Emergency Management Committee Secretariat in 2016 and re-joining us in 2018.

Deputy Commissioner Cronstedt holds a Master of Business Administration from Curtin University, a Graduate Diploma in Disaster Management from Swinburne University and a Bachelor of Arts from Edith Cowan University. He is also a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, the Institution of Fire Engineers and the Australia and New Zealand School of Government's Executive Fellows Program.

Strategy and Emergency Management Command is made up of:

- Learning and Development
- Legal, Policy and Compliance
- Resilience and Recovery
- Risk, Capability and Analysis
- Strategy and Governance.



Executive Director Richard Burnell MBA, BBus

[Corporate Services Command]

Mr Richard Burnell joined us in September 2015 and was appointed Executive Director in December 2018.

He has more than 30 years' experience in accounting and finance, commercial management, business re-organisation and change management, business process re-engineering, cost management and project delivery of enterprise-wide programs, in a range of private sector industries in Australia and overseas.

Mr Burnell holds a Master of Business Administration from the University of New England, New South Wales and a Bachelor of Business from the WA Institute of Technology (now Curtin University).

Corporate Services Command is made up of:

- Asset Management
- Business Services
- Human Resources
- Information and Communications Technology
- Media and Corporate Communications.



Executive Director Mr Murray Carter

(Rural Fire Division)

Mr Murray Carter has extensive experience in rural fire management.

He joined the former Forests Department as a 17 year old cadet and spent 13 years with Conservation and Land Management conducting prescribed burns and fighting large scale bushfires in country WA.

Mr Carter served as Chief Executive Officer, Lord Howe Island before joining the WA public service with the Department of Parks and Wildlife and DFES leading key reforms in rural fire management.

He serves on various Boards and Committees, is the current Chair of the Australasian Fire and Emergency Services Authorities Council Rural and Land Management Group and Board Director of the International Association of Wildland Fire.

The Rural Fire Division is made up of:

- Bushfire Centre of Excellence
- Bushfire Risk Management Planning
- Bushfire Technical Services
- Land Use Planning
- Office of Bushfire Risk Management



Ms Georgina Camarda

(Chief Finance Officer)

Ms Georgina Camarda joined us in October 2012 in the dual roles of Director of Business Services and Chief Finance Officer.

Ms Camarda has more than 23 years' experience in financial management. She has 17 years' experience with the Office of the Auditor General specialising in Assurance Services and undertook a 12 month secondment to the Office of the Auditor General of British Columbia in 2012. She has also completed 12 months service with the Australian Army Reserve.

Ms Camarda's Special Commendation for WA's Institute of Public Administration Australia Finance Practitioner of the Year in 2018 is recognition of her commitment to her profession and technical expertise.

She holds a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Western Australia and is a Certified Practising Accountant.



Deputy Commissioner Lloyd Bailey. Click on photo to watch video of testimonials

Deputy Commissioner Lloyd Bailey AFSM Retires

On 15 February 2019, we said farewell to Deputy Commissioner Lloyd Bailey AFSM, one of our longest serving staff members. Lloyd dedicated 44 years to emergency services, starting as a volunteer firefighter with Armadale Volunteer Fire Brigade in 1974. In 1980 he joined the career Fire and Rescue Service.

Lloyd spent many years working in various management positions across WA and held the position of Deputy Commissioner Operations from 2012.

Lloyd was a pioneer of Urban Search and Rescue and was deployed to Thredbo to help free those trapped in the tragic 1997 landslide. In 2006 Lloyd was also sent to Yogyakarta Indonesia to assist with recovery work following a devastating earthquake.

During his distinguished career, Lloyd was awarded an Australian Fire Service Medal, National Medal with 2nd clasp, Emergency Services Diligent Service Medal with 35 year clasp and the Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service 10 Year Service Medal.

Lloyd's contribution to WA emergency services has been outstanding and his legacy will live on through the many people he has worked with and inspired.

Vision Mission and Values

Vision

Resilient Western Australian communities that work together to build capability and capacity to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies

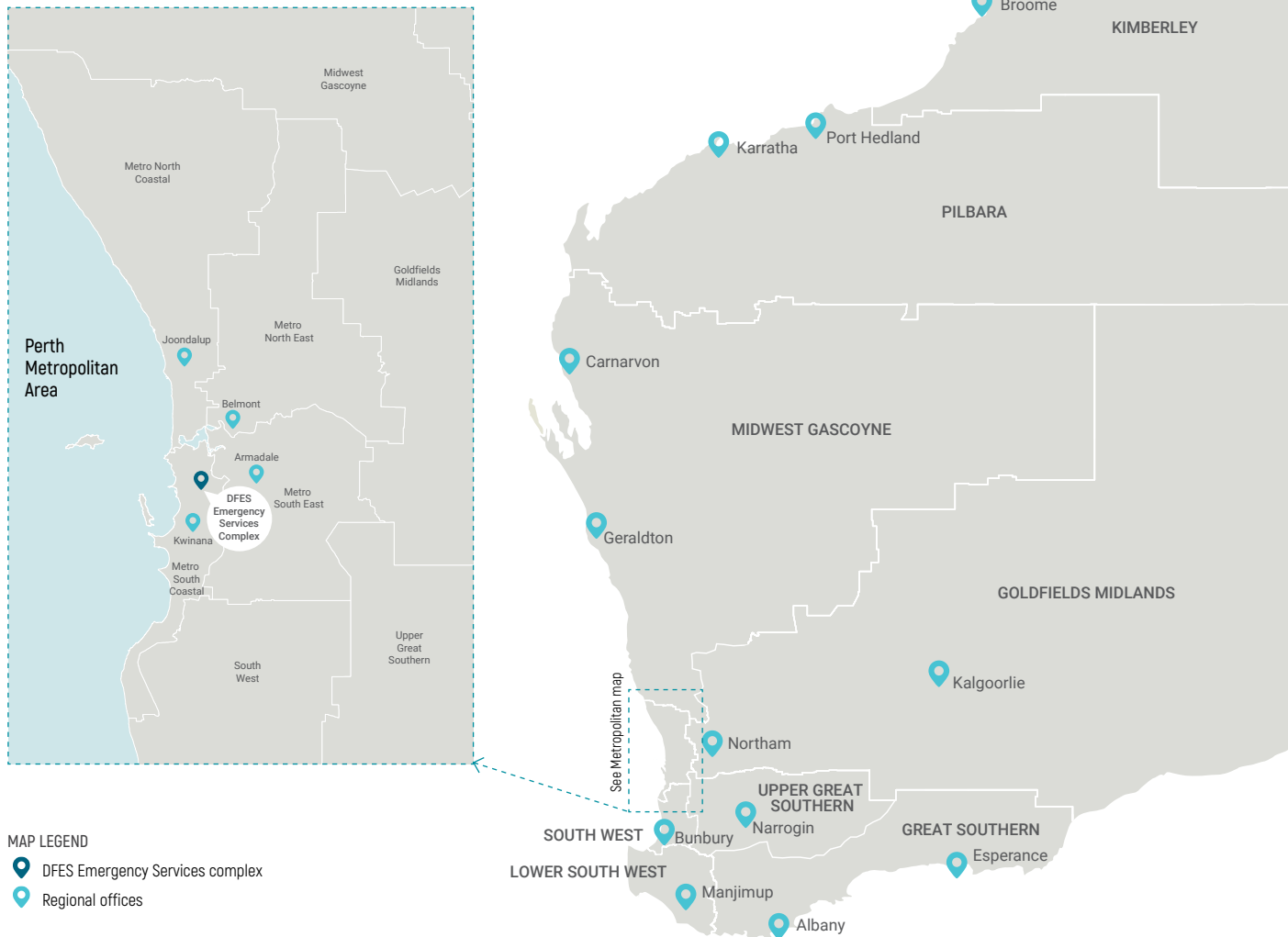
Mission

To improve community safety practices and provide timely, quality and effective emergency services, in partnership with local communities and emergency management partners

Values

Put the community first We share the responsibility to prevent and mitigate hazards with the community	Work together as a committed team We cannot do it alone	Respect and value each other People are respected and diversity is embraced at DFES	Continuously improve our services DFES continuously looks for better ways to work	Act with integrity and honesty We acknowledge that we are in a position of trust and are an example to others	Have open, honest and two way communication DFES shares its objectives and goals	Strive to keep ourselves and others safe We don't put ourselves or others in harm's way
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Our Locations



MAP LEGEND

- DFES Emergency Services complex
- Regional offices

KIMBERLEY			
2	22	12	494
PILBARA			
2	27	14	656
MIDWEST GASCOYNE			
2	107	40	2,461
GOLDFIELDS MIDLANDS			
3	132	37	3,344
PERTH METROPOLITAN			
31	100	1,500	4,589
UPPER GREAT SOUTHERN			
1	100	8	3,483
GREAT SOUTHERN			
2	131	44	4,971
SOUTH WEST			
2	50	63	1,671
LOWER SOUTH WEST			
1	122	21	4,809

TABLE LEGEND

- DFES offices/stations
- Volunteer brigades/groups/units (includes Bush Fire Service Volunteers)
- Paid personnel
- Total volunteers

Organisational Profile

Our people in executive, technical and administrative roles support local governments in administering, training and funding the Bush Fire Service, Emergency Services Cadets and junior programs and:



1,190 career Fire and Rescue Service and 2,371 Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service members



1,752 Volunteer Marine Rescue Services members



19,521 Volunteer Bush Fire Service members



1,839 State Emergency Service members



1,009 Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services members

The Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner is the Hazard Management Agency in WA for:



Shared Responsibilities with Other Agencies

Weather Warnings

We share with the Bureau of Meteorology a responsibility to ensure WA communities are informed and supported in preparing for severe weather event emergencies. We have a close working relationship, underpinned by a Memorandum of Understanding. A bureau meteorologist is based in the State Operations Centre and provides current weather conditions and forecasts for incident managers.

Arson Reduction

We work closely with WA Police and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions to reduce arson. A joint agency campaign encourages the community, particularly in areas vulnerable to bushfire, to be vigilant against arsonists and report suspicious behaviour. Our Extinguish Arson Database is an important tool and enables Fire Investigation Officers and WA Police to identify trends and monitor suspicious fire activity to combat arson.

Search and Rescue

WA Police has management responsibility for the State's air, land and marine search and rescue operations. Our State Emergency Service units and Volunteer Marine Rescue Services groups carry these out and provide search and rescue teams and local area knowledge.

State Operations Air Desk

We have joint management responsibility with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions for the State's aerial suppression assets. The State Operations Air Desk operates from the Emergency Services Complex, Cockburn. It is jointly resourced to carry out the tasks of dispatch and co-ordination of fire surveillance and suppression aircraft.

State Emergency Rescue Helicopter Services

We manage the contracts for the State's two emergency rescue helicopters. Sponsorship for the helicopters is provided by the RAC and critical care paramedics are provided under a contract arrangement with St John Ambulance. Helicopters and crews are provided under private contract.

Administered Legislation

Administered Legislation and Changes to Written Law

DFES was established on 1 November 2012 and operates under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1998*.

Administered Legislation

DFES assists the Minister in the administration of the following Acts along with associated subsidiary legislation:

Bush Fires Act 1954

Emergency Services Levy Act 2002

Fire and Emergency Services Act 1998

Fire Brigades Act 1942

We also provide support to the State Emergency Management Committee which is responsible for assisting the Minister to administer the *Emergency Management Act 2005* and *Emergency Management Regulations 2006*.

Changes to Written Law

There were no changes to written law impacting our operations.

Significant Issues Impacting the Agency

Emergency Management Landscape

We are facing a changing emergency management landscape, impacted by climate, demographic, societal and technological changes. Our planning directions will therefore focus on shared stakeholder responsibility in community emergency management and enhanced communication and regional coordination. We will also continue to work with other agencies to ensure information and communications technologies are designed and delivered collaboratively, cost effectively and in a timely manner.

Bushfire Management

We are committed to continuously improving the State's bushfire management capability in conjunction with key stakeholders. A total of \$25.8 million will be spent on enhancing bushfire management in 2019-20:

- \$6.2 million on the Bushfire Centre of Excellence
- \$13 million on bushfire mitigation
- \$4.3 million on bushfire risk management planning
- \$2.4 million on rural fire support.

The Bushfire Centre of Excellence was announced in April 2018 to enhance the State's rural and bushfire capability, enable greater collaboration across the emergency services sector and strengthen relationships with emergency services volunteers. Functional design of the centre is well underway, informed by extensive stakeholder consultation, and will be constructed at the Peel Business Park, Nambelup in the Shire of Murray.

Legacy Firefighting Foams

We will pursue strategies with relevant stakeholders to continue investigations at our current and former sites into the possible presence of chemical residue from legacy firefighting foams. Blood testing has been made available to all past and present employees and volunteers that may have been exposed to these chemical residues.

Investment in the South West Region – Collie

We will increase fire and emergency capability and capacity in the South West region with the State Government's announcement that \$8 million of Royalties for Regions funding is to be invested in establishing a Multi-purpose Facility in Collie.

The facility will better support multi-agency operations, reduce risk and improve response, training, communication and emergency management. The new multi-purpose facility will create long-term and sustainable employment and contribute to economic development in the region.

Emergency Services Act

Drafting of the new Emergency Services Act is anticipated to commence in 2019-20. The proposed legislation will amalgamate and modernise current emergency services legislation, and clarify responsibilities for prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.

Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Framework

Climate change continues to manifest itself through increased likelihood and impact of natural hazards such as cyclones, storms, flooding and bushfires. The Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Framework has been endorsed by all Australian jurisdictions. Funding negotiations are ongoing to support this new mitigation and resilience strategy, through a renewed National Partnership Agreement.

Performance Management Framework

Changes to Outcome Based Management Framework

We received approval for changes to our Outcome Based Management Framework in 2018-19.

Three Key Performance Indicators were removed as they did not accurately represent the Outcomes they were reported under. These were:

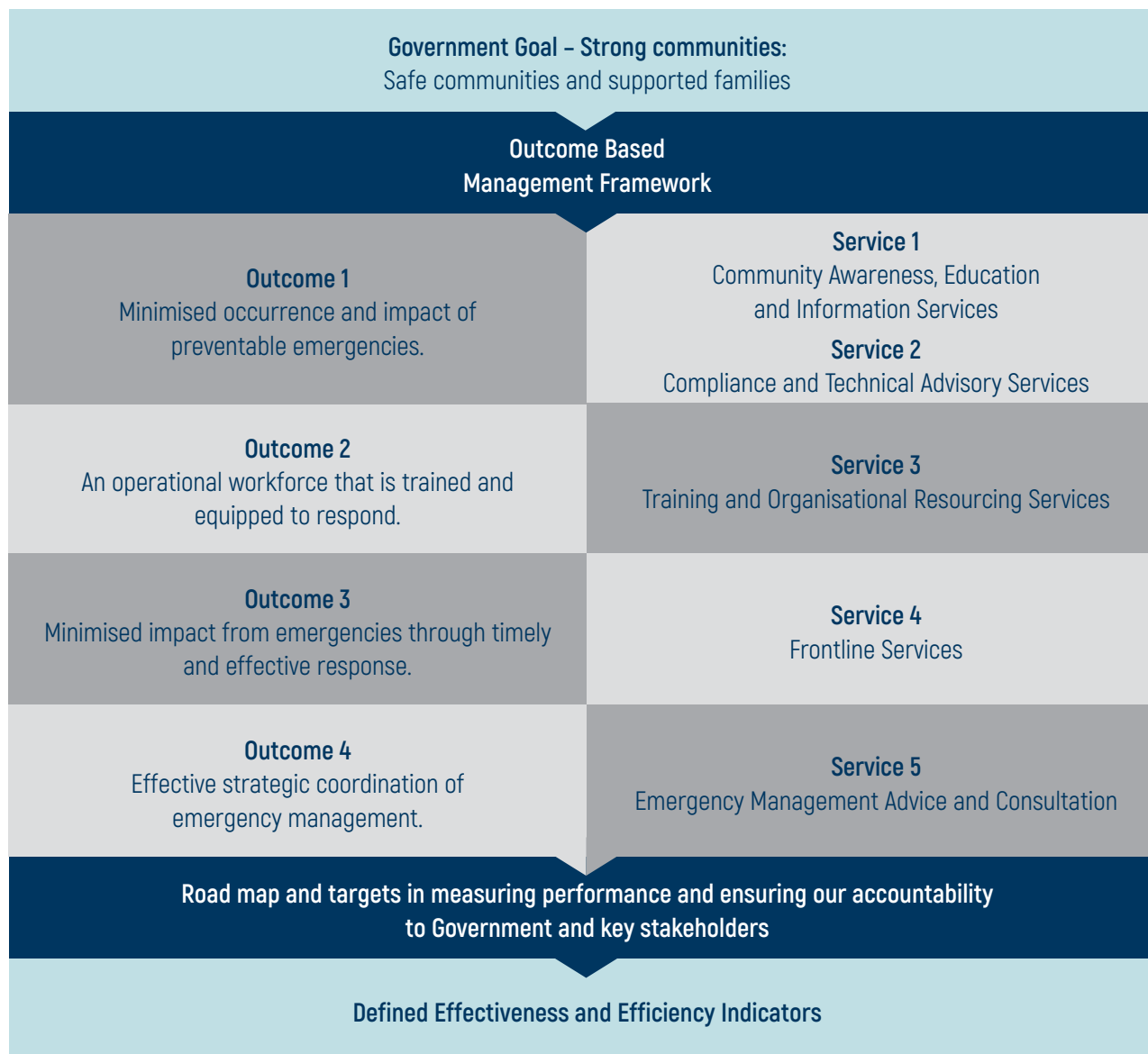
- Proportion of dangerous goods sites with a current Fire and Emergency Service Emergency Response Guide
- Number of Community Based Bushfire Ready Groups established
- Proportion of DFES operational volunteers actively engaged in Pathways training.

The counting rules for two Key Performance Indicators were amended following Machinery of Government amalgamation of DFES and the Office of Emergency Management. These are:

- Stakeholder assessment of strategic coordination of emergency management
- Average hourly cost of providing emergency management advice and consultation.

The desired Outcome 'Minimised impact of natural hazard emergencies' was also removed.

These changes are reflected in this reporting period making our indicators more meaningful.



Financial Statements and Performance Indicators



Financial Targets Summary

Resource Agreement (Treasurer's Instruction 808)

The following performance information (financial and non-financial) is the subject of a Resource Agreement signed by the Minister for Emergency Services, the Treasurer and DFES under Part 3, Division 5 of the *Financial Management Act 2006*. Resources are provided for the delivery of five services linked to four agency level outcomes.

Financial Targets Summary (Further Detail is Provided in the Financial Statements)

Performance is monitored against financial targets and through our Key Performance Indicators. Performance results for 2018-19 are shown below. Further explanations are contained in Note 9.13 'Explanatory statement' to the Financial Statements.

	2018/19 Target (\$'000)	2018/19 Actual (\$'000)	Variation (\$'000)	Reason for Significant Variation between Target and Actual
Total cost of services (expense limit) [sourced from Statement of Comprehensive Income]	429,881	435,488	5,607	The variance is mainly due to unanticipated costs associated with wildfire suppression and State Emergency Service's response and recovery operations.
Net cost of services [sourced from Statement of Comprehensive Income]	17,684	6,723	(10,961)	The variance is mainly due to increased revenue as a result of higher than anticipated assessment of the Emergency Services Levy liability and additional grants for bushfire mitigation and aerial firefighting operations.
Total equity [sourced from Statement of Financial Position]	426,368	434,961	8,593	The variance is mainly due to the building revaluation increase and additional revenue recognised resulting in a greater surplus for the period than estimated.
Approved salary expense level	187,762	189,448	(1,686)	The variance is mainly due to unanticipated costs associated with wildfire suppression and State Emergency Service's response and recovery operations.
Agreed borrowing limit	42,995	36,556	(6,439)	The variation is largely due to the delays in the capital works program hence the reduced need for borrowings in 2018-19.

Key Performance Indicator Summary

KEY

- ✓ We are achieving our goals
- ✗ Desired result not achieved – taking action

To keep track of how we're performing, we have a series of Key Performance Indicators which are linked to each of our outcomes and services. The following tables summarise how we performed against each in 2018-19. Further information is provided in the Performance Indicators section of this report.

	Target	Achieved	Status	Explanatory notes
Outcome 1: Minimised occurrence and impact of preventable emergencies				
Number of accidental residential structure fires per 100,000 households	65	60.5	✓	143
Proportion of building plans assessed within specified timeframes	95%	98.03%	✓	144
Outcome 2: An operational workforce that is trained and equipped to respond				
Number of operational personnel endorsed as L3 Incident Managers	22	24	✓	148
Proportion of assets within specified replacement period parameters	85%	81%	✗	149
Proportion of first round Local Government Grant Scheme offers accepted	70%	74.51%	✓	150
Outcome 3: Minimised impact from emergencies through timely and effective response				
Proportion of responses to ESL 1 and ESL 2 incidents within target timeframes	90%	85.2%	✗	152
Proportion of DFES volunteer turnouts within target timeframes	90%	90.75%	✓	153
Proportion of structure fires confined to object or room of origin	72%	73.62%	✓	154
Proportion of Level 2 and Level 3 bushfires where no structures are lost or significantly damaged	95%	95.45%	✓	155
Outcome 4: Effective strategic coordination of emergency management				
Stakeholder assessment of strategic coordination of emergency management	68%	69.42%	✓	157

	Target	Achieved	Status	Explanatory notes
Service 1: Community Awareness, Education and Information Services				
Average cost per WA household to deliver emergency hazard information and awareness programs	\$8.68	\$8.05	✓	145
Service 2: Compliance and Technical Advisory Services				
Average cost per building plan assessed	\$335	\$339.43	✗	146
Average cost per engaged local government to support Bushfire Risk Management programs	\$263,695	\$233,872.28	✓	147
Service 3: Training and Organisational Resourcing Services				
Average cost per participant to deliver operational Pathways training	\$1,700	\$1,322.98	✓	151
Service 4: Frontline Services				
Average cost to deliver frontline services per Western Australian	\$105.40	\$117.49	✗	156
Service 5: Emergency management advice and consultation				
Average hourly cost of providing emergency management advice and consultation	\$54	\$49.21	✓	158

Certification of Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019

The accompanying financial statements of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2006* from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the reporting period ended 30 June 2019 and the financial position as at 30 June 2019.

At the date of signing we are not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.



G Camarda BCom CPA
Chief Finance Officer

23 August 2019



D Klemm AFSM
Accountable Authority

23 August 2019

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2019

	Note	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
COST OF SERVICES			
Expenses			
Employee benefits expense	3.1	216,409	206,297
Supplies and services	3.3	130,207	103,072
Depreciation and amortisation	5.1, 5.2	23,244	18,398
Finance costs	7.2	1,568	1,798
Accommodation expenses	3.3	10,806	10,889
Grants and subsidies	3.2	44,887	50,552
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	4.6	–	214
Other expenditure	3.3	8,367	7,375
Total cost of services		435,488	398,595
Income			
<i>Revenue</i>			
User charges and fees	4.1	404,687	368,083
Commonwealth grants and contributions	4.3	13,323	4,470
Interest revenue	4.4	140	200
Other revenue	4.5	9,723	7,315
Total revenue		427,873	380,068

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

	Note	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
<i>Gains</i>			
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	4.6	892	-
Total gains		892	-
Total income other than income from State Government		428,765	380,068
NET COST OF SERVICES		6,723	18,527
INCOME FROM STATE GOVERNMENT			
	4.2		
Service appropriation		23,209	25,159
Services received free of charge		3,314	839
Royalties for Regions Fund		5,487	14,428
Total income from State Government		32,010	40,426
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD		25,287	21,899
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Items not reclassified subsequently to profit or loss			
Changes in asset revaluation surplus	9.10	2,358	374
Total other comprehensive income		2,358	374
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD		27,645	22,273

See also note 2.2 'Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service'.

The Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2019

	Note	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	7.3	58,729	56,711
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	7.3	11,082	1,039
Inventories	6.3	5,513	3,659
Receivables	6.1	11,683	5,167
Other current assets	6.4	2,091	2,431
Total current assets		89,098	69,007
Non-current assets			
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	7.3	2,002	1,283
Amounts receivable for services	6.2	46,566	38,593
Property, plant and equipment	5.1	379,252	372,821
Intangible assets	5.2	14,905	13,015
Total non-current assets		442,725	425,712
TOTAL ASSETS		531,823	494,719

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2019 (continued)

	Note	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables	6.5	21,246	17,436
Borrowings	7.1	2,440	2,440
Employee related provisions	3.1	27,751	25,839
Other current liabilities	6.6	26	24
Total current liabilities		51,463	45,739
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings	7.1	34,116	36,556
Employee related provisions	3.1	11,283	10,179
Total non-current liabilities		45,399	46,735
TOTAL LIABILITIES		96,862	92,474
NET ASSETS			
EQUITY			
	9.10		
Contributed equity		358,315	353,244
Reserves		46,538	44,180
Accumulated surplus		30,108	4,821
TOTAL EQUITY		434,961	402,245

See also note 2.3 'Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service'.

The Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2019

	Note	Contributed equity ('S000)	Reserves ('S000)	Accumulated surplus / (deficit) ('S000)	Total equity ('S000)
BALANCE AT 1 JULY 2017	9.10	350,102	43,806	(17,078)	376,830
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		-	-	21,899	21,899
Other comprehensive income		-	374	-	374
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD		-	374	21,899	22,273
TRANSACTIONS WITH OWNERS IN THEIR CAPACITY AS OWNERS:					
Capital appropriations		-	-	-	-
Other contributions by owners		3,142	-	-	3,142
Distributions to owners		-	-	-	-
Total		3,142	-	-	3,142
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2018	9.10	353,244	44,180	4,821	402,245
BALANCE AT 1 JULY 2018	9.10	353,244	44,180	4,821	402,245
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		-	-	25,287	25,287
Other comprehensive income		-	2,358	-	2,358
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME/(LOSS) FOR THE PERIOD		-	2,358	25,287	27,645

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

	Note	Contributed equity (' \$000)	Reserves (' \$000)	Accumulated surplus / (deficit) (' \$000)	Total equity (' \$000)
TRANSACTIONS WITH OWNERS IN THEIR CAPACITY AS OWNERS:					
Capital appropriations		-	-	-	-
Other contributions by owners		5,071	-	-	5,071
Distributions to owners		-	-	-	-
Total		5,071	-	-	5,071
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2019	9.10	358,315	46,538	30,108	434,961

The Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2019

	Note	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT			
Receipts			
Service appropriation		15,460	18,248
Royalties for Regions Fund		5,487	15,990
Net cash provided by State Government		20,947	34,238
Utilised as follows:			
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Employee benefits		(212,561)	(207,434)
Supplies and services		(128,163)	(97,884)
Finance costs		(1,614)	(1,887)
Accommodation		(10,147)	(10,734)
Grants and subsidies		(43,864)	(41,573)
GST payments on purchases		(20,669)	(18,835)
Other payments		(8,327)	(7,362)
Receipts			
User fees and charges		404,199	367,825
Commonwealth grants and contributions		8,236	7,549
Interest received		140	200

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

	Note	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
GST receipts on sales		2,251	2,330
GST receipts from taxation authority		18,151	16,913
Other receipts		9,367	3,823
Net cash used in operating activities	7.3	16,999	12,931
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Purchase of non-current assets		(29,505)	(37,398)
Receipts			
Proceeds from the sale of non-current assets	4.6	1,097	8,511
Net cash used in investing activities		(28,408)	(28,887)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Repayment of borrowings		(2,440)	(9,390)
Net cash used in financing activities		(2,440)	(9,390)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		7,098	8,892
Cash balance transferred in from:			
Former Office of Emergency Management		5,682	-
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		59,033	50,141
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD	7.3	71,813	59,033

The Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Summary of Consolidated Account Appropriations and Income Estimates

for the year ended 30 June 2019

	2019 Estimate (\$'000)	2019 Actual (\$'000)	Variance (\$'000)	2019 Actual (\$'000)	2018 Actual (\$'000)	Variance (\$'000)
Delivery of Services						
Item 59 Net amount appropriated to deliver services	22,771	22,168	603	22,168	24,118	(1,950)
Amount authorised by other Statutes						
– Salaries and Allowances Act 1975	1,041	1,041	–	1,041	1,041	–
Total appropriations provided to deliver services	23,812	23,209	603	23,209	25,159	(1,950)
Capital						
Capital appropriations	–	–	–	–	–	–
Administered Transactions						
Item 60 Western Australia Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery						
Arrangements	45,000	48,622	(3,622)	48,622	102,900	(54,278)
Total administered transactions	45,000	48,622	(3,622)	48,622	102,900	(54,278)
GRAND TOTAL	68,812	71,831	(3,019)	71,831	128,059	(56,228)
Details of Expenses by Service						
Community Awareness, Education and Information Services	9,636	8,082	1,554	8,082	8,951	(869)
Compliance and Technical Advisory Services	30,404	32,602	(2,198)	32,602	20,140	12,462
Training and Organisational Resourcing Services	99,897	83,425	16,472	83,425	102,997	(19,572)
Frontline Services	278,195	309,229	(31,034)	309,229	266,507	42,722
Emergency Management Advice and Consultation	11,749	2,150	9,599	2,150	–	2,150

Summary of Consolidated Account Appropriations and Income Estimates

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

	2019 Estimate ('000)	2019 Actual ('000)	Variance ('000)	2019 Actual ('000)	2018 Actual ('000)	Variance ('000)
Total cost of services	429,881	435,488	(5,607)	435,488	398,595	36,893
<i>Less</i> Total income	(372,003)	(428,765)	56,762	(428,765)	(380,068)	(48,697)
Net cost of services	57,878	6,723	51,155	6,723	18,527	(11,804)
Adjustments	(34,066)	16,486	(50,552)	16,486	6,632	9,854
Total appropriations provided to deliver services	23,812	23,209	603	23,209	25,159	(1,950)
Capital expenditure						
Purchase of non-current assets	34,818	29,505	5,313	29,505	37,398	(7,893)
Repayment of borrowings	11,639	2,440	9,199	2,440	9,390	(6,950)
Adjustments for other funding sources	(46,457)	(31,945)	(14,512)	(31,945)	(46,788)	14,843
Capital appropriations	-	-	-	-	-	-

Adjustments comprise movements in cash balances and other accrual items such as receivables, payables and superannuation.

Note 9.13 'Explanatory statement' and 10.2 'Explanatory statement for administered items' provide details of any significant variations between estimates and actual results for 2019 and between the actual results for 2019 and 2018.

1 Basis of preparation

The Department is a WA Government entity and is controlled by the State of Western Australia, which is the ultimate parent. The Department is a not-for-profit entity (as profit is not its principal objective). These annual financial statements were authorised for issue by the Accountable Authority of the Department on 23 August 2019.

Statement of compliance

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- 1) The *Financial Management Act 2006* (FMA)
- 2) The Treasurer's Instructions (the Instructions or TI)
- 3) Australian Accounting Standards (AAS) including applicable interpretations
- 4) Those AAS paragraphs applicable for not-for-profit entities have been applied, where appropriate.

The FMA and the Instructions take precedence over AAS. Several AAS are modified by the Instructions to vary application, disclosure format and wording. Where modification is required and has had a material or significant financial effect upon the reported results, details of that modification and the resulting financial effect are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

Basis of preparation

These financial statements are presented in Australian dollars applying the accrual basis of accounting and using the historical cost convention. Certain balances will apply a different measurement basis (such as the fair value basis). Where this is the case the different measurement basis is disclosed in the associated note. All values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000).

Judgements and estimates

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about financial information being presented. The significant judgements and estimates made in the preparation of these financial statements are disclosed in the notes where amounts affected by those judgements and/or estimates are disclosed. Estimates and associated assumptions are based on professional judgements derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

1 Basis of preparation (continued)

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Key estimates and assumptions concerning the future are based on historical experience and various other factors that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Long Service Leave

Several estimations and assumptions used in calculating the Department's long service leave provision include expected future salary rates, discount rates, employee retention rates and expected future payments. Changes in these estimations and assumptions may impact on the carrying amount of the long service leave provision. See note 3.1(b) Employee related provisions.

Depreciation

The Department estimates the useful lives of non-current assets in a manner that reflects the consumption of their future economic benefits. See note 5.1.1 Depreciation and impairment and note 5.2.1 Amortisation and impairment.

Contributed equity

AASB Interpretation 1038 *Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities* requires transfers in the nature of equity contributions, other than as a result of a restructure of administrative arrangements, to be designated by the Government (the owner) as contributions by owners (at the time of, or prior to transfer) before such transfers can be recognised as equity contributions. Capital appropriations have been designated as contributions by owners by TI 955 *Contributions by Owners made to Wholly Owned Public Sector Entities* and have been credited directly to Contributed Equity.

The transfers of net assets to/from other agencies, other than as a result of a restructure of administrative arrangements, are designated as contributions by owners where the transfers are non-discretionary and non-reciprocal.

2 Department outputs

How the Department operates

Under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1998*, the Department is funded through the Emergency Services Levy. These funds are used to support effective emergency service delivery to the people of Western Australia.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

2 Department outputs (continued)

	Note
Department objectives	2.1
Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service	2.2
Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service	2.3

2.1 Department objectives

Mission

Our mission is to improve community safety practices and provide timely, quality and effective emergency services in partnership with local communities and emergency management partners.

Vision

Our vision is resilient Western Australian communities that work together to build capability and capacity to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies.

The Department provides the following services:

Service 1: Community Awareness, Education and Information Services

Minimised occurrence and impact of preventable emergencies.

Service 2: Compliance and Technical Advisory Services

Minimised impact of natural hazard emergencies.

Service 3: Training and Organisational Resourcing Services

An operational workforce that is trained and equipped to respond.

Service 4: Frontline Services

Minimised impact from emergencies through timely and effective response.

Service 5: Emergency Management Advice and Consultation

Effective strategic coordination of emergency management.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

2 Department outputs (continued)

2.2 Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service

for the year ended 30 June 2019

	Community Awareness, Education and Information Services		Compliance and Technical Advisory Services		Training and Organisational Resourcing Services		Frontline Services		Emergency Management Advice and Consultation		Total	
	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
COST OF SERVICES												
Expenses												
Employee benefits expense	6,025	6,588	15,521	12,555	27,611	30,594	165,951	156,560	1,301	-	216,409	206,297
Supplies and Services	1,348	1,675	9,254	4,441	22,161	26,437	97,004	70,519	440	-	130,207	103,072
Depreciation and amortisation	431	413	1,740	930	4,453	4,754	16,505	12,301	115	-	23,244	18,398
Finance costs	30	39	117	91	300	465	1,113	1,203	8	-	1,568	1,798
Accommodation expenses	7	5	28	12	9,941	10,009	828	863	2	-	10,806	10,889
Grants and subsidies	52	62	5,318	1,728	17,373	28,792	21,901	19,970	243	-	44,887	50,552
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	-	4	-	11	-	55	-	144	-	-	-	214
Other expenditure	189	165	624	372	1,586	1,891	5,927	4,947	41	-	8,367	7,375
Total cost of services	8,082	8,951	32,602	20,140	83,425	102,997	309,229	266,507	2,150	-	435,488	398,595

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

2 Department outputs (continued)

2.2 Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service

for the year ended 30 June 2019

	Community Awareness, Education and Information Services		Compliance and Technical Advisory Services		Training and Organisational Resourcing Services		Frontline Services		Emergency Management Advice and Consultation		Total	
	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Income												
User charges and fees	7,511	8,267	30,297	18,598	77,525	95,113	287,357	246,105	1,997	-	404,687	368,083
Commonwealth grants and contributions	248	100	997	226	2,552	1,155	9,460	2,989	66	-	13,323	4,470
Interest revenue	3	4	10	10	27	52	99	134	1	-	140	200
Other revenue	180	164	728	370	1,863	1,890	6,904	4,891	48	-	9,723	7,315
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	17	(1)	67	-	171	-	633	1	4	-	892	-
Total income other than income from State Government	7,959	8,534	32,099	19,204	82,138	98,210	304,453	254,120	2,116	-	428,765	380,068
NET COST OF SERVICES	123	417	503	936	1,287	4,787	4,776	12,387	34	-	6,723	18,527
Income from State Government												
Service appropriation	431	565	1,738	1,271	4,446	6,501	16,479	16,822	115	-	23,209	25,159
Services received free of charge	61	19	248	42	635	217	2,353	561	17	-	3,314	839
Royalties for Regions Fund	-	-	-	-	721	5,628	4,766	8,800	-	-	5,487	14,428
Total income from State Government	492	584	1,986	1,313	5,802	12,346	23,598	26,183	132	-	32,010	40,426
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD	369	167	1,483	377	4,515	7,559	18,822	13,796	98	-	25,287	21,899

The Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

2 Department outputs (continued)

2.3 Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service

as at 30 June 2019

	Community Awareness, Education and Information Services		Compliance and Technical Advisory Services		Training and Organisational Resourcing Services		Frontline Services		Emergency Management Advice and Consultation		Total	
	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Assets												
Current assets	1,653	1,550	6,670	3,487	17,069	17,831	63,266	46,139	440	-	89,098	69,007
Non-current assets	8,216	9,562	33,145	21,509	84,812	110,005	314,367	284,636	2,185	-	442,725	425,712
Total assets	9,869	11,112	39,815	24,996	101,881	127,836	377,633	330,775	2,625	-	531,823	494,719
Liabilities												
Current liabilities	955	1,027	3,853	2,311	9,859	11,819	36,542	30,582	254	-	51,463	45,739
Non-current liabilities	842	1,050	3,399	2,361	8,697	12,076	32,237	31,248	224	-	45,399	46,735
Total liabilities	1,797	2,077	7,252	4,672	18,556	23,895	68,779	61,830	478	-	96,862	92,474
NET ASSETS	8,072	9,035	32,563	20,324	83,325	103,942	308,854	268,944	2,147	-	434,961	402,245

The Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

3 Use of our funding

Expenses incurred in the delivery of services

This section provides additional information about how the Department's funding is applied and the accounting policies that are relevant for an understanding of the items recognised in the financial statements. The primary expenses incurred by the Department in achieving its objectives and the relevant notes are:

	Notes	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Employee benefits expense	3.1(a)	216,409	206,297
Employee related provisions	3.1(b)	39,034	36,018
Grants and subsidies	3.2	44,887	50,552
Other expenditure	3.3	149,380	121,336
		449,710	414,203
3.1 (a) Employee benefits expense			
Wages and salaries		188,345	175,936
Termination benefits		1,718	5,401
Superannuation – defined contribution plans ^(a)		20,879	20,306
Protective clothing and uniforms		3,713	3,381
Other related expenses		1,754	1,273
		216,409	206,297

(a) Defined contribution plans include Fire and Emergency Services Superannuation Fund (FESSF), West State Superannuation Scheme (WSS), Gold State Superannuation Scheme (GSS), Government Employee Superannuation Board (GESB) and other eligible funds.

Wages and salaries: Employee expenses include all costs related to employment including salaries, fringe benefits tax and leave entitlements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

3 Use of our funding (continued)

3.1 (a) Employee benefits expense (continued)

Termination benefits: Payable when employment is terminated before normal retirement date, or when an employee accepts an offer of benefits in exchange for the termination of employment. Termination benefits are recognised when the Department is demonstrably committed to terminating the employment of current employees according to a detailed formal plan without possibility of withdrawal or providing termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy. Benefits falling due more than 12 months after the end of the reporting period are discounted to present value.

Superannuation: The amount recognised in profit or loss of the Statement of Comprehensive Income comprises employer contributions paid to the FES Super (concurrent contributions), GSS (concurrent contributions), the WSS, the GESBs, or other superannuation funds. The employer contribution paid to the Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB) in respect of the GSS is paid back into the Consolidated Account by the GESB.

FESSF is a superannuation fund available to employees of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services. Membership is also available to employees of the United Firefighters Union of Western Australia, Volunteer Fire and Rescue Services Association (Inc.), and the Fire and Emergency Services Superannuation Board (FESSB). The FESSB is a trustee of the Fund and is responsible for managing the fund in the best interest of members and for ensuring the fund is managed in accordance with its governing legislation; the *Fire and Emergency Services Superannuation Act 1985* and the *Fire and Emergency Services (Superannuation Fund) Regulations 1986*. The liability for superannuation charges is extinguished by payments of employer contributions to the FESSF.

Members can make additional voluntary contributions to an accumulation account which are payable in addition to any defined benefit entitlement. Contributing members who have reached the age of 55 or completed 30 years of contributing membership can transfer their defined benefit into their accumulation account.

The Department also makes employer contributions to the FESSF during the year. The FESSF is a defined benefit scheme for the purpose of employees and is a defined contribution plan for the Department. The concurrent contributions (defined contributions) made by the Department to the FESSF extinguishes the Department's obligations to the related superannuation liability.

GSS (concurrent contributions) is a defined benefit scheme for the purposes of employees and whole-of-government reporting. It is however a defined contribution plan for Department purposes because the concurrent contributions (defined contributions) made by the Department to GESB extinguishes the Department's obligations to the related superannuation liability.

The Department does not recognise any defined benefit liabilities because it has no legal or constructive obligation to pay future benefits relating to its employees. The liabilities for the unfunded Pension Scheme and the unfunded GSS transfer benefits attributable to members who transferred from the Pension Scheme, are assumed by the Treasurer. All other FES Super and GSS obligations are funded by concurrent contributions made by the Department to the FESSB and GESB.

The GESB and other fund providers administer public sector superannuation arrangements in Western Australia in accordance with legislative requirements. Eligibility criteria for membership in particular schemes for public sector employees vary according to commencement and implementation dates.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

3 Use of our funding (continued)

3.1 (b) Employee related provisions

Provision is made for benefits accruing to employees in respect of annual leave and long service leave for services rendered up to the reporting date and recorded as an expense during the period the services are delivered.

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Current		
<i>Employee benefits provision</i>		
Annual leave ^(a)	10,964	10,550
Long service leave ^(b)	12,600	10,665
Deferred salary scheme ^(c)	1,134	1,816
	24,698	23,031
<i>Other provisions</i>		
Employment on-costs ^(d)	3,053	2,808
Total current employee related provisions	27,751	25,839
Non current		
<i>Employee benefits provision</i>		
Long service leave ^(b)	9,888	8,920
<i>Other provisions</i>		
Employment on-costs ^(d)	1,395	1,259
Total non-current employee related provisions	11,283	10,179
Total employee related provisions	39,034	36,018

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

3 Use of our funding (continued)

3.1 (b) Employee related provisions (continued)

(a) **Annual leave liabilities:** Classified as current as there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period. Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities is expected to occur as follows:

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	10,352	9,935
More than 12 months after the end of the reporting period	612	615
	10,964	10,550

The provision for annual leave is calculated at the present value of expected payments to be made in relation to services provided by employees up to the reporting date.

(b) **Long service leave liabilities:** Unconditional long service leave provisions are classified as **current** liabilities as the Department does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period.

Pre-conditional and conditional long service leave provisions are classified as **non-current** liabilities because the Department has a right to defer the settlement of the liability until the employee has completed the requisite years of service.

Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities is expected to occur as follows:

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	3,198	2,251
More than 12 months after the end of the reporting period	19,290	17,334
	22,488	19,585

The long service leave liabilities are calculated at present value as the Department does not expect to wholly settle the amounts within 12 months. The present value is measured taking into account the present value of expected future payments to be made in relation to services provided by employees up to the reporting date. These payments are estimated using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement, and discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

3 Use of our funding (continued)

3.1 (b) Employee related provisions (continued)

(c) **Deferred salary scheme liabilities:** Classified as current where there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period. Actual settlement of the liabilities is expected to occur as follows:

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	539	251
More than 12 months after the end of the reporting period	595	1,565
	1,134	1,816

(d) **Employment on-costs:** The settlement of annual and long service leave liabilities gives rise to the payment of employment on-costs including workers' compensation insurance. The provision is the present value of expected future payments.

Employment on-costs, including workers' compensation insurance, are not employee benefits and are recognised separately as liabilities and expenses when the employment to which they relate has occurred. Employment on-costs are included as part of 'Other expenses, Note 3.3 and are not included as part of the Department's 'employee benefits expense'. The related liability is included in 'Employment on-costs provision'.

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Carrying amount at start of period	4,067	4,347
Additional/(reversals of) provisions recognised	381	(280)
Carrying amount at end of period	4,448	4,067

Key sources of estimation uncertainty – long service leave

Key estimates and assumptions concerning the future are based on historical experience and various other factors that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

3 Use of our funding (continued)

3.1 (b) Employee related provisions (continued)

Several estimates and assumptions are used in calculating the Department's long service leave provision. These include:

- Expected future salary rates
- Discount rates
- Employee retention rates; and
- Expected future payments

Changes in these estimations and assumptions may impact on the carrying amount of the long service leave provision.

Any gain or loss following revaluation of the present value of long service leave liabilities is recognised as employee benefits expense.

3.2 Grants and subsidies

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Recurrent		
Local governments	16,385	15,888
Volunteer entities	3,567	2,478
Disaster resilience and mitigation grants	3,857	–
Volunteer representative bodies	1,973	2,002
Private brigades	197	234
Other	186	349
Capital		
Local governments	15,924	29,350
Volunteer marine rescue services groups	2,798	251
	44,887	50,552

Transactions in which the Department provides goods, services, assets (or extinguishes a liability) or labour to another party without receiving approximately equal value in return are categorised as 'Grant expenses'. Grants can either be operating or capital in nature.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

3 Use of our funding (continued)

3.2 Grants and subsidies (continued)

Grants can be paid as general purpose grants which refer to grants that are not subject to conditions regarding their use. Alternatively, they may be paid as specific purpose grants which are paid for a particular purpose and/or have conditions attached regarding their use.

Grants and other transfers to third parties (other than contribution to owners) are recognised as an expense in the reporting period in which they are paid or payable.

Capital items provided to VFERS and VFES are not included as capital grants as the Department retains ownership of the property, plant and equipment. See note 5.1 'Property, plant and equipment'.

Table 2: Grant Expenditure from ESL 2018-19 contained in Appendix 2 of the Annual Report provides details of grant recipients funded from the Emergency Services Levy.

3.3 Other expenditure

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Supplies and services		
Plant and equipment leases	40,319	29,328
Equipment repairs and maintenance	23,635	21,740
Consultants and contractors	23,324	15,985
Administration	23,050	19,597
Communications	6,344	4,983
Travel	5,665	4,174
Electricity and water expense	2,582	2,471
Insurance premiums and claims	2,566	2,436
Other	2,722	2,358
	130,207	103,072

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

3 Use of our funding (continued)

3.3 Other expenditure (continued)

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Accommodation expenses		
Repairs and maintenance	7,774	8,740
Lease rentals	3,032	2,149
	10,806	10,889
Other expenses		
Employment on-costs	7,563	7,140
Other expenses from ordinary activities	600	62
Audit fees	163	160
Doubtful debts expense	41	13
	8,367	7,375

Supplies and services: Supplies and services are recognised as an expense in the reporting period in which they are incurred. The carrying amounts of any materials held for distribution are expensed when the materials are distributed.

Equipment repairs and maintenance: Repairs and maintenance costs are recognised as expenses as incurred, except where they relate to the replacement of a significant component of an asset. In that case, the costs are capitalised and depreciated.

Accommodation expenses: Operating lease payments are recognised on a straight line basis over the lease term, except where another systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern of the benefits derived from the use of the leased asset. Repairs, maintenance and cleaning costs are recognised and expensed as incurred.

Other expenditure: Other operating expenses generally represent the day-to-day running costs incurred in normal operations.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

3 Use of our funding (continued)

3.3 Other expenditure (continued)

Employment on-cost includes workers' compensation insurance and other employment on-costs. The on costs liability associated with the recognition of annual and long service leave liabilities is included at Note 3.1(b) Employee benefit provision. Superannuation contributions accrued as part of the provision for leave are employee benefits and are not included in employment on-costs.

Doubtful debts expense was recognised as the movement in the allowance for doubtful debts. From 2018-19, expected credit losses expense is recognised as the movement in the allowance for expected credit losses. The allowance for expected credit losses of trade receivables is measured at the lifetime expected credit losses at each reporting date.

The Department has established a provision matrix that is based on its historical credit loss experience, adjusted for forward-looking factors specific to the debtors and the economic environment. Refer to note 6.1.1 Movement of the allowance for impairment of receivables.

4 Our funding sources

How we obtain our funding

The Department receives the majority of our funding through user charges and fees, in particular the Emergency Services Levy (ESL) charged to land owners in Western Australia. The Department also receives an annual appropriation from the Consolidated Account to Fund services outside the scope of the Emergency Services Levy.

The Department receives funding from the Commonwealth Government to provide additional operational capability.

	Notes	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
User charges and fees	4.1	404,687	368,083
Income from State Government	4.2	32,010	40,426
Commonwealth grants and contributions	4.3	13,323	4,470
Interest revenue	4.4	140	200
Other revenue	4.5	9,723	7,315
Net gains / (losses)	4.6	892	(214)
		460,775	420,280

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

4 Our funding sources (continued)

4.1 User charges and fees

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Emergency services levy	393,391	356,004
User charges	11,296	12,079
	404,687	368,083

Revenue is recognised and measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable. Revenue is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the transaction for the major business activities as follows:

The Emergency Services Levy (ESL) funds Western Australia's fire and emergency services. The majority of the ESL is raised and collected by local government authorities (LGA) on behalf of the Department through council rates notices. The ESL is calculated using the Gross Rental Value (GRV) for most urban properties, with a fixed rate charge per property in rural and remote areas. ESL charges on publicly owned property is invoiced and collected by the Department.

LGAs either elect to remit the ESL to the Department on a monthly basis as they collect it (Option A), or enter into a memorandum of understanding (Option B) authorised by the Minister and pay the ESL they assess in four quarterly instalments (30%, 30%, 30% and 10%) or one annual instalment. The annual payment option is generally selected by local governments that raise a small amount of ESL and wish to further simplify the ESL administrative arrangements.

An Annual Emergency Services Levy Assessment Profile Return is submitted by the relevant LGA within 14 days of issue of rates notices. Revenue is recognised when an invoice is issued to the LGAs.

User Charges

The **Direct Brigade Alarm (DBA)** network monitors over 4,000 premises across Western Australia. Categories of monitored premises include (but are not limited to):

- commercial properties
- schools/universities
- hospitals
- aged care facilities
- high rise buildings

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

4 Our funding sources (continued)

4.1 User charges and fee (continued)

Fire Safety Pty Ltd trading as Chubb Fire Alarm Monitoring Services (FAMS) – Chubb delivers customer service, administration (including annual billing and debt management) and 24/7 monitoring services to DFES and all DFES' monitored customers.

The Department enforces a **false fire alarm fee** in accordance with section 36ZL(1)(d)(i) of the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1998*. The fee applies after the third false fire alarm attendance to a premises in any one financial year.

The fee is used as a measure to encourage the proper maintenance of alarm systems and reflects the cost of Departmental resources in responding to false alarms. The revenue is recognised at the time of raising the invoice for the service.

4.2 Income from State Government

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Appropriation received during the period:		
Service appropriation ^(a)	23,209	25,159
	23,209	25,159
Services received free of charge from other State Government agencies during the period:		
Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions	1,684	–
Western Australian Land Information Authority (Landgate)	943	622
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation	331	–
State Solicitor's Office	172	134
Department of Finance	166	74
Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development	10	4
Department of Health	8	–
Main Roads	–	5
Total services received	3,314	839

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

4 Our funding sources (continued)

4.2 Income from State Government

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Royalties for Regions Fund:		
Regional Community Services Account ^(b)	5,487	13,290
Regional Infrastructure and Headworks Account ^(b)	–	1,138
Total Royalties for Regions Funds	5,487	14,428
Total income from State Government	32,010	40,426

(a) **Service Appropriations** are recognised as revenues at fair value in the period in which the Department gains control of the appropriated funds. The Department gains control of appropriated funds at the time those funds are deposited in the bank account or credited to the 'Amounts receivable for services' (holding account) held at Treasury.

Service appropriations fund the net cost of services delivered (as set out in note 2.2). Appropriation revenue comprises the following:

- Cash component; and
- A receivable (asset).

The receivable (Amounts receivable for services – note 6.2) comprises the budgeted depreciation expense for the year.

(b) **The Regional Infrastructure and Headworks Account, and, Regional Community Services Accounts** are sub-funds within the over-arching 'Royalties for Regions Fund'. The recurrent funds are committed to projects and programs in WA regional areas and are recognised as revenue when the Department gains control on receipt of the funds.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

4 Our funding sources (continued)

4.3 Commonwealth grants and contributions

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Recurrent	13,047	4,239
Other	276	231
	13,323	4,470

Commonwealth grants are received for various purposes including non-reciprocal grants that contribute to the Department's operational capabilities such as aerial fire fighting, the provision of fire services to Commonwealth properties and Indian Ocean Territories.

For **non-reciprocal grants**, the Department recognises revenue when the grant is receivable at its fair value as and when its fair value can be reliably measured. Contributions of services are only recognised when a fair value can be reliably determined and the services could have been purchased if not donated.

4.4 Interest revenue

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Emergency Services Levy interest	140	130
Interest from money held in escrow	-	70
	140	200

Late payment interest of 11% per annum is charged if a property owner does not pay either the full or part payment of ESL on time. However, late ESL payment penalty interest will not be charged when eligible pensioners choose to defer the payment of their ESL charge.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

4 Our funding sources (continued)

4.5 Other revenue

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Grants	5,460	1,318
Sponsorship and donations	2,706	2,786
Non reciprocal contributed assets	699	1,485
General revenue	496	1,339
Insurance and other recoveries	362	387
	9,723	7,315

\$2.4 million (2018: \$2.4 million) of **sponsorship revenue** is related to supporting the operation of the emergency rescue helicopter service.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

4 Our funding sources (continued)

4.6 Gains

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of non-current assets		
<i>Proceeds from disposal of non-current assets</i>		
Plant, equipment and vehicles	1,097	511
<i>Carrying amount of non-current assets disposed</i>		
Land	–	(450)
Plant, equipment and vehicles	(205)	(275)
Net gain/(loss)	892	(214)
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	899	344
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	(7)	(558)
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of non-current assets	892	(214)

Realised and unrealised gains are recognised on a net basis. These include gains arising on the disposal of non-current assets and some revaluations of non-current assets.

Gains and losses on the disposal of non-current assets are presented by deducting from the proceeds on disposal the carrying amount of the asset and related selling expenses. Gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss in the statement of comprehensive income (from the proceeds of sale).

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

5 Key Assets

Assets the Department utilises for service potential

The Department controls non-financial assets that are utilised in fulfilling the Department's desired outcomes and provision of services to the Western Australian community. This note discloses the non-financial resources that have been entrusted to the Department to be used for the delivery of those outcomes and the policies for the recognition and subsequent measurement of these assets:

	Notes	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Property, plant and equipment	5.1	379,252	372,821
Intangibles	5.2	14,905	13,015
		394,157	385,836

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

5 Key Assets (continued)

5.1 Property, plant and equipment

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of property, plant, and equipment at the beginning and end of the reporting period are set out in the table below.

	Land (\$'000)	Buildings (\$'000)	Buildings under construction (\$'000)	Vehicles (\$'000)	Vehicles under construction (\$'000)	Plant and equipment (\$'000)	Plant and equipment under construction (\$'000)	Leasehold improve- ments (\$'000)	Total (\$'000)
1 July 2017									
Cost or fair value	98,110	168,577	9,391	100,206	11,800	13,628	1,133	856	403,701
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	-	(38,061)	-	(6,234)	-	(707)	(45,002)
Carrying amount at start of period	98,110	168,577	9,391	62,145	11,800	7,394	1,133	149	358,699
Additions	6,065	13,077	15,711	22,054	10,413	1,155	3,560	326	72,361
Transfers ^(a)	750	830	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,580
Completed works in progress	-	-	(17,664)	-	(21,180)	-	(1,101)	-	(39,945)
Other disposals	(1,158)	(504)	-	(198)	-	(236)	-	-	(2,096)
Revaluation increments/(decrements)	(5,474)	5,848	-	-	-	-	-	-	374
Depreciation	-	(7,536)	-	(9,304)	-	(1,173)	-	(139)	(18,152)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2018	98,293	180,292	7,438	74,697	1,033	7,140	3,592	336	372,821

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

5 Key Assets (continued)

5.1 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

	Land (\$'000)	Buildings (\$'000)	Buildings under construction (\$'000)	Vehicles (\$'000)	Vehicles under construction (\$'000)	Plant and equipment (\$'000)	Plant and equipment under construction (\$'000)	Leasehold improve- ments (\$'000)	Total (\$'000)
1 July 2018									
Cost or fair value	98,293	180,292	7,438	121,499	1,033	14,430	3,592	1,182	427,759
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	-	(46,802)	-	(7,290)	-	(846)	(54,938)
Net book amount	98,293	180,292	7,438	74,697	1,033	7,140	3,592	336	372,821
Additions	890	7,375	7,923	9,400	11,544	651	4,941	131	42,855
Transfers ^(a)	213	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	225
Completed works in progress	-	-	(8,264)	-	(8,814)	-	(1,109)	-	(18,187)
Other disposals	-	-	-	(420)	-	(6)	-	-	(426)
Revaluation increments/(decrements)	(2,777)	5,135	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,358
Depreciation	-	(8,056)	-	(10,998)	-	(1,170)	-	(170)	(20,394)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2019	96,619	184,746	7,097	72,679	3,763	6,627	7,424	297	379,252

(a) The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) is the only Department with the power to deal in Crown land. Where crown land is transferred to or from DPLH the Department accounts for the transfer as a contribution/(distribution) to owner. As part of Machinery of Government changes the Department recognised \$11,595 of plant and equipment transferred in from the former Office of Emergency Management.

Land and Buildings are independently valued at fair value by Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuations and Property Analytics). All other property, plant and equipment is measured at historical cost.

Information on fair value measurements is provided in Note 8.3.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

5 Key Assets (continued)

5.1 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Initial recognition

Items of property, plant and equipment, costing \$5,000 or more are measured initially at cost. Where an asset is acquired for no or nominal cost, the cost is valued at its fair value at the date of acquisition. Items of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure costing less than \$5,000 are immediately expensed direct to the Statement of Comprehensive Income (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

Assets transferred as part of a machinery of government change are transferred at their fair value.

The cost of a leasehold improvement is capitalised and depreciated over the shorter of the remaining term of the lease or the estimated useful life of the leasehold improvement.

The initial cost for a non-financial asset under a finance lease is measured at amounts equal to the fair value of the leased asset or, if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments, each determined at the inception of the lease.

Subsequent measurement

Subsequent to initial recognition of an asset, the revaluation model is used for the measurement of land and buildings.

Land is carried at fair value and Buildings are carried at fair value less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

All other property, plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Land and buildings are independently valued annually by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuations and Property Analytics) and recognised annually to ensure that the carrying amount does not differ materially from the asset's fair value at the end of the reporting period.

Land and buildings were revalued as at 1 July 2018 by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuations and Property Analytics). The valuations were performed during the year ended 30 June 2018 and recognised at 30 June 2019. In undertaking the revaluation, fair value was determined by reference to market values for land: \$18,538,600 (2018: \$18,626,050) and buildings: \$34,075,000 (2018: \$35,508,000). For the remaining balance, fair value of buildings was determined on the basis of depreciated replacement cost and fair value of land was determined on the basis of comparison with market evidence for land with low level utility (high restricted use land).

Revaluation model:

1. Fair Value where market-based evidence is available:

The fair value of land and buildings is determined on the basis of current market values determined by reference to recent market transactions. When buildings are revalued by reference to recent market transactions, the accumulated depreciation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount restated to the revalued amount.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

5 Key Assets (continued)

5.1 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

2. Fair value in the absence of market-based evidence:

Buildings are specialised or where land is restricted: Fair value of land and buildings is determined on the basis of existing use.

Existing use buildings: Fair value is determined by reference to the cost of replacing the remaining future economic benefits embodied in the asset, i.e. the depreciated replacement cost. Where the fair value of buildings is determined on the depreciated replacement cost basis, the gross carrying amount and the accumulated depreciation are restated proportionately with the change in the carrying amount of the asset.

Restricted use land: Fair value is determined by comparison with market evidence for land with similar approximate utility (high restricted use land) or market value of comparable unrestricted land (low restricted use land).

5.1.1 Depreciation and impairment

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Charge for the period		
Vehicles	10,998	9,304
Buildings	8,056	7,536
Plant and equipment	1,170	1,173
Leasehold improvements	170	139
Total depreciation for the period	20,394	18,152

As at 30 June 2019 there were no indications of impairment to property, plant and equipment.

All surplus assets at 30 June 2019 have either been classified as assets held for sale or have been written-off.

Please refer to note 5.2 for guidance in relation to the impairment assessment that has been performed for intangible assets.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

5 Key Assets (continued)

5.1.1 Depreciation and impairment (continued)

Finite useful lives

All property, plant and equipment having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their estimated useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their future economic benefits.

The exceptions to this rule include items under operating leases, assets held for sale, land and investment properties.

Depreciation is generally calculated on a straight line basis, at rates that allocate the asset's value, less any estimated residual value, over its estimated useful life. Typical estimated useful lives for the different asset classes for current and prior years are included in the table below:

Asset	Useful life
Buildings	40 years
Vehicles	5 – 20 years
Plant and equipment	3 – 10 years
Software ^(a)	3 – 5 years

(a) Software that is integral to the operation of related hardware.

The estimated useful lives, residual values and depreciation method are reviewed at the end of each annual reporting period, and adjustments should be made where appropriate.

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful lives.

Land which is considered to have an indefinite life, is not depreciated as its service potential has not, in any material sense, been consumed during the reporting period.

Impairment

Non-financial assets, including items of property, plant and equipment, are tested for impairment whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired. Where there is an indication of impairment, the recoverable amount is estimated. Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to the recoverable amount and an impairment loss is recognised.

Where an asset measured at cost is written down to its recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised through profit or loss.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

5 Key Assets (continued)

5.1.1 Depreciation and impairment (continued)

Where a previously revalued asset is written down to its recoverable amount, the loss is recognised as a revaluation decrement through other comprehensive income.

As the Department is a not-for-profit entity, unless a specialised asset has been identified as a surplus asset, the recoverable amount of regularly revalued specialised assets is anticipated to be materially the same as fair value.

If there is an indication that there has been a reversal in impairment, the carrying amount shall be increased to its recoverable amount. However this reversal should not increase the asset's carrying amount above what would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised in prior years.

The risk of impairment is generally limited to circumstances where an asset's depreciation is materially understated, where the replacement cost is falling or where there is a significant change in useful life. Each relevant class of assets is reviewed annually to verify that the accumulated depreciation/amortisation reflects the level of consumption or expiration of the asset's future economic benefits and to evaluate any impairment risk from declining replacement costs.

5.2 Intangible assets

	Intangible assets not yet available for use (\$'000)	Computer software (\$'000)	Total (\$'000)
Year Ended 30 June 2018			
1 July 2017			
Cost	2,881	1,407	4,288
Accumulated amortisation	-	(1,151)	(1,151)
Carrying amount at start of period	2,881	256	3,137
Additions	10,052	-	10,052
Transfer	72	-	72
Completed works in progress	-	-	-
Amortisation	-	(246)	(246)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2018	13,005	10	13,015

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

5 Key Assets (continued)

5.2 Intangible assets (continued)

	Intangible assets not yet available for use (\$'000)	Computer software (\$'000)	Total (\$'000)
Year Ended 30 June 2019			
1 July 2018			
Cost	13,005	1,407	14,412
Accumulated amortisation	-	(1,397)	(1,397)
Carrying amount at start of period	13,005	10	13,015
Additions	4,404	15,671	20,075
Transfer	-	-	-
Completed works in progress	(15,335)	-	-
Amortisation	-	(2,850)	(2,850)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2019	2,074	12,831	14,905

Initial recognition

Acquisitions of intangible assets costing \$5,000 or more and internally generated intangible assets costing \$50,000 or more that comply with the recognition criteria as per AASB 138.57 (as noted below), are capitalised.

Costs incurred below these thresholds are immediately expensed directly to the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. For assets acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, the cost is their fair value at the date of acquisition.

An internally generated intangible asset arising from development (or from the development phase of an internal project) is recognised if, and only if, all of the following are demonstrated:

- The technical feasibility of completing the intangible asset so that it will be available for use or sale;
- An intention to complete the intangible asset and use or sell it;

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

5 Key Assets (continued)

5.2 Intangible assets (continued)

- (c) The ability to use or sell the intangible asset;
- (d) The intangible asset will generate probable future economic benefit;
- (e) The availability of adequate technical, financial and other resources to complete the development and to use or sell the intangible asset;
- (f) The ability to measure reliably the expenditure attributable to the intangible asset during its development.

Costs incurred in the research phase of a project are immediately expensed.

Subsequent measurement

The cost model is applied for subsequent measurement of intangible assets, requiring the asset to be carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

5.2.1 Amortisation and impairment

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Charge for the period		
Computer software	2,850	246
Total amortisation for the period	2,850	246

As at 30 June 2019 there were no indications of impairment to intangible assets.

The Department held no goodwill or intangible assets with an indefinite useful life during the reporting period.

Amortisation of finite life intangible assets is calculated on a straight line basis at rates that allocate the asset's value over its estimated useful life. All intangible assets controlled by the Department have a finite useful life and zero residual value. Estimated useful lives are reviewed annually.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

5 Key Assets (continued)

5.2 Intangible assets (continued)

The estimated useful lives for each class of intangible asset are:

Asset	Useful life
Licenses	up to 10 years
Software ^(a)	3 – 5 years

(a) Software that is not integral to the operation of any related hardware.

Impairment of intangible assets

Intangible assets with finite useful lives and intangible assets which are not available for use are tested for impairment annually or when an indication of impairment is identified.

The policy in connection with testing for impairment is outlined in note 5.1.1.

6 Other assets and liabilities

This section sets out those assets and liabilities that arose from the Department's controlled operations and includes other assets utilised for economic benefits and liabilities incurred during normal operations:

	Notes	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Assets			
Receivables	6.1	11,683	5,167
Amounts receivable for services	6.2	46,566	38,593
Inventories	6.3	5,513	3,659
Other assets	6.4	2,091	2,431
Liabilities			
Payables	6.5	21,246	17,436
Other liabilities	6.6	26	24

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

6 Other assets and liabilities (continued)

6.1 Receivables

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Current		
Receivables	8,603	2,565
Allowance for impairment of receivables	(41)	(33)
GST receivable	3,121	2,635
	11,683	5,167

The Department does not hold any collateral as security. Under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1998* s.36Z(2) the Commissioner can take legal proceedings to recover unpaid Emergency Services Levy funds, which, in accordance with s.360, are a charge on the leviable land.

Receivables are recognised at original invoice amount less any allowances for uncollectible amounts (i.e. impairment).

The carrying amount of net trade receivables is equivalent to fair value as it is due for settlement within 30 days.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

6 Other assets and liabilities (continued)

6.1 Receivables (continued)

6.1.1 Movement of the allowance for impairment of receivables

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Balance at start of period	33	28
Remeasurement under AASB 9	11	-
Restated balance at start of period	44	28
Doubtful debts expense	-	13
Expected credit losses expense	30	-
Amounts written off during the period	(33)	(8)
Balance at end of period	41	33

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period for trade receivables is the carrying amount of the asset inclusive of any allowance for impairment as shown in the table at Note 8.1(c) 'Financial instruments disclosures - credit risk'. The Department does not hold any collateral as security or other credit enhancements for trade receivables.

6.2 Amounts receivable for services

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Current	-	-
Non-current	46,566	38,593
	46,566	38,593

Amounts receivable for services represent the non-cash component of service appropriations. It is restricted in that it can only be used for asset replacement or payment of leave liability.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

6 Other assets and liabilities (continued)

6.2 Amounts receivable for services (continued)

The Department receives funding on an accrual basis. The appropriations are paid partly in cash and partly as an asset (holding account receivable). The accrued amount receivable is accessible on the emergence of the cash funding requirement to cover asset replacement.

6.3 Inventories

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Inventories held for distribution	2,947	1,099
Inventories held for consumption	2,566	2,560
	5,513	3,659

Inventories held for distribution represent fire appliances under construction as part of the Emergency Services Levy capital grants process. These inventories are measured at cost. A capital grant expense is recognised when the fire appliance is completed and delivered to the local government authority.

Inventory held for consumption represents fire appliances parts, consumable items, service exchange equipment and tools stored in the Fleet and Equipment Services workshop facility in O'Connor. These inventories are measured on a weighted average cost basis.

6.4 Other assets

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Current		
Prepayments	2,091	2,431
	2,091	2,431

Other non-financial assets include **prepayments** which represent payments in advance of receipt of goods or services or that part of expenditure made in one accounting period covering a term extending beyond that period.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

6 Other assets and liabilities (continued)

6.5 Payables

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Current		
Trade payables	17,632	15,896
Accrued salaries	3,044	1,126
Accrued interest	290	335
GST payable	280	79
	21,246	17,436

Trade payables are recognised at the amounts payable when the Department becomes obliged to make future payments as a result of a purchase of assets or services. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value, as settlement is generally within 30 days.

Accrued salaries represent the amount due to staff but unpaid at the end of the reporting period. Accrued salaries are settled within a week of the reporting period end. The Department considers the carrying amount of accrued salaries to be equivalent to its fair value.

The accrued salaries suspense account (See Note 7.3.1 'Restricted cash and cash equivalents') consists of amounts paid annually, from Department income for salaries expense, into a suspense account to meet the additional cash outflow for employee salary payments in reporting periods with 53 pay days instead of the normal 52. This is due to next occur in 2021-22. No interest is received on this account.

Accrued interest represents interest expense incurred but not yet paid as at reporting date.

GST Payable is the Goods and Services tax raised from taxable sales by the Department due to the Australian Taxation Office.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

6 Other assets and liabilities (continued)

6.6 Other liabilities

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Current		
Deferred revenue		
Prepaid lease revenue	26	24
	26	24

7 Financing

This section sets out the material balances and disclosures associated with the financing and cash flows of the Department.

	Notes
Borrowings	7.1
Finance costs	7.2
Cash and cash equivalents	7.3
Reconciliation of cash	7.3.1
Reconciliation of operating activities	7.3.2
Commitments	7.4
Non-cancellable operating lease commitments	7.4.1
Capital expenditure commitments	7.4.2

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

7 Financing (continued)

7.1 Borrowings

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Current		
Western Australian Treasury Corporation loan	2,440	2,440
Total current	2,440	2,440
Non current		
Western Australian Treasury Corporation loan	34,116	36,556
Total non-current	34,116	36,556
Balance at end of period	36,556	38,996

Borrowings refer to interest bearing liabilities raised from public borrowings through Western Australian Treasury Corporation, which is an interest bearing arrangement.

Borrowings are classified as financial instruments. All interest bearing borrowings are initially recognised at the fair value of the consideration received less directly attributable transaction costs. The Department has classified all financial liabilities at 'amortised cost'.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

7 Financing (continued)

7.2 Finance costs

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Interest expense	1,493	1,714
Loan guarantee fees	75	84
	1,568	1,798

Finance costs includes the **interest expense** in connection to long term borrowings. The Department is required to pay a **loan guarantee fee** which represents the premium paid to Government, which acts as guarantor for all long term borrowings of the Department.

7.3 Cash and cash equivalents

7.3.1 Reconciliation of cash

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:

	Notes	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Cash and cash equivalents		58,729	56,711
		58,729	56,711

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

7 Financing (continued)

7.3 Cash and cash equivalents (continued)

7.3.1 Reconciliation of cash (continued)

	Notes	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	8.1		
Current			
Commonwealth disaster mitigation and recovery grant funding ^(a)		8,664	-
State mitigation activity fund		1,638	-
Royalties for Regions Fund ^(b)		723	1,036
Commonwealth Indian Ocean Territories funding		56	-
Rental bond deposits		1	3
Non current			
53 rd pay ^(c)		2,002	1,283
		13,084	2,322
Total cash and cash equivalents		71,813	59,033

(a) Unspent Commonwealth funding for mitigation and recovery programs.

(b) Unspent funding for Royalties for Regions programs.

(c) Funds held for the purpose of providing for years in which 53 pay periods occur. This will next occur on 30 June 2022.

For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents (and restricted cash and cash equivalents) assets comprise cash on hand and short-term deposits with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and which are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value and the 53rd which is held to maturity on 30 June 2022.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

7 Financing (continued)

7.3 Cash and cash equivalents (continued)

7.3.2 Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows provided by/(used in) operating activities

	Notes	2019 [\$'000]	2018 [\$'000]
Net cost of services		(6,723)	(18,527)
Non-cash items:			
Depreciation and amortisation expense	5.1, 5.2	23,244	18,398
Net loss (gain) on disposal of property, plant and equipment	4.6	(892)	214
Services received free of charge	4.2	3,314	839
Doubtful debt expense	3.3	41	13
Impairment loss	5.1, 5.2	–	–
Other non-cash adjustments		(375)	(909)
(Increase)/decrease in operating assets^(a):			
Current receivables ^(b)		(6,072)	3,455
Other assets		340	215
Current inventories		(1,848)	9,053

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

7 Financing (continued)

7.3 Cash and cash equivalents (continued)

7.3.2 Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows provided by/(used in) operating activities (continued)

Notes	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Increase/(decrease) in operating liabilities^(a):		
Current payables ^(b)	4,276	4,555
Current provisions	1,061	(2,252)
Non-current provisions	899	171
Increase/(decrease) in other liabilities	1	(2,702)
Net GST receipts/(payments) ^(c)	(2,518)	(1,922)
Change in GST in receivables/payables ^(d)	2,251	2,330
Net cash used in operating activities	16,999	12,931

(a) In recognising the movement in assets and liabilities items such as accrued capital expenditure are not included in these items as they do not form part of the reconciling operating items.

(b) Note that the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) receivable/payable in respect of GST and the receivable/payable in respect of the sale/purchase of non-current assets are not included in these items as they do not form part of the reconciling items.

(c) This is the net GST paid/received, i.e. cash transactions.

(d) This reverses out the GST in receivables and payables.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

7 Financing (continued)

7.4 Commitments

7.4.1 Non-cancellable operating lease commitments

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Commitments for minimum lease payments are payable as follows:		
Within 1 year	14,990	4,192
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	16,258	4,116
Later than 5 years	1,676	1,620
	32,924	9,928

Operating leases are expensed on a straight line basis over the lease term as this represents the pattern of benefits derived from the leased properties.

DFES's aviation services, fleet, residential and commercial leases account for the majority of the non-cancellable operating lease commitments. The fleet lease term varies depending on the vehicle.

7.4.2 Capital expenditure commitments

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Capital expenditure commitments, being contracted capital expenditure additional to the amounts reported in the financial statements, are payable as follows:		
Within 1 year	9,041	8,086
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	4,701	1,380
	13,742	9,466

Judgements made by management in applying accounting policies – operating lease commitments

The Department has entered into a number of leases for buildings for branch office accommodation. Some of these leases relate to buildings of a temporary nature and it has been determined that the lessor retains substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership. Accordingly, these leases have been classified as operating leases.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

8 Risks and contingencies

This note sets out the key risk management policies and measurement techniques of the Department.

	Notes
Financial risk management	8.1
Contingent liabilities	8.2
Fair value measurement	8.3

8.1 Financial risk management

Financial instruments held by the Department are cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash and cash equivalents, Western Australian Treasury Corporation (WATC) borrowings, receivables and payables. The Department has limited exposure to financial risks. The Department's overall risk management program focuses on managing the risks identified below.

(a) Summary of risks and risk management

Credit risk

Credit risk arises when there is the possibility of the Department's receivables defaulting on their contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Department.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period in relation to each class of recognised financial asset is the gross carrying amount of those assets inclusive of any allowance for impairment as shown in the table at Note 8.1(c) 'Financial instruments disclosures' and Note 6.1 'Receivables'.

Credit risk associated with the Department's financial assets is minimal because the main receivable is the amounts receivable for services (holding account). For receivables other than government, the Department trades only with recognised, creditworthy third parties. The Department has policies in place to ensure that sales of products and services are made to customers with an appropriate credit history. In addition, receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis with the result that the Department's exposure to bad debts is minimal. At the end of the reporting period there were no significant concentrations of credit risk.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises when the Department is unable to meet its financial obligations as they fall due.

The Department is exposed to liquidity risk through its trading in the normal course of business.

The Department has appropriate procedures to manage cash flows including drawdown of appropriations by monitoring forecast cash flows to ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet its commitments.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

8 Risks and contingencies (continued)

8.1 Financial risk management (continued)

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices such as foreign exchange rates and interest rates will affect the Department's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments. The Department does not trade in foreign currency and is not materially exposed to other price risks. The Department's exposure to market risk for changes in interest rates relate primarily to the long-term debt obligations.

All borrowings are due to the WATC and are repayable at variable rates with varying maturities. Other than as detailed in the interest rate sensitivity analysis table at Note 8.1(e), the Department is not exposed to interest rate risk because the majority of cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash are non-interest bearing and it has no borrowings other than WATC borrowings.

(b) Categories of financial instruments

The carrying amounts of each of the following categories of financial assets and financial liabilities at the end of the reporting period are:

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Financial Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	58,729	56,711
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	13,084	2,322
Receivables ^(a)	55,128	41,125
Financial Liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	57,522	56,353

(a) The amount of receivables excludes GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

8 Risks and contingencies (continued)

8.1 Financial instruments (continued)

(c) Credit risk

The Department applies the AASB 9 simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance for all Emergency Services Levy receivable (ESL) and other receivables.

The expected credit loss for ESL and other receivables is based on the repayment profile over a period of 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2019. Based upon the historical risk profile of each category of receivable the Department has determined the expected credit loss rates for trade receivables is materially different in respect to ESL receivable and therefore have disaggregated the expected credit loss rates. The material difference in expected credit loss for ESL arises due to ESL being secured against the value of the rateable land, upon settlement and the apportionment of rates and taxes the Department recovers all ESL receivable that does not exceed the consideration paid for the property.

The following table details the credit risk of the Department's Emergency Services Levy and other receivables:

	Ageing analysis of financial assets					
	Total (\$'000)	Current (\$'000)	Past due but not impaired			
			<30 days (\$'000)	31-60 days (\$'000)	61-90 days (\$'000)	>91 days (\$'000)
30 June 2019						
Expected credit loss rate		0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.03%
Gross carrying amount - ESL receivable	1,937	-	14	-	-	1,923
Expected credit loss rate		0.09%	1.95%	2.35%	5.13%	31.76%
Gross carrying amount - other receivables	6,666	6,127	262	41	172	64
Loss allowance	41	6	5	1	9	20

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

8 Risks and contingencies (continued)

8.1 Financial instruments (continued)

Ageing analysis of financial assets

	Total (\$'000)	Current (\$'000)	Past due but not impaired			
			<30 days (\$'000)	31-60 days (\$'000)	61-90 days (\$'000)	>91 days (\$'000)
1 July 2018 (Remeasurement)						
Expected credit loss rate		0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.04%
Gross carrying amount – ESL receivable	1,537	45	21	–	–	1,470
Expected credit loss rate		1.65%	2.80%	3.80%	7.13%	48.76%
Gross carrying amount – other receivables	1,028	904	60	10	2	53
Loss allowance	44	15	2	–	–	27

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

8 Risks and contingencies (continued)

8.1 Financial instruments (continued)

Interest rate exposure and maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities

	Weighted Average Effective Interest Rate %	Carrying amount (\$'000)	Interest rate exposure			Nominal amount (\$'000)	Maturity dates				
			Fixed Interest rate (\$'000)	Variable interest rate (\$'000)	Non-interest bearing (\$'000)		Up to 1 month (\$'000)	1 – 3 months (\$'000)	3 – 12 months (\$'000)	1 – 5 years (\$'000)	More than 5 years (\$'000)
<i>Financial liabilities</i>											
Payables ^(a)		20,966	-	-	20,966	20,966	20,966	-	-	-	-
WATC borrowings	3.87%	36,556	-	36,556	-	44,385	957	-	4,467	16,824	22,137
		57,522	-	36,556	20,966	65,351	21,923	-	4,467	16,824	22,137
2018											
<i>Financial assets</i>											
Cash and cash equivalents		56,711	-	-	56,711	56,711	56,711	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		2,322	-	-	2,322	2,322	1,039	-	-	1,283	-
Receivables ^(a)		2,532	-	-	2,532	2,532	2,532	-	-	-	-
Amounts receivable for services		38,593	-	-	38,593	38,593	-	-	-	-	38,593
		100,158	-	-	100,158	100,158	60,282	-	-	1,283	38,583

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

8 Risks and contingencies (continued)

8.1 Financial instruments (continued)

Interest rate exposure and maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities

	Weighted Average Effective Interest Rate %	Carrying amount (\$'000)	Interest rate exposure			Nominal amount (\$'000)	Maturity dates				
			Fixed Interest rate (\$'000)	Variable interest rate (\$'000)	Non-interest bearing (\$'000)		Up to 1 month (\$'000)	1 – 3 months (\$'000)	3 – 12 months (\$'000)	1 – 5 years (\$'000)	More than 5 years (\$'000)
<i>Financial liabilities</i>											
Payables ^(a)		17,357	–	–	17,357	17,357	–	–	–	–	–
WATC borrowings	4.19%	38,996	–	38,996	–	45,210	1,012	–	3,195	14,496	26,507
		56,353	–	38,996	17,357	62,567	18,369	–	3,195	14,496	26,507

(a) The amount of receivables excludes the GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable/payable).

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

8 Risks and contingencies (continued)

8.1 Financial instruments (continued)

(e) Interest rate sensitivity analysis

The following table represents a summary of the interest rate sensitivity of the Department's financial assets and liabilities at the end of the reporting period on the surplus for the period and equity for a 1% change in interest rates. It is assumed that the change in interest rates is held constant throughout the reporting period.

	Carrying amount (\$'000)	-100 basis points		+100 basis points	
		Surplus (\$'000)	Equity (\$'000)	Surplus (\$'000)	Equity (\$'000)
2019					
<i>Financial liabilities</i>					
WATC borrowings	36,556	365.6	365.6	(365.6)	(365.6)
Total (decrease)/increase		365.6	365.6	(365.6)	(365.6)
2018					
<i>Financial liabilities</i>					
WATC borrowings	38,996	390.0	390.0	(390.0)	(390.0)
Total (decrease)/increase		390.0	390.0	(390.0)	(390.0)

Fair Values

All financial assets and liabilities recognised in the Statement of Financial Position, whether they are carried at cost or fair value, are recognised at amounts that represent a reasonable approximation of fair value unless otherwise stated in the applicable notes.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

8 Risks and contingencies (continued)

8.2 Contingent liabilities

The following contingent liabilities are additional to the liabilities included in the financial statements.

Contaminated sites

The Department has contamination issues related to the legacy of the use of Aqueous Film Forming Foams (called AFFF) which contain perfluorooctane sulphonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), two substances that are regarded as “emerging contaminants” or pollutants that are potentially a threat to human health or the environment. These chemicals were also common in household and industry goods such as paints, non-stick cooking surfaces, pots, pans, baking paper, food packaging, carpet stain protection and to waterproof clothes and camping gear.

The Department withdrew the AFFF from service in 2003. The Department currently has 25 sites that are classified as “possibly contaminated – investigation required”. Preliminary Site Investigations (PSI's) for 20 of these locations has been completed with all recommending further assessment through Detailed Site Investigations (DSI's) from the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER).

DSIs have been conducted at the Department's Training Centre (Academy) and a Site Management Plan for the Academy has now been put into place for this site. In addition, a DSI has also been completed for the Department's Fleet Services Workshop in O'Connor. Further DSI's are being undertaken at these sites and also the former Albany and Bunbury CFRS and the current Fremantle CFRS sites. PSIs will also be undertaken at the Denmark and Margaret River VFRS sites and the former Fremantle CFRS site. Key findings from the investigations have been communicated by DFES to the relevant personnel.

The Department has completed a DWER recommended GIS-based Risk Assessment (GIS-RBA) of all the sites to determine a prioritised list of sites that may require further investigation based on the risks associated with the past use and/or storage of AFFF. The GIS-RBA categorised and prioritised the sites in accordance with the National Environmental Management Plan guidelines as 23 “Urgent”, 42 “High”, 58 “Standard”, 38 “Low” and 1 “None” (no action needed). The GIS-RBA is used to determine the priority for site assessment.

The Department has further past and present sites that may be classified pending further investigations.

Aluminium Composite Panels

The Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) have been performing an audit of public sector agencies with buildings vested in their control regarding the risk associated with potentially combustible aluminium composite panels.

As part of this investigation, the Department has identified one building which the Department is remediating to remove the hazard. The complexity of replacing the aluminium composite panels (ACP) in an occupied building and around DFES's sensitive 24/7 functions is currently being resolved with ACP removal commencement anticipated early 2019-20.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

8 Risks and contingencies (continued)

8.3 Fair value measurement

Assets measured at fair value:

		Level 1 (\$'000)	Level 2 (\$'000)	Level 3 (\$'000)	Fair value at the end of the period (\$'000)
2019	Note				
Land	5.1	–	18,538	78,081	96,619
Buildings	5.1	–	34,075	150,671	184,746
		–	52,613	228,752	281,365
2018	Note				
Land	5.1	–	18,626	79,667	98,293
Buildings	5.1	–	35,508	144,784	180,292
		–	54,134	224,451	278,585

Transfers between level 2 and 3 are the result of the facilities on the land being commissioned resulting in a change in valuation methodology from market value to current use or decommissioned resulting in the land measured at market value.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

8 Risks and contingencies (continued)

8.3 Fair value measurements (continued)

Valuation techniques to derive Level 2 fair values

Level 2 fair values of land and buildings (office accommodation) are derived using the market approach. Market evidence of sales prices of comparable land and buildings (office accommodation) in close proximity is used to determine price per square metre.

Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)

	Land (\$'000)	Buildings (\$'000)
2019		
Fair value at the beginning of the period	79,667	144,784
Additions	-	6,812
Revaluation increments/(decrements) recognised in Other Comprehensive Income	(1,586)	6,028
Transfers from/(to) Level 2	-	-
Disposals	-	-
Depreciation expense	-	(6,953)
Fair value at the end of the year	78,081	150,671
Total gains or losses for the period included in profit or loss, under 'Other Gains'	-	-

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

8 Risks and contingencies

8.3 Fair value measurements (continued)

	Land (\$'000)	Buildings (\$'000)
2018		
Fair value at the end of the year	78,012	133,147
Additions	755	13,152
Revaluation increments/(decrements) recognised in Other Comprehensive Income	(4,500)	5,012
Transfers from/(to) Level 2 Vincent Career Fire Station	5,400	-
Disposals	-	-
Depreciation expense	-	(6,527)
Fair value at the end of the year	79,667	144,784
Total gains or losses for the period included in profit or loss, under 'Other Gains'	-	-

Valuation processes

There were no changes in valuation techniques during the period.

Transfers in and out of a fair value level are recognised on the date of the event or change in circumstances that caused the transfer.

Transfers between level 2 and 3 are generally the result of the specialised emergency service facilities being commissioned or decommissioned resulting in a change in inputs required to value the land and buildings.

Transfers also occur due to assets newly classified as non-current assets held for sale as Treasurer's instructions require valuations of land, buildings and infrastructure to be categorised within Level 3 where the valuations will utilise significant Level 3 inputs on a recurring basis.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

8 Risks and contingencies

8.3 Fair value measurements (continued)

Land (Level 3 fair values)

Fair value for restricted use land is based on comparison with market evidence for land with low level utility (high restricted use land). The relevant comparators of land with low level utility is selected by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuation Services) and represents the application of a significant Level 3 input in this valuation methodology. The fair value measurement is sensitive to values of comparator land, with higher values of comparator land correlating with higher estimated fair values of land.

Buildings (Level 3 fair values)

Fair value for existing use specialised buildings assets is determined by reference to the cost of replacing the remaining future economic benefits embodied in the asset, i.e. the depreciated replacement cost. Depreciated replacement cost is the current replacement cost of an asset less accumulated depreciation calculated on the basis of such cost to reflect the already consumed or expired economic benefit, or obsolescence, and optimisation (where applicable) of the asset.

Current replacement cost is generally determined by reference to the market observable replacement cost of a substitute asset of comparable utility and the gross project size specifications.

Valuation using depreciated replacement cost utilises the significant Level 3 input and consumed economic benefit/obsolescence of the asset which is estimated by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuation Services). The fair value measurement is sensitive to the estimate of consumption/obsolescence, with higher values of the estimate correlating with lower estimated fair values of buildings.

Basis of Valuation

In the absence of market-based evidence, due to the specialised nature of some non-financial assets, these assets are valued at Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy on an existing use basis. The existing use basis recognises that restrictions or limitations have been placed on their use and disposal when they are not determined to be surplus to requirements. These restrictions are imposed by virtue of the assets being held to deliver a specific community service.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures

This section includes additional material disclosures required by accounting standards or other pronouncements, for the understanding of this financial report.

	Notes
Events occurring after reporting date	9.1
Initial application of Australian Accounting Standards	9.2
Future impact of Australian standards issued not yet operative	9.3
Key management personnel	9.4
Related party transactions	9.5
Affiliated bodies	9.6
Special purpose financial statements	9.7
Non-current assets held for sale	9.8
Remuneration of auditors	9.9
Equity	9.10
Supplementary financial information	9.11
Indian Ocean Territories	9.12
Explanatory statement	9.13

9.1 Events occurring after reporting date

No other matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2019 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the Department's operations, the results of those operations, or the Department's state of affairs in future financial years.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.2 Initial application of Australian Accounting Standards

AASB 9 *Financial instruments*

AASB 9 *Financial instruments* replaces AASB 139 *Financial instruments: Recognition and Measurements* for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018, bringing together all three aspects of the accounting for financial instruments: classification and measurement; impairment; and hedge accounting.

The Department applied AASB 9 prospectively, with an initial application date of 1 July 2018. The adoption of AASB 9 has resulted in changes in accounting policies and adjustments to the amounts recognised in the financial statements. In accordance with AASB 9.7.2.15, the Department has not restated the comparative information which continues to be reported under AASB 139. Differences arising from adoption have been recognised directly in Accumulated surplus/(deficit).

The effect of adopting AASB 9 as at 1 July 2018 was, as follows:

	Adjustments	1 July 2018 (\$000)
Assets		
Receivables	(a),(b)	(11)
Total assets		(11)
Total adjustments to Equity		
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)	(a),(b)	(11)
		(11)

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.2 Initial application of Australian Accounting Standards (continued)

AASB 9 *Financial instruments (continued)*

The nature of these adjustments are described below:

(a) Classification and measurement

Under AASB 9, financial assets are subsequently measured at amortised cost, fair value through other comprehensive income (fair value through OCI) or fair value through profit or loss (fair value through P/L). The classification is based on two criteria: the Department's business model for managing the assets; and whether the assets' contractual cash flows represent 'solely payments of principal and interest' on the principal amount outstanding.

The assessment of the Department's business model was made as of the date of initial application, 1 July 2018. The assessment of whether contractual cash flows on financial assets are solely comprised of principal and interest was made based on the facts and circumstances at the time of initial recognition of the assets. The classification and measurement requirements of AASB 9 did not have a significant impact on the Department. The following are the changes in the classification of the Department's financial assets:

- Receivables and Loans and advances (i.e. Other debtors) classified as Loans and receivables as at 30 June 2018 are held to collect contractual cash flows and give rise to cash flows representing solely payments of principal and interest. These are classified and measured as Financial assets at amortised cost beginning 1 July 2018.

In summary, upon the adoption of AASB 9, the Department had the following reclassifications as at 1 July 2018:

	(\$000)	AASB 9 Category		
		Amortised cost (\$000)	Fair value through OCI (\$000)	Fair value through P/L (\$000)
AASB 139 category				
Receivables*	2,532			2,521

* The change in carrying amount is a result of additional impairment allowance. See the discussion on impairment on the following page.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.2 Initial application of Australian Accounting Standards (continued)

AASB 9 *Financial instruments* (continued)

(b) Impairment

The adoption of AASB 9 has fundamentally changed the Department's accounting for impairment losses for financial assets by replacing AASB 139's incurred loss approach with a forward-looking expected credit loss (ECL) approach. AASB 9 requires the Department to recognise an allowance for ECLs for all financial assets not held at fair value through P/L.

Upon adoption of AASB 9, the Department recognised an additional impairment on the Department's receivables of \$11,000 which resulted in a decrease in Accumulated surplus/ (deficit) of \$11,000 as at 1 July 2018.

Set out below is the reconciliation of the ending impairment allowances in accordance with AASB 139 to the opening loss allowances determined in accordance with AASB 9:

	Impairment under AASB 139 as at 30 June 2018 (\$000)	Remeasurement (\$000)	ECL under AASB 9 as at 1 July 2018 (\$000)
Loans and receivables under AASB 139 / Financial assets at amortised cost under AASB 9	33	11	44
	33	11	44

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.3 Future impact of Australian standards issued not yet operative

The Department cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard unless specifically permitted by TI 1101 'Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements' or by an exemption from TI 1101. Where applicable, the Department plans to apply the following Australian Accounting Standards from their application date.

	Operative for reporting periods beginning on/after
AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers	1 Jan 2019
Nature of change This Standard establishes the principles that the Department shall report useful information to users of financial statements about the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from contracts with customers. The mandatory effective date of this Standard is currently 1 January 2019 after being amended by AASB 2016-7.	
Impact The Department's income is primarily derived from an involuntary Emergency Services Levy (ESL) applied to the Gross Rental Value of property and Parliamentary Appropriation which will both be measured under AASB 1058, and thus will not be materially affected by this change. Although the recognition of 'user charges and fees' revenues will be deferred until the Department has discharged its performance obligations, these revenues are expected to be fully recognised at year-end and no contract liability will exist.	
Transition The Department will adopt the modified retrospective approach on transition to AASB 15. No comparative information will be restated under this approach, and the Department will recognise the cumulative effect of initially applying the Standard as an adjustment to the opening balance of accumulated surplus/(deficit) at the date of initial application.	

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.3 Future impact of Australian standards issued not yet operative (continued)

Operative for
reporting periods
beginning on/after

AASB 16 Leases

1 Jan 2019

Nature of change This Standard introduces a single lessee accounting model and requires a lessee to recognise assets and liabilities for all leases with a term of more than 12 months, unless the underlying asset is of low value.

Impact Based on initial assessment, which is ongoing, the recognition of additional assets and liabilities, mainly from operating leases, the initial impact assessment estimates an increase the Department's total assets by \$32.9 million and total liabilities by \$32.9 million. This will have nil equity impact on 1 July 2019. In addition, interest and depreciation expenses will increase, offset by a decrease in rental expense for the year ending 30 June 2020 and beyond.

The above assessment is based on the following accounting policy positions:

- Option 1 of the modified retrospective approach on transition;
- the 'low value asset' threshold set at AUD \$5,000 (unless GROH, GOA or State Fleet);
- For leases classified as 'short term' (12 months or less), these are not recognised under AASB 16 (unless GROH, GOA or State Fleet);
- Land, buildings and investment property ROU assets are measured under the fair value model, subsequent to initial recognition; and
- Discount rates are sourced from WA Treasury Corporation (WATC).

Transition The Department will adopt the modified retrospective approach on transition to AASB 16. No comparative information will be restated under this approach, and the Department will recognise the cumulative effect of initially applying the Standard as an adjustment to the opening balance of accumulated surplus/(deficit) at the date of initial application.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.3 Future impact of Australian standards issued not yet operative (continued)

Operative for
reporting periods
beginning on/after

AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities*

1 Jan 2019

Nature of change This Standard clarifies and simplifies the income recognition requirements that apply to not-for-profit (NFP) entities, more closely reflecting the economic reality of NFP entity transactions that are not contracts with customers. Timing of income recognition is dependent on whether such a transaction gives rise to a liability or other performance obligation (a promise to transfer a good or service), or a contribution by owners, related to an asset (such as cash or another asset) received by an Department.

Impact AASB 1058 will have no impact on appropriations and recurrent grants received by the Department – they will continue to be recognised as income when funds are deposited in the bank account or credited to the holding account.

Transition The Department will adopt the modified retrospective approach on transition to AASB 1058. No comparative information will be restated under this approach, and the Department will recognise the cumulative effect of initially applying the Standard as an adjustment to the opening balance of accumulated surplus/(deficit) at the date of initial application.

AASB 1059 *Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors*

1 Jan 2020

Nature of change This Standard addresses the accounting for a service concession arrangement (a type of public private partnership) by a grantor that is a public sector Department by prescribing the accounting for the arrangement from the grantor's perspective. Timing and measurement for the recognition of a specific asset class occurs on commencement of the arrangement and the accounting for associated liabilities is determined by whether the grantee is paid by the grantor or users of the public service provided.

The mandatory effective date of this Standard is currently 1 January 2020 after being amended by AASB 2018-5.

Impact The Department does not manage any public private partnership that is within the scope of the Standard.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.3 Future impact of Australian standards issued not yet operative (continued)

Operative for
reporting periods
beginning on/after

<i>AASB 2016-8 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Australian Implementation Guidance for Not-for-Profit Entities</i>	1 Jan 2019
Nature of change This Standard inserts Australian requirements and authoritative implementation guidance for not-for-profit entities into AASB 9 and AASB 15. This guidance assists not-for-profit entities in applying those Standards to particular transactions and other events. There is no financial impact.	
<i>AASB 2018-4 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Australian Implementation Guidance for Not-for-Profit Public Sector Licensors</i>	1 Jan 2019
Nature of change This Standard amends AASB 15 to add requirements and authoritative implementation guidance for application by not-for-profit public sector licensors to transactions involving the issue of licences. There is no financial impact as the Department does not issue licences.	
<i>AASB 2018-5 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Deferral of AASB 1059</i>	1 Jan 2019
Nature of change This Standard amends the mandatory effective date of AASB 1059 so that AASB 1059 is required to be applied for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2020 instead of 1 January 2019. There is no financial impact.	
<i>AASB 2018-7 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Definition of Material</i>	1 Jan 2020
Nature of change This Standard clarifies the definition of material and its application by improving the wording and aligning the definition across AASB Standards and other publications. There is no financial impact.	

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.3 Future impact of Australian standards issued not yet operative (continued)

Operative for
reporting periods
beginning on/after

AASB 2018-8 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Right-of-Use Assets of Not-for-Profit Entities

1 Jan 2019

Nature of change This Standard provides a temporary option for not-for-profit entities to not apply the fair value initial measurement requirements for right-of-use assets arising under leases with significantly below-market terms and conditions principally to enable the entity to further its objectives.

Impact The Department will elect to apply the option to measure right-of-use assets under peppercorn leases at cost (which is generally about \$1). As a result, the financial impact of this Standard is not material.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.4 Key management personnel

The Department has determined that key management personnel include Ministers and senior officers of the Department. However, the Department is not obligated to compensate Ministers and therefore disclosures in relation to Ministers' compensation may be found in the *Annual Report on State Finances*.

Total compensation for senior officers of the Department for the reporting period are presented within the following bands:

Compensation Band (\$)	2019	2018
90,001 – 100,000	–	1
120,001 – 130,000	–	1
140,001 – 150,000	1	1
160,001 – 170,000	–	1
170,001 – 180,000	1	1
230,001 – 240,000	–	2
240,001 – 250,000	1	3
250,001 – 260,000	2	–
360,001 – 370,000	1	–
390,001 – 400,000	–	1
420,001 – 430,000	1	–

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.4 Key management personnel (continued)

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Short-term employee benefits	1,396	1,990
Post-employment benefits	158	245
Other long-term benefits	114	69
Termination benefits	201	-
	1,869	2,304

Total compensation includes the superannuation expense incurred by the Department in respect of senior officers.

9.5 Related party transactions

The Department is a wholly owned and controlled entity of the State of Western Australia. In conducting its activities, the Department is required to pay various taxes and levies based on the standard terms and conditions that apply to all tax and levy payers to the State and entities related to the State.

Related parties of the department include:

- All Ministers and their close family members, and their controlled or jointly controlled entities;
- All senior officers and their close family members, and their controlled or jointly controlled entities;
- Other departments and public sector entities, including related bodies included in the whole of government consolidated financial statements;
- Associates and joint ventures, that are included in the whole of government consolidated financial statements; and
- GESB and FESSF

Related party transactions required to be disclosed

There have been no related party transactions other than transactions that would occur within a normal supplier or client/recipient relationship on terms and conditions no more or less favourable than those which it is reasonable to expect the Department would have adopted if dealing with that individual entity at arm's length in the same circumstance.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.5 Related party transactions (continued)

Significant transactions with government related entities

- Service appropriations (Note 4.2);
- Contributed equity (Note 9.9);
- Services received free of charge (Note 4.2);
- Royalties for Regions Fund (Note 4.2);
- Superannuation payments to GESB and FESSF (Note 3.1(a)); and
- Remuneration for services provided by the Auditor General (9.8)

Material transactions with related parties

Outside of normal citizen type transactions with the Department, there were no other related party transactions that involved key management personnel an /or their close family members and/or their controlled (or jointly controlled) entities.

9.6 Affiliated bodies

The following are classified as non-government affiliated bodies and receive direct and/or indirect financial assistance. Direct financial assistance is given in the form of a grant (see note 3.2) and minor reimbursements. Indirect financial assistance is given in the form of in kind benefits including office accommodation and minor administrative support.

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Volunteer Fire and Rescue Services Association of WA Inc.	363	400
Volunteer Marine Rescue Western Australia Inc.	295	89
Association of Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades WA Inc.	141	149
Emergency Services Volunteer Association Inc.	75	78
	874	716

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.7 Special purpose financial statements

WA Volunteer Fire Brigades Trust^(a)

The purpose of the account is to hold funds pursuant to the last will and testament of Cecilia Veal for the use of Volunteer Fire Brigades in Western Australia.

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Balance at start of period	481	452
Receipts	11	29
Payments	-	-
Balance at end of period	492	481

Coolgardie Volunteer Fire Brigade Trust^(a)

The purpose of the account is to hold funds pursuant to the last will and testament of Frances Tree for the use of Coolgardie Volunteer Fire Brigade.

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Balance at start of period	55	186
Receipts	4	2
Payments	-	(133)
Balance at end of period	59	55

(a) Established under section 16(1)(c) of *Financial Management Act 2006*.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.8 Non-current assets held for sale

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Land		
Opening balance	-	8,000
Assets reclassified as held for sale	-	-
Total assets classified as held for sale	-	8,000
Less assets sold	-	(8,000)
Closing balance	-	-

9.9 Remuneration of auditors

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Remuneration payable to the Auditor General in respect of the audit for the current financial period is as follows:		
Auditing the accounts, controls, financial statements and key performance indicators	160	158

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.10 Equity

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Contributed equity		
Balance at start of period	353,244	350,102
<u>Contributions by owners</u>		
Capital appropriations	-	-
<u>Other contributions by owners</u>		
Transfer in of net assets from the Office of Emergency Management ^(a)	4,858	-
Royalties for Regions Fund – Regional Community Services Account	-	1,562
<u>Transfer of net assets from other agencies</u>		
Transfer of Land from Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage	213	1,580
Total contributions by owners	5,071	3,142
Balance at end of period	358,315	353,244

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.10 Equity (continued)

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Reserves		
<u>Asset revaluation surplus</u>		
Balance at start of period	44,180	43,806
Net revaluation increments / (decrements)		
Land	(2,777)	(5,474)
Buildings	5,135	5,848
Balance at end of period	46,538	44,180
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)		
Balance at start of period	4,821	(17,078)
Result for the period	25,287	21,899
Balance at end of period	30,108	4,821
Total equity at end of period	434,961	402,245

(a) On 1 July 2018 the Office of Emergency Management was merged with the Department. All assets and liabilities of the former Office of Emergency Management were transferred to the Department.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.11 Supplementary financial information

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
(a) Write-Offs		
During the financial year, nil (2018: nil) was written off the Department's asset register under the authority of:		
The accountable authority	-	-
The Minister	-	-
Executive Council	-	-
	-	-
(b) Losses through theft, defaults and other causes		
Losses of public money and other property through theft or default	6	8
Amounts recovered	-	-
	6	8
(c) Gifts of public property		
Gifts of public property provided by the Department.	1	6
	1	6

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.12 Indian Ocean Territories

The Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities provides funding for the Department to:

- Support the provision of community safety / prevention programs.
- Assess commercial and industrial building plans, inspect completed buildings for compliance with National Construction Code and test fire safety equipment.
- Undertake fire safety assessments.
- Support fire and emergency services and volunteer marine rescue groups, including: training, emergency exercises, inspect and provide advice on personal protective clothing and personal protective equipment.
- Provide advice on emergency recovery plans.
- Provide a Volunteer Assistance Program.

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
Opening balance	(16)	12
Total receipts	166	133
Total expenditure	(94)	(161)
Closing balance	56	(16)

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.13 Explanatory statement

All variances between estimates (original budget) and actual results for 2019, and between the actual results for 2019 and 2018 are shown below.

Narratives are provided for key variations selected from observed major variances, which are generally greater than:

- 5% and \$8.0 million for the Statements of Comprehensive Income and Cash Flows; and,
- 5% and \$9.9 million for the Statement of Financial Position.

Statement of Comprehensive Income (Controlled operations)	Variance Note	Estimate 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2018 (\$'000)	Variance between estimate and actual (\$'000)	Variance between actual results for 2019 and 2018 (\$'000)
Expenses						
Employee benefits expense		215,569	216,409	206,297	840	10,112
Supplies and services	1, A	105,997	130,207	103,072	24,210	27,135
Depreciation and amortisation		25,412	23,244	18,398	(2,168)	4,846
Finance costs		1,794	1,568	1,798	(226)	(230)
Accommodation expenses		9,615	10,806	10,889	1,191	(83)
Grants and subsidies	2	60,671	44,887	50,552	(15,784)	(5,665)
Loss on disposal of non-current assets		-	-	214	-	(214)
Other expenditure		10,823	8,367	7,375	(2,456)	992
Total cost of services		429,881	435,488	398,595	5,607	36,893

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.13 Explanatory statement (continued)

Statement of Comprehensive Income (Controlled operations)	Variance Note	Estimate 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2018 (\$'000)	Variance between estimate and actual (\$'000)	Variance between actual results for 2019 and 2018 (\$'000)
Income						
<i>Revenue</i>						
User charges and fees	B	399,782	404,687	368,083	4,905	36,604
Commonwealth grants and contributions	C	8,786	13,323	4,470	4,537	8,853
Interest revenue		-	140	200	140	(60)
Other revenue		2,949	9,723	7,315	6,774	2,408
Total revenue		411,517	427,873	380,068	16,356	47,805
<i>Gains</i>						
Gain on disposal of non-current assets		680	892	-	212	892
Total gains		680	892	-	212	892
Total income other than income from State Government		412,197	428,765	380,068	16,568	48,697
NET COST OF SERVICES		17,684	6,723	18,527	(10,961)	(11,804)

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.13 Explanatory statement (continued)

Statement of Comprehensive Income (Controlled operations)	Variance Note	Estimate 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2018 (\$'000)	Variance between estimate and actual (\$'000)	Variance between actual results for 2019 and 2018 (\$'000)
Income from State Government						
Service appropriation		23,812	23,209	25,159	(603)	(1,950)
Services received free of charge		2,273	3,314	839	1,041	2,475
Royalties for Regions Fund	D	5,834	5,487	14,428	(347)	(8,941)
Total income from State Government		31,919	32,010	40,426	91	(8,416)
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD		14,235	25,287	21,899	11,052	3,388
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME						
Items not reclassified subsequently to profit or loss						
Changes in asset revaluation surplus		-	2,358	374	2,358	1,984
Gains/(losses) recognised directly in equity		-	-	-	-	-
Total other comprehensive income		-	2,358	374	2,358	1,984
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD		14,235	27,645	22,273	13,410	5,372

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.13 Explanatory statement (continued)

Statement of Financial Position (Controlled operations)	Variance Note	Estimate 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2018 (\$'000)	Variance between estimate and actual (\$'000)	Variance between actual results for 2019 and 2018 (\$'000)
ASSETS						
Current assets						
Cash and cash equivalents		41,561	58,729	56,711	17,168	2,018
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		237	11,082	1,039	10,845	10,043
Inventories		9,838	5,513	3,659	(4,325)	1,854
Receivables		9,048	11,683	5,167	2,635	6,516
Other current assets		2,517	2,091	2,431	(426)	(340)
Total current assets		63,201	89,098	69,007	25,897	20,091
Non-current assets						
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		1,661	2,002	1,283	341	719
Amounts receivable for services		46,566	46,566	38,593	-	7,973
Property, plant and equipment		388,603	379,252	372,821	(9,351)	6,431
Intangible assets		19,216	14,905	13,015	(4,311)	1,890
Other non-current assets		-	-	-	-	-
Total non-current assets		456,046	442,725	425,712	(13,321)	17,013
TOTAL ASSETS		519,247	531,823	494,719	12,576	37,104

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.13 Explanatory statement (continued)

Statement of Financial Position (Controlled operations)	Variance Note	Estimate 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2018 (\$'000)	Variance between estimate and actual (\$'000)	Variance between actual results for 2019 and 2018 (\$'000)
LIABILITIES						
Current liabilities						
Payables		8,940	21,246	17,436	12,306	3,810
Borrowings		2,589	2,440	2,440	(149)	–
Employee related provisions		30,179	27,751	25,839	(2,428)	1,912
Other current liabilities		517	26	24	(491)	2
Total current liabilities		42,225	51,463	45,739	9,238	5,724
Non-current liabilities						
Borrowings		40,406	34,116	36,556	(6,290)	(2,440)
Employee related provisions		10,248	11,283	10,179	1,035	1,104
Total non-current liabilities		50,654	45,399	46,735	(5,255)	(1,336)
TOTAL LIABILITIES		92,879	96,862	92,474	3,983	4,388
NET ASSETS		426,368	434,961	402,245	8,593	32,716

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.13 Explanatory statement (continued)

Statement of Financial Position (Controlled operations)	Variance Note	Estimate 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2018 (\$'000)	Variance between estimate and actual (\$'000)	Variance between actual results for 2019 and 2018 (\$'000)
EQUITY						
Contributed equity		369,831	358,315	353,244	(11,516)	5,071
Reserves		43,805	46,538	44,180	2,733	2,358
Accumulated surplus		12,732	30,108	4,821	17,376	25,287
TOTAL EQUITY		426,368	434,961	402,245	8,593	32,716

Statement of Cash Flows (Controlled operations)	Variance Note	Estimate 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2018 (\$'000)	Variance between estimate and actual (\$'000)	Variance between actual results for 2019 and 2018 (\$'000)
Receipts						
Service appropriation		16,063	15,460	18,248	(603)	(2,788)
Royalties for Regions Fund	E	5,753	5,487	15,990	(266)	(10,503)
Net cash provided by State Government		21,816	20,947	34,238	(869)	(13,291)

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.13 Explanatory statement (continued)

Statement of Cash Flows (Controlled operations)	Variance Note	Estimate 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2018 (\$'000)	Variance between estimate and actual (\$'000)	Variance between actual results for 2019 and 2018 (\$'000)
Utilised as follows:						
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES						
Payments						
Employee benefits		(215,130)	(212,561)	(207,434)	2,569	(5,127)
Supplies and services	3, F	(97,904)	(128,163)	(97,884)	(30,259)	(30,279)
Finance costs		(1,794)	(1,614)	(1,887)	180	273
Accommodation		(11,791)	(10,147)	(10,734)	1,644	587
Grants and subsidies	4	(60,671)	(43,864)	(41,573)	16,807	(2,291)
GST payments on purchases	5	(8,794)	(20,669)	(18,835)	(11,875)	(1,834)
Other payments		(10,965)	(8,327)	(7,362)	2,638	(965)

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.13 Explanatory statement (continued)

Statement of Cash Flows (Controlled operations)	Variance Note	Estimate 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2018 (\$'000)	Variance between estimate and actual (\$'000)	Variance between actual results for 2019 and 2018 (\$'000)
Receipts						
User fees and charges	G	400,682	404,199	367,825	3,517	36,374
Commonwealth grants and contributions		7,885	8,236	7,549	351	687
Interest received		-	140	200	140	(60)
GST receipts on sales		1,250	2,251	2,330	1,001	(79)
GST receipts from taxation authority	6	7,544	18,151	16,913	10,607	1,238
Other receipts		2,751	9,367	3,823	6,616	5,544
Net cash used in operating activities		13,063	16,999	12,931	3,936	4,068
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES						
Payments						
Purchase of non-current assets		(34,818)	(29,505)	(37,398)	5,313	7,893
Receipts						
Proceeds from the sale of non-current assets		1,500	1,097	8,511	(403)	(7,414)
Net cash used in investing activities		(33,318)	(28,408)	(28,887)	4,910	479

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.13 Explanatory statement (continued)

Statement of Cash Flows (Controlled operations)	Variance Note	Estimate 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2018 (\$'000)	Variance between estimate and actual (\$'000)	Variance between actual results for 2019 and 2018 (\$'000)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES						
Payments						
Repayment of borrowings		(201)	(2,440)	(9,390)	(2,239)	6,950
Net cash used in financing activities		(201)	(2,440)	(9,390)	(2,239)	6,950
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		1,360	7,098	8,892	5,738	(1,794)
Cash balance transferred in from:			-			
Former Office of Emergency Management		4,903	5,682	-	779	5,682
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		37,195	59,033	50,141	21,838	8,892
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD		43,458	71,813	59,033	28,355	12,780

Major Estimate and Actual (2019) Variance Narratives for Controlled Operations

Statement of Comprehensive Income

- Supplies and services increased by \$24.2 million (18.6%) compared with the estimate mainly due to unanticipated expenditure associated with bushfire suppression and significant State Emergency Service incidents. Significant incidents during 2018-19 included fire events in Esperance, Lewana, Cocanarup and Jurien Bay. Major additional costs included the hire of equipment, purchase of consumables such as firefighting foam and fuel and staff travel costs.
- Grants and subsidies expenditure is \$15.8 million (35.2%) below the estimate due to unanticipated delays in contracting the construction and issuing of Local Government facilities and fire appliances.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

9 Other disclosures (continued)

9.13 Explanatory statement (continued)

Statement of Cash Flows

- 3) Supplies and services payments exceeded the estimate by \$30.0 million (23.5%) mainly due to unanticipated costs associated with bushfire suppression and significant State Emergency Service incidents. Significant incidents during 2018-19 included fire events in Esperance, Lewana, Cocanarup and Jurien Bay. Major additional costs included the hire of equipment, purchase of consumables such as firefighting foam and fuel and staff travel costs.
- 4) Grants and subsidies payments were \$16.6 million (37.6%) below the estimate due to unanticipated delays in contracting the construction of Local Government facilities and fire appliances.
- 5) The estimate for GST payments on purchases is understated by \$11.9 million (57.5%) in comparison to the level of purchasing activity with GST registered vendors.
- 6) The estimate for GST receipts from the taxation authority is understated by \$10.6 million (58.4%) and is directly related to GST payments on purchases as discussed in note 5 above. The estimate is also understated in comparison to the level of purchasing activity with GST registered vendors.

Major Actual (2019) and Comparative (2018) Variance Narratives for Controlled Operations

Statement of Comprehensive Income

- A) Supplies and services increased by \$27.1 million (20.8%) driven by the establishment of the new Rural Fire Division and the merger of the Office of Emergency Management in addition to higher expenditure associated with bushfire suppression and significant State Emergency Service incidents.
- B) User fees and charges increased by \$36.4 million (9.5%) driven an increase in the Emergency Services Levy to fund the establishment of the Rural Fire Division and the additional Departmental services as a result of machinery of government changes.
- C) Commonwealth grants and contributions increased by \$8.8 million (66.5%) mainly due to the Department's new mitigation and recovery outcomes as a result of the merger with the Office of Emergency Management.
- D) Royalties for Regions revenue decrease by \$8.9 million (162.9%) due to funding of the South West Rescue Helicopter now jointly sourced from the Emergency Services Levy and the Royalties for Regions Community Services account.

Statement of Cash Flows

- E) Royalties for Regions receipts decreased by \$10.5 million (191.4%) due to capital and recurrent funding of the South West Rescue Helicopter now jointly sourced from the Emergency Services Levy and the Royalties for Regions Community Services account.
- F) Increased payments for supplies and services of \$30.0 million (23.5%) was driven by the establishment of the new Rural Fire Division and the merger of the Office of Emergency Management in addition to higher expenditure associated with bushfire suppression and significant State Emergency Service incidents.
- G) Receipt of user fees and charges increased by \$36.4 million (9.0%) driven by an increase in the Emergency Services Levy to fund the establishment of the Rural Fire Division and the additional Departmental services as a result of machinery of government changes.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

10 Administered disclosures

The Department is responsible for the administration of the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (known as DRFAWA) which commenced 1 November 2018. The new arrangements replace the Western Australia Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (WANDRRA). The Western Australian and Commonwealth Government provides the financial resources for a range of relief measures to assist communities to recover from an eligible natural disaster event.

Administration of WANDRRA and its successor scheme DRFAWA was transferred when all functions and responsibilities of the former Office of Emergency Management were transferred to the Department effective from 1 July 2018.

	Notes
Disclosure of administered income and expenditure	10.1
Explanatory statement for administered items	10.2
Administered assets and liabilities	10.3

10.1 Disclosure of administered income and expenditure

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
COST OF SERVICES		
Income from administered items		
Administered appropriation	48,622	102,900
TOTAL INCOME FROM ADMINISTERED ITEMS	48,622	102,900
Administered expenditure		
Grants and subsidies	141,884	125,835
TOTAL ADMINISTERED EXPENDITURE	141,884	125,835

The Department administers the payment of claims from government agencies and local authorities with funding of such claims being processed pursuant to the Western Australia Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements. The administered income and expenditure of the WANDRRA is not attributable to the Department's services.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

10 Administered disclosures (continued)

10.2 Explanatory statement for administered items

All variances between estimates (original budget) and actual results for 2019, and between the actual results for 2019 and 2018 are shown below. Narratives are provided for key variations selected from observed major variances, which are generally greater than 5% and \$900,000.

	Variance Note	Estimate 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2019 (\$'000)	Actual 2018 (\$'000)	Variance between estimate and actual (\$'000)	Variance between actual results for 2019 and 2018 (\$'000)
Income from administered items						
Administered appropriation	1, A	45,000	48,622	102,900	3,622	(54,278)
TOTAL INCOME FROM ADMINISTERED ITEMS		45,000	48,622	102,900	3,622	(54,278)
Administered expenditure						
Grants and subsidies	2, B	45,000	141,884	125,835	96,884	16,049
TOTAL ADMINISTERED EXPENDITURE		45,000	141,884	125,835	96,884	16,049

Major Estimate and Actual (2019) Variance Narratives

- 1) An additional \$3.6 million (7.4%) in administered funds received to settle outstanding Western Australian Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (WANDRRA) claims.
- 2) Increased grant expenditure of \$88.2 million (66.2%) compared with the estimated result due to higher payments to Main Roads WA for eligible disaster claims under the (WANDRRA) scheme.

Major Actual (2019) and Comparative (2018) Variance Narratives

- A) Additional funds received to settle outstanding Western Australian Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (WANDRRA) claims.
- B) Increased grant expenditure of \$7.3 million (5.5%) paid to Main Roads WA for eligible disaster claims under the WANDRRA scheme.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

10 Administered disclosures (continued)

10.3 Administered assets and liabilities

	2019 (\$'000)	2018 (\$'000)
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	–	5,032
TOTAL ADMINISTERED ASSETS	–	5,032
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Payables	124,900	36,670
TOTAL ADMINISTERED LIABILITIES	124,900	36,670
NET ADMINISTERED ASSETS	(124,900)	(31,638)
EQUITY		
Equity transfers from Government as a result of Machinery of Government changes		
Transfer of administered item from the Office of Emergency Management	(31,638)	–
Transfer of administered item from Department of Premier and Cabinet	–	3,272
Accumulated (deficit) / surplus	(93,262)	(34,910)
TOTAL ADMINISTERED EQUITY	(124,900)	(31,638)

Certification of Key Performance Indicators

I hereby certify that the key performance indicators are based on proper records, are relevant and appropriate for assisting users to assess the Department of Fire and Emergency Services' performance, and fairly represent the performance of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services for the reporting period ended 30 June 2019.



D Klemm AFSM
Accountable Authority

23 August 2019

60.5

accidental residential fires
per 100,000 households

WHY is 'Number of accidental residential fires per 100,000 households' a key indicator of our performance?

A reduction in the number of accidental fires in the home is an indicator of the effectiveness of our fire safety education programs. Programs such as 'Working Smoke Alarms' and 'Fire Safety in Your Home' aim to increase awareness of fire risk and promote appropriate community behaviour for reducing the impact of accidental residential fires.

HOW is this indicator derived?

This indicator is derived by dividing the number of reported accidental fires in homes by the number of WA households.

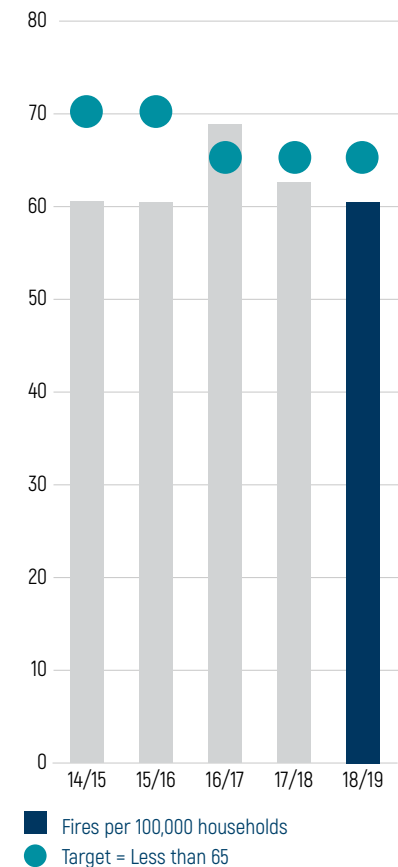
Retrospective data entry will affect results in any given year. Past data has been updated to reflect completed incident reports as at 30 June 2019 and amended population figures published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in March 2019.

The target for this indicator was lowered in 2016-17 due to our consistently meeting the target in previous years.

A lower than target result is desired.

WHAT does this indicator show?

Our 2018-19 result continues to be better than our target of less than 65 accidental residential fires per 100,000 households.



98.03%

of building plans are assessed within 15 days

WHY is 'Proportion of building plans assessed within specified timeframes' a key indicator of our performance?

This indicator measures our ability to assess building plans and provide advice within a specified timeframe for new commercial, non-commercial and industrial building plans. It also reflects our success in keeping pace with the volume of new building developments. Maintaining an appropriate response time in the assessment of plans is a key target because making sure buildings meet fire safety codes provides greater safety for the community and emergency responders if there is an emergency incident on site.

The National Construction Code (NCC) is a performance based code that establishes standards for safety in building design and construction. The code provides a safer environment for the public and responding emergency personnel in the event of a fire. In the event that a building design includes performance solutions that result in departure from "deemed to satisfy", the plans are assessed by our Fire Engineers to provide advice on the design's suitability.

This indicator only relates to building plans deemed to meet the safety requirements of the *National Construction Code Regulations* when submitted.

HOW is this indicator derived?

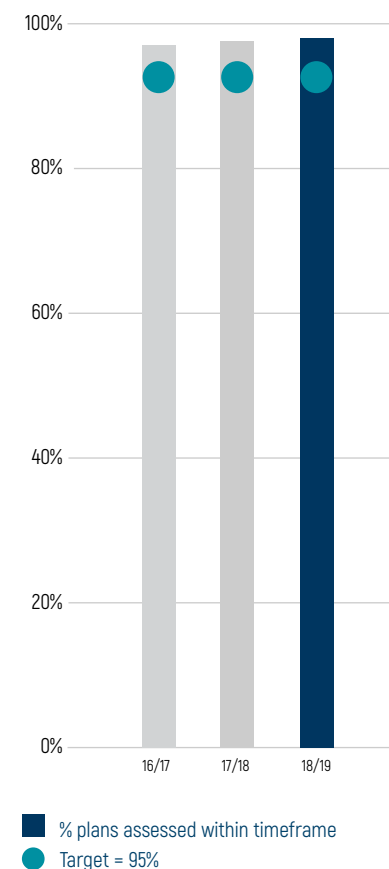
This indicator is derived by dividing the number of building plans deemed to meet the safety requirements of the NCC being assessed within 15 business days of being received, by the total number of building plans received and deemed to meet the NCC safety requirements.

The length of time taken for a plan to be assessed depends on the number and complexity of the submitted plans.

A higher than target result is desired.

WHAT does this indicator show?

This year's result of 98.03% of building plans assessed within 15 business days is better than our target of 95%.



\$8.03

is the average cost per household to deliver emergency hazard information and awareness programs

WHY is 'Average cost per household to deliver emergency hazard information and awareness programs' a key indicator of our performance?

Informed and aware communities can better manage their risks, reducing the impact of natural hazards and the occurrence of preventable emergencies. It is important to provide this community service in a cost effective way so that financial resources provided for the State's emergency services remain available for other essential programs.

HOW is this indicator derived?

This indicator is derived as a cost of service divided by the number of WA households.

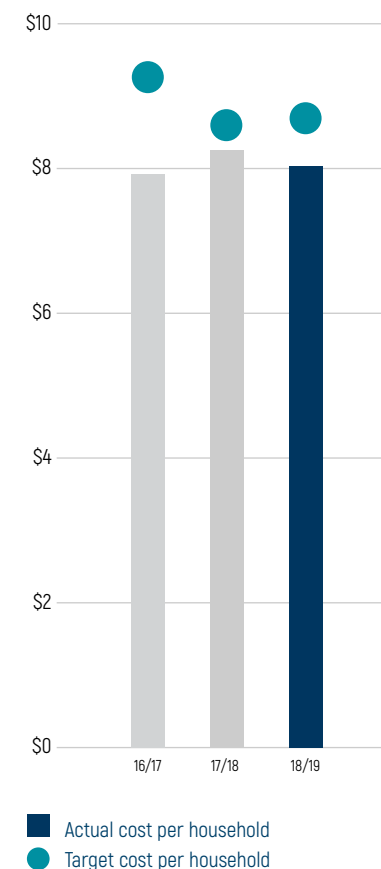
The target for this indicator is set each year as part of the State Government's Budget Papers #2 process and is impacted by changes in the number of households in WA.

Past data has been updated to reflect the amended household figures published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in March 2019.

A lower than target result is desired as it demonstrates our efficiency in managing allocated funding.

WHAT does this indicator show?

Expenditure is lower than our target of \$8.68 per household.



\$339.43

is the average cost to assess a building plan

WHY is 'Average cost per building plan assessed' a key indicator of our performance?

Plans for specific building types are submitted for assessment as part of the WA planning process.

We provide advice to developers to ensure building plans for new commercial, non commercial and industrial buildings in WA are fire safe. By reviewing building plans, we contribute to reducing the risk of harm to the community and firefighters responding to structural fires.

Safety standards are set in the *National Construction Code Regulations* and adherence to the Codes and the Commissioner's operational requirements provides a safer environment for the community and responding emergency personnel in the event of an incident. This indicator demonstrates how much it costs us to assess building plans for developers.

HOW is this indicator derived?

This indicator is derived by dividing the total number of building plans assessed by the cost to review all building plans submitted.

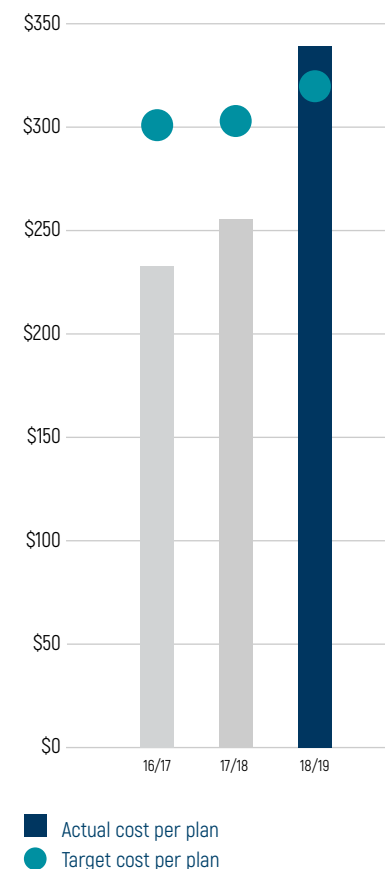
The target for this indicator is set each year as part of the State Government's Budget Papers #2 process and reflects salary increases and planned service delivery improvements.

The increase in the cost of assessing building plans is largely the result of a 28% increase in inspections to ensure high-risk Aged Care Facilities' fire safety systems are correctly maintained and fit for purpose. On average these inspections, which are part of the assessment process, are more labour intensive and therefore cost more than the average time required to assess building plans.

A lower than target result is desired as it demonstrates our efficiency in managing allocated funding.

WHAT does this indicator show?

Expenditure on this indicator is \$4.43 above our target of \$335 per plan, and higher than our result last year.



\$233,872.28

is the average cost to support local government bushfire risk management programs

WHY is 'Average cost per engaged local government to support bushfire risk management programs' a key indicator of our performance?

Informed and aware communities are better able to manage their risks and reduce the impact of natural hazards and preventable emergencies. This indicator demonstrates how much it costs us to engage with local governments to support and guide bushfire risk planning at the local level.

HOW is this indicator derived?

This indicator is derived as the cost to deliver the service divided by the number of local governments supported to develop bushfire risk management programs in WA.

The target for this indicator is set each year as part of the State Government's Budget Papers #2 process.

The number of local governments supported varies and can increase after the budget is set.

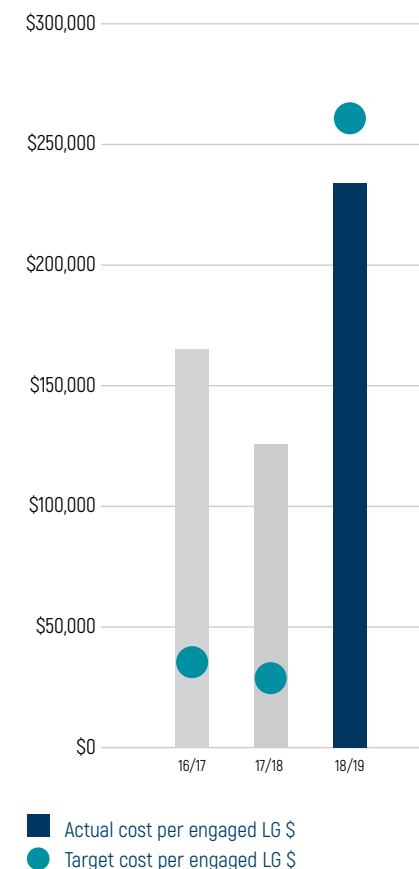
A Bushfire Risk Management Plan provides planning support to specific local governments each year. This support is documented through Bushfire Risk Management Planning Program Grant Agreements signed by both DFES and the participating local governments.

The result for this indicator is calculated by dividing the cost of providing the bushfire management support by the number of local governments supported.

A lower than target result is desired as it demonstrates our efficiency in managing allocated funding.

WHAT does this indicator show?

Our result shows it cost significantly less than the target average of \$263,695 per local government to support bushfire risk management programs.



24

operational personnel are endorsed as level 3 incident managers

WHY is 'Number of operational people endorsed as Level 3 Incident Managers' a key indicator of our performance?

We have a legislated role for preparedness and response to multiple hazards. Level 3 incidents are either extremely large or extremely complex, or both. The role of Incident Manager for Level 3 Incidents requires certain skills that are only achieved through the accumulation of specific experience and training. It is essential that we maintain a sufficient number of qualified staff capable of managing Level 3 Incidents.

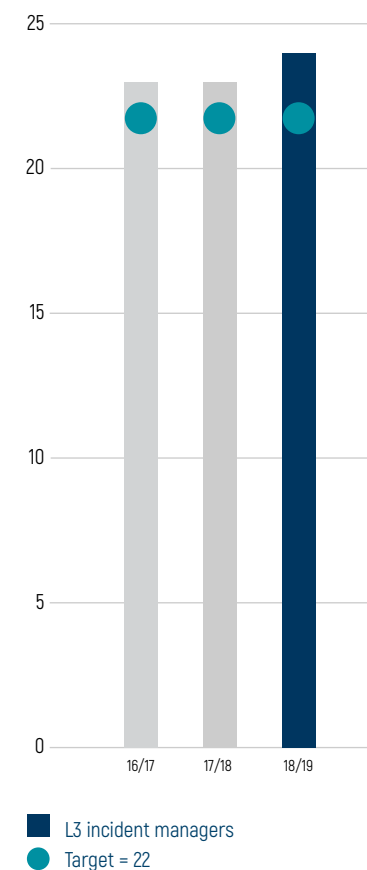
HOW is this indicator derived?

This indicator is derived as a count of operational personnel endorsed across three types of hazard: bushfires, urban fires and natural hazards¹. Each Level 3 Incident Manager is counted only once, no matter how many hazard endorsements they have.

A higher than target result is desired.

WHAT does this indicator show?

Our result shows we have exceeded our target of 22 Level 3 Incident Managers.



¹ A natural hazard is broadly defined as a weather event causing damage

81%

of our assets have been replaced when required

WHY is 'Proportion of assets within specified replacement period parameters' a key indicator of our performance?

We have a legislated role for preparedness and response to multiple hazards. The replacement of our response fleet and facilities within specified replacement periods (regardless of the funding method) is important for ensuring they remain fit for purpose and maintenance costs are minimised.

This indicator supports our capacity to manage important replacement schedules, thereby ensuring effective and contemporary frontline service capability.

HOW is this indicator derived?

This indicator is made up of three components:

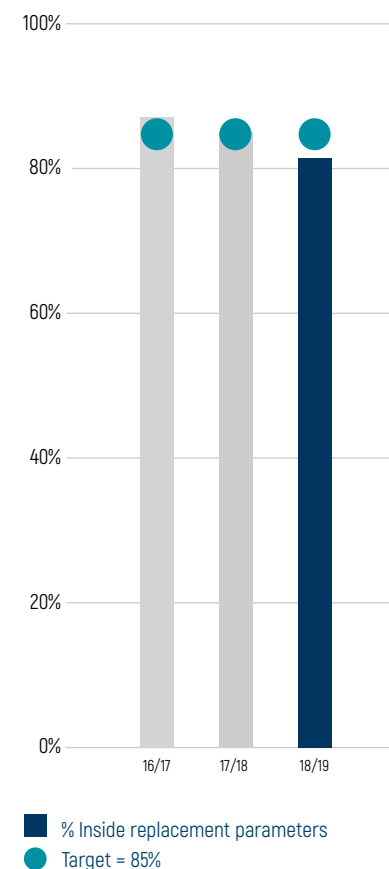
- the number of DFES owned / managed facilities
- DFES owned appliances
- DFES administered assets to the Bush Fire Service and State Emergency Services (procured through our Local Government Grant Scheme)

within replacement period parameters divided by the total number of assets.

A higher than target result is desired.

WHAT does this indicator show?

Our result shows that the proportion of our assets within replacement period parameters has declined over the last three years. This is largely a result of our ageing facilities.



74.51%

first round Local Government Grant Scheme offers were accepted

WHY is 'Proportion of first round Local Government Grant Scheme offers accepted' a key indicator of our performance?

The provision of capital and operating grants to local governments for their Bush Fire Service brigades and State Emergency Services units is managed through the Local Government Grant Scheme.

This indicator measures the appropriateness of our funding and allocation processes. Capital grants are offered in line with fleet replacement programs. Operating grants are based on the average of the expenses over the last two years and the current allocation. Both these grants are increased at the current cost escalation factor to ensure the grants maintain baseline cost requirements.

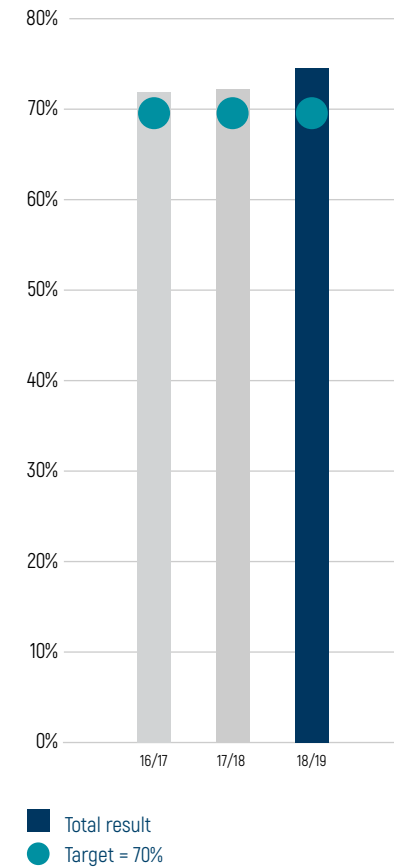
HOW is this indicator derived?

This indicator is derived by dividing the number of first round Local Government Grant Scheme offers accepted by the total number of offers made.

A higher than target result is desired.

WHAT does this indicator show?

This result exceeds our target of 70% and is an improvement on last year.



\$1,322.98

is the average cost per participant to deliver operational pathways training

WHY is 'Average cost per participant to deliver operational Pathways training' a key indicator of our performance?

Our ability to effectively and efficiently respond to emergencies requires an operational workforce that is trained to respond to incidents. This indicator includes costs for operational Pathways training for all staff and volunteer brigades, groups and units.

HOW is this indicator derived?

This indicator is derived by dividing the cost of service by the number of participants completing operational Pathways courses.

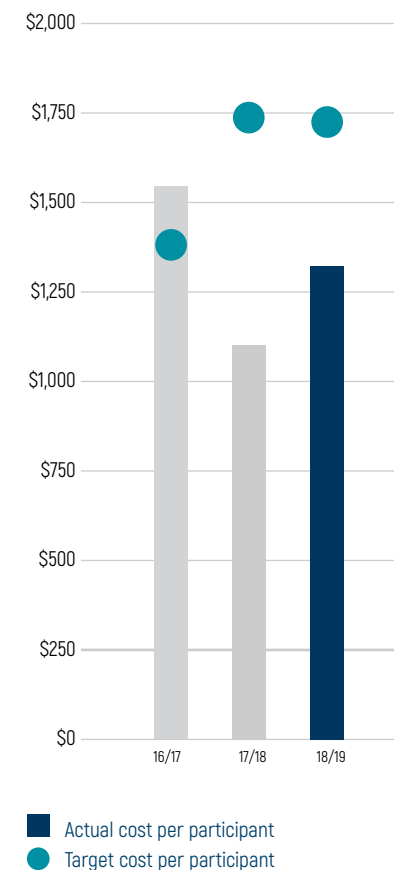
This indicator is made up of three components. They are:

- the cost of running the WA Fire and Emergency Services Academy
- the cost to provide training resources to participants
- the salary cost of trainers not included in the WA Fire and Emergency Services Academy costs.

A lower than target result is desired as it demonstrates our efficiency in managing allocated funding.

WHAT does this indicator show?

Our cost to deliver operational Pathways training was lower than our target of \$1,700 per participant.



85.20%

of responses to ESL 1 and ESL 2 incidents met target times

WHY is 'Proportion of responses to ESL 1 and ESL 2 incidents within specified timeframes' a key indicator of our performance?

This indicator measures the percentage of incident responses in Emergency Service Levy (ESL) 1 and 2 areas that meet the following target timeframes:

- ESL 1 area within 12 minutes
- ESL 2 area within 14 minutes.

Timely response is critical in minimising the community impact of incidents.

Factors that impact response times include:

- adverse weather or traffic conditions
- shorter or longer travel times if crews are not on station when notified
- crews being sent to incidents outside of their area.

HOW is this indicator derived?

This indicator is derived by determining the percentage of incidents in which an emergency response appliance arrives on scene within the desired time from when the 000 call is received by our Communication Centre.

Retrospective data entry affects results for any given year. Past data has been updated to reflect completed incident reports as at 30 June 2019.

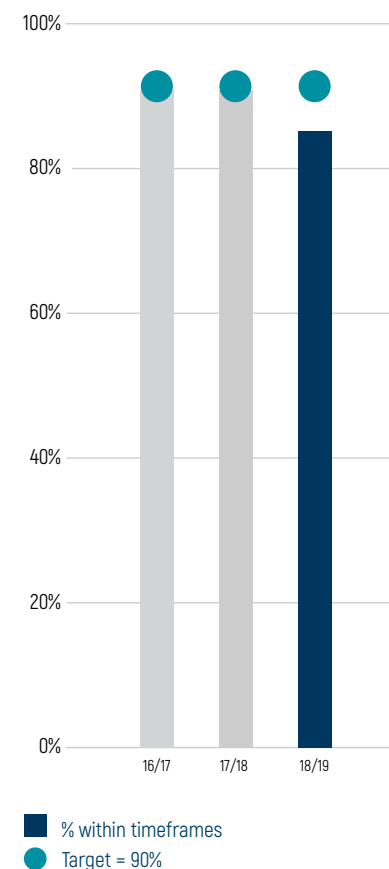
Our new Computer Aided Dispatch System implemented in August 2018 and changes in data collection processes have largely contributed to an increase in reported response times.

Currently, response crews radio the Communication Centre when mobilising or arriving at an incident. Congested radio traffic can delay this notification to the Communication Centre. Prior to August 2018, these notification times could be amended to allow for these delays. The new system does not allow for these amendments to be made. Improvements to data collection through the implementation of the Incident Response and Information System mobility solution will occur during 2019-20.

A higher than target result is desired.

WHAT does this indicator show?

The result of 85.20% does not meet our target of 90%.



90.75%

of volunteer turnouts met target times

WHY is 'Proportion of DFES volunteer turnouts within target timeframes' a key indicator of our performance?

This indicator measures the percentage of volunteer crew turnouts that meet target timeframes. It helps us determine where there are challenges in mustering a full volunteer crew for an incident response.

The turnout time is the most useful indicator for measuring volunteer service delivery. Response time is not used as an indicator of performance because it can be impacted by extended distances to incidents in regional areas.

HOW is this indicator derived?

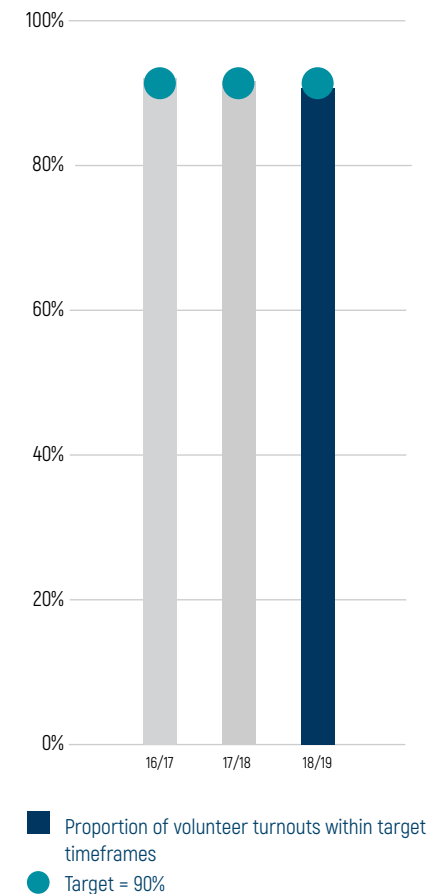
This indicator is derived by determining the percentage of incidents where the volunteer crew turned out within 14 minutes of receiving notification from the Communication Centre. We have limited control over response to incidents where support is provided to other agencies, such as fire response in regional local government areas and rescue incidents. This indicator therefore excludes incidents attended by Bush Fire Brigades and Volunteer Marine and Rescue Services units.

Retrospective data entry will affect results in any given year. Past data has been updated to reflect completed incident reports as at 30 June 2019.

A higher than target result is desired.

WHAT does this indicator show?

Our volunteer crews turned out to 90.75% of incidents in less than 14 minutes. This is better than the target of 90%.



73.62%

of structure fires are confined to the room or object of origin

WHY is 'Proportion of structure fires confined to room or object of origin' a key indicator of our performance?

This indicator measures the effectiveness of community fire safety education programs and fire service response. Higher levels of confinement will reduce the community impact of an incident.

Our objective is to raise community awareness on how to safely deal with small fires, where possible, and the importance of an early call to emergency services.

This indicator is linked to other indicators that measure accidental residential fires and fire service response times.

There are a range of factors that affect how quickly a fire will spread. These include:

- the types of household furnishings
- building standards and materials
- the time taken to alert emergency services.

Prompt detection and early notification are likely to increase the percentage of fires confined.

HOW is this indicator derived?

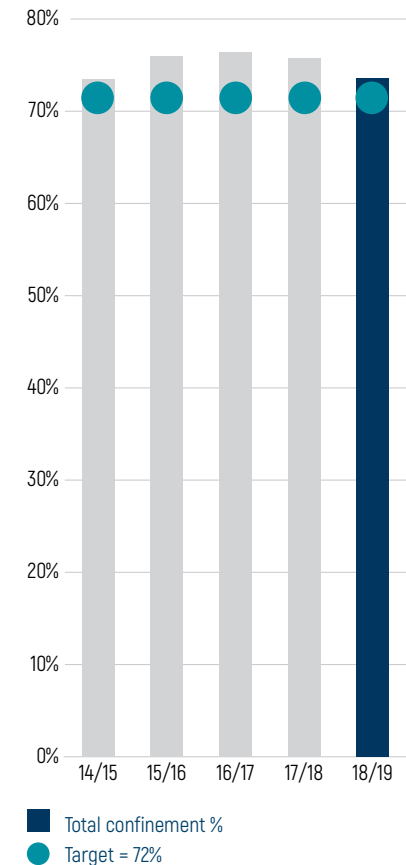
This indicator is derived by dividing the number of reported structure fires either confined to the container or room of origin by the total number of reported structure fires in which damage was recorded.

Retrospective data entry affects results for any given year. Past data has been updated to reflect completed incident reports as at 30 June 2019.

A higher than target result is desired.

WHAT does this indicator show?

This result is better than our target of 72% of structure fires being confined to the room or object of origin.



95.45%

of Level 2 and Level 3 bushfires had no structures lost or significantly damaged

WHY is 'Proportion of bushfires where no structures are lost or significantly damaged' a key indicator of our performance?

The protection of property, including critical infrastructure, is a key objective of suppression strategies during significant bushfires. The protection of infrastructure is important for reducing the financial and emotional impact of emergencies on our communities.

HOW is this indicator derived?

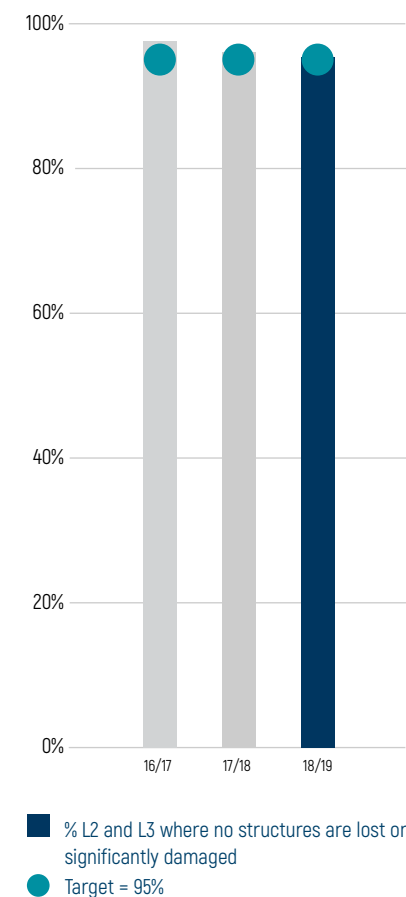
This indicator is derived by dividing the number of Level 2 and Level 3 bushfires where no structures are lost or significantly damaged by the total number of Level 2 and Level 3 bushfires.

Retrospective data entry affects results for any given year. Past data has been updated to reflect completed incident reports as at 30 June 2019.

A higher than target result is desired.

WHAT does this indicator show?

While marginally lower than last year, our result is higher than our target of 95%.



\$117.49

is the average cost per Western Australian to deliver frontline services

WHY is 'Average cost to deliver frontline services per Western Australian' a key indicator of our performance?

Our ability to provide a frontline response to WA communities minimises the impact of fire and other emergencies.

This indicator defines the cost to provide all frontline services, including volunteer brigades, groups and units.

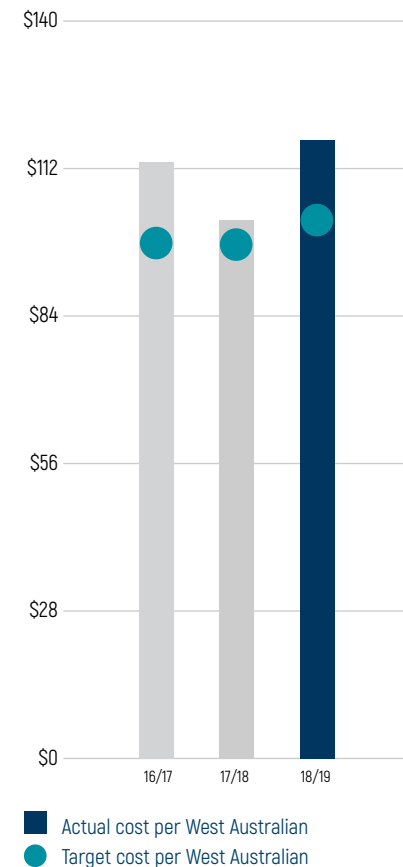
HOW is this indicator derived?

This indicator is derived by dividing the cost of service by WA's population as advised by the Department of Treasury.

A lower than target result is desired as it demonstrates our efficiency in managing allocated funding.

WHAT does this indicator show?

Our result of \$117.49 per Western Australian to deliver frontline services is higher than our target of \$105.40. This is attributed to staff restructuring that has seen an increase in frontline staff as well as the cost of responding to severe cyclone and wildfire events during the year.



69.42%

of stakeholders believe we effectively support the strategic coordination of emergency management

WHY is 'Stakeholder assessment of strategic coordination of emergency management' a key indicator of our performance?

We are responsible for providing support to the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) which has responsibility for the strategic oversight and coordination of emergency management in WA. This indicator illustrates how effective we are in supporting the SEMC in achieving its strategic goals.

HOW is this indicator derived?

This indicator is derived from an online survey of emergency management stakeholders. Stakeholders were emailed a link to the survey questionnaire. The survey period ran from 27 May until 27 June 2019, and responses were received from 335 stakeholders.

A higher than target result is desired.

WHAT does this indicator show?

Our result of 69.42% is better than our target of 68%. The majority of respondents indicated that they were very satisfied (25%) or satisfied (45%) with our effectiveness. This is a benchmark performance measure and will be used for future business planning.

This is the first year this indicator is reported, following our amalgamation with the Office of Emergency Management.

2018/19 Actual	Target	Variance
69.42%	68%	1.42%

\$49.21

is the average hourly cost to provide emergency management advice and consultation

WHY is 'Average hourly cost of providing emergency management advice and consultation' a key indicator of our performance?

This indicator demonstrates our efficiency in meeting the State Government's goal of results-based service delivery in providing emergency management support and advice to the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC).

HOW is this indicator derived?

This indicator is derived by dividing the total annual salary costs of our staff supporting the SEMC by the annualised hours per employee role.

The calculation does not include time spent on State projects funded by the National Disaster Resilience Program or the hourly cost of members of the SEMC.

A lower than target result is desired as it demonstrates our efficiency in managing allocated funding.

WHAT does this indicator show?

The result of \$49.21 per hour is lower than our target of \$54 per hour and demonstrates our efficiency in providing support to the SEMC.

This is the first year this indicator is reported, following our amalgamation with the Office of Emergency Management.

2018/19 Actual	Target	Variance
\$49.21	\$54	-\$4.79

Independent Audit Opinion



Auditor General

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Parliament of Western Australia

DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Report on the Financial Statements

Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2019, the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, and Summary of Consolidated Account Appropriations and Income Estimates for the year then ended, and Notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, including the Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service, Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service and Administered transactions and balances.

In my opinion, the financial statements are based on proper accounts and present fairly, in all material respects, the operating results and cash flows of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services for the year ended 30 June 2019 and the financial position at the end of that period. They are in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services in accordance with the *Auditor General Act 2006* and the relevant ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Responsibility of the Commissioner for the Financial Statements

The Commissioner is responsible for keeping proper accounts, and the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions, and for such internal control as the Commissioner determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Commissioner is responsible for assessing the Department's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Western Australian Government has made policy or funding decisions affecting the continued existence of the Department.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements. The objectives of my audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Department's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Commissioner.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Commissioner's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the agency's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Commissioner regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Report on Controls

Opinion

I have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on the design and implementation of controls exercised by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services. The controls exercised by the Department are those policies and procedures established by the Commissioner to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions (the overall control objectives).

My opinion has been formed on the basis of the matters outlined in this report.

In my opinion, in all material respects, the controls exercised by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services are sufficiently adequate to provide reasonable assurance that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions during the year ended 30 June 2019.

The Commissioner's Responsibilities

The Commissioner is responsible for designing, implementing and maintaining controls to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities are in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 2006*, the Treasurer's Instructions and other relevant written law.

Auditor General's Responsibilities

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility as an assurance practitioner is to express an opinion on the suitability of the design of the controls to achieve the overall control objectives and the implementation of the controls as designed. I conducted my engagement in accordance with Standard on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3150 *Assurance Engagements on Controls* issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. That standard requires that I comply with relevant ethical requirements and plan and perform my procedures to obtain reasonable assurance about whether, in all material respects, the controls are suitably designed to achieve the overall control objectives and the controls, necessary to achieve the overall control objectives, were implemented as designed.

An assurance engagement to report on the design and implementation of controls involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the suitability of the design of controls to achieve the overall control objectives and the implementation of those controls. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including the assessment of the risks that controls are not suitably designed or implemented as designed. My procedures included testing the implementation of those controls that I consider necessary to achieve the overall control objectives.

I believe that the evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Limitations of Controls

Because of the inherent limitations of any internal control structure it is possible that, even if the controls are suitably designed and implemented as designed, once the controls are in operation, the overall control objectives may not be achieved so that fraud, error, or noncompliance with laws and regulations may occur and not be detected. Any projection of the outcome of the evaluation of the suitability of the design of controls to future periods is subject to the risk that the controls may become unsuitable because of changes in conditions.

Report on the Key Performance Indicators

Opinion

I have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on the key performance indicators of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services for the year ended 30 June 2019. The key performance indicators are the key effectiveness indicators and the key efficiency indicators that provide performance information about achieving outcomes and delivering services.

In my opinion, in all material respects, the key performance indicators of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the Department's performance and fairly represent indicated performance for the year ended 30 June 2019.

The Commissioner's Responsibility for the Key Performance Indicators

The Commissioner is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the key performance indicators in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions and for such internal control as the Commissioner determines necessary to enable the preparation of key performance indicators that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the key performance indicators, the Commissioner is responsible for identifying key performance indicators that are relevant and appropriate having regard to their purpose in accordance with Treasurer's Instruction 904 *Key Performance Indicators*.

Auditor General's Responsibility

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility as an assurance practitioner is to express an opinion on the key performance indicators. The objectives of my engagement are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the key performance indicators are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the agency's performance and whether the key performance indicators are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. I conducted my engagement in accordance with Standard on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3000 *Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information* issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. That standard requires that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements.

An assurance engagement involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the key performance indicators. It also involves evaluating the relevance and appropriateness of the key performance indicators against the criteria and guidance in Treasurer's Instruction 904 for measuring the extent of outcome achievement and the efficiency of service delivery. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the key performance indicators. In making these risk assessments I obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the engagement in order to design procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances.

I believe that the evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

My Independence and Quality Control Relating to the Reports on Controls and Key Performance Indicators

I have complied with the independence requirements of the *Auditor General Act 2006* and the relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements. In accordance with *ASQC 1 Quality Control for Firms that Perform Audits and Reviews of Financial Reports and Other Financial Information, and Other Assurance Engagements*, the Office of the Auditor General maintains a comprehensive system of quality control including documented policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

Matters Relating to the Electronic Publication of the Audited Financial Statements and Key Performance Indicators

This auditor's report relates to the financial statements and key performance indicators of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services for the year ended 30 June 2019 included on Department's website. The Department's management is responsible for the integrity of the Department's website. This audit does not provide assurance on the integrity of the Department's website. The auditor's report refers only to the financial statements and key performance indicators described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from these financial statements or key performance indicators. If users of the financial statements and key performance indicators are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial statements and key performance indicators to confirm the information contained in this website version of the financial statements and key performance indicators.



CAROLINE SPENCER
AUDITOR GENERAL
FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Perth, Western Australia
30 August 2019



Governance, Legal Compliance and Other Disclosures

New Governance Arrangements

This year we reviewed our governance arrangements and implemented an updated Governance Framework. The new Framework sets out the standards for accountability, transparency, continual performance improvement and better service delivery that our stakeholders expect of us.

The Framework which encompasses better practice, is underpinned by the nine principles of governance set out in the Public Sector Commission's Good governance guide.

Corporate Executive

As part of these new arrangements, a Corporate Executive was established to provide stewardship through informed and collective decision making and by providing information and advice to the Commissioner. The Corporate Executive assists the Commissioner with strategic leadership, including our vision, purpose, and strategic direction to ensure we meet our strategic objectives. Importantly, the Commissioner and Corporate Executive set our tone with a focus on performance, accountability and ensuring compliance.

Senior Leadership

Supporting the Corporate Executive is our Senior Leadership. Their role is to execute Corporate Executive's strategic vision and manage performance of emergency management services while having regard to our risk appetite.

Our Senior Leadership provide the Corporate Executive with accurate, timely and clear information, advice and support to enable it to perform its governance responsibilities.

Governance Committees

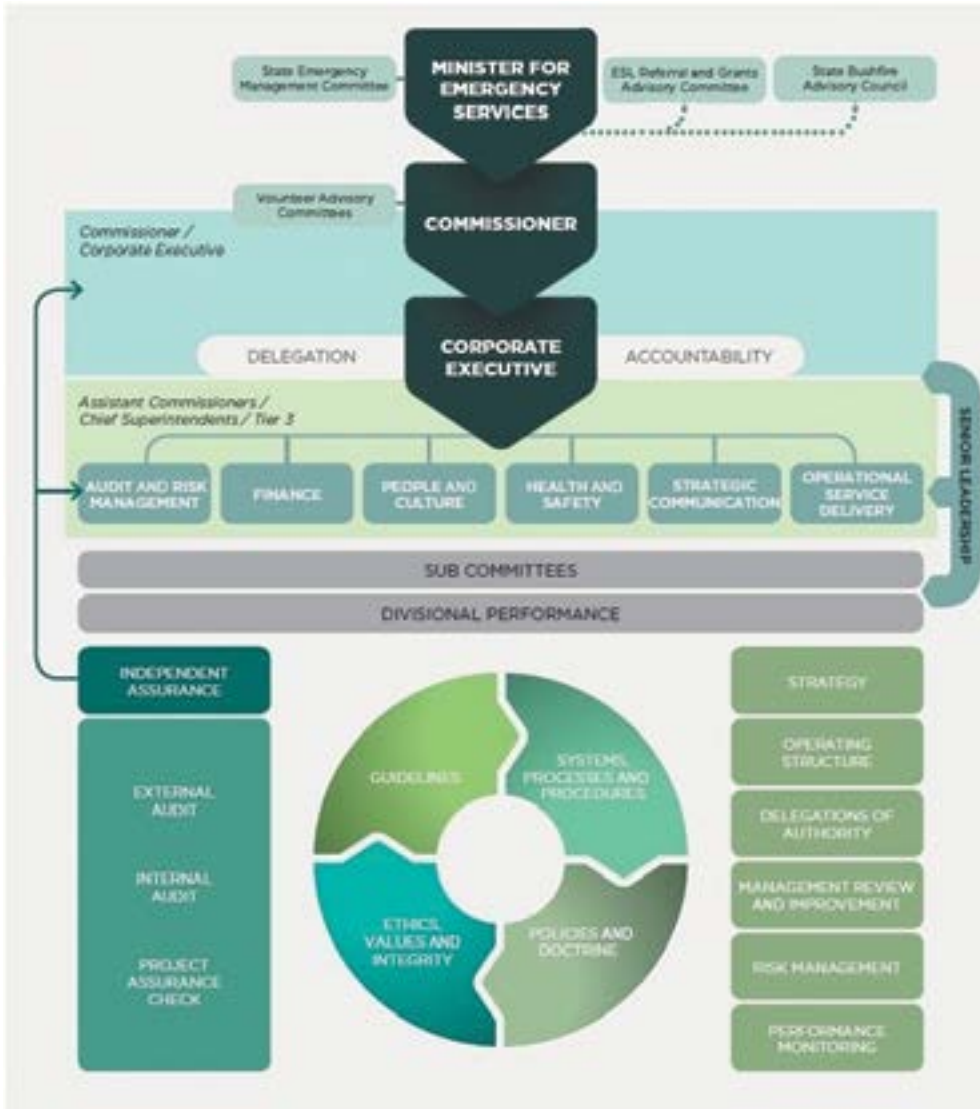
The Corporate Executive has established Committees to assist in exercising stewardship.

- Audit and Risk Management Committee.
- Finance Committee.
- Health and Safety Governance Committee.
- Operational Service Delivery Committee.
- People and Culture Committee.
- Strategic Communications Committee.

Each Committee has a Charter defining its purpose, authority, accountabilities and reporting requirements and the members are Corporate Executive and Senior Leadership personnel.

Volunteers have been invited to join four of our Committees to enrich our decision making. These are the People and Culture, Health and Safety Governance, Strategic Communications and Operational Service Delivery Committees.

Our governance structure and the lines of reporting are shown below.



Audit and Risk Management Committee

The Audit and Risk Management Committee (ARMC) met four times this year and has four standing members and seven technical advisers. It is chaired by Deputy Commissioner Strategy and Emergency Management, Mal Cronstedt.

The Committee supports and assists the Commissioner and Corporate Executive in exercising due care, diligence and skill in fulfilling its corporate oversight and monitoring responsibilities.

Key elements of fulfilling this primary objective include:

- enabling independent and objective review and monitoring of our financial reporting processes, integrity of financial statements, system of internal control, risk management and compliance
- providing direction and oversight of internal audit activity
- facilitating and maintaining an open avenue of communication between the ARMC, the Commissioner and Corporate Executive, Senior Leadership, External Audit and Internal Audit.

A performance review of the ARMC was undertaken in November 2018 which affirmed the Committee had met the responsibilities of its Charter to a high standard. Strengths of the Committee highlighted by the review included:

- a revised agenda that promoted more focussed meetings
- thorough discussion of issues, risks and matters of strategic importance
- improved oversight of internal control systems.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee oversees our financial performance and advises financial and budget policy and prioritisation of expenditure and investments, while reinforcing our culture of financial responsibility.

The Committee directs our financial strategy consistent with our Strategic Plan and drives the direction of finance, budgetary and investment matters.

Health and Safety Governance Committee

The Health and Safety Governance Committee helps the Commissioner and Corporate Executive oversee and direct compliance with health and safety legislation, culture and performance.

The Committee directs our Health and Safety strategy, keeps abreast of injury, incident and hazard trends and approves initiatives that enhance the health, safety and wellbeing of our staff and volunteers.

Operational Service Delivery Committee

The Operational Service Delivery Committee provides stewardship of service delivery and asset related matters including monitoring the development, implementation and evaluation of strategies that help prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters and emergencies.

The Committee considers:

- the identification, analysis and monitoring of operational risk
- allocation and coordination of capabilities
- service delivery improvements
- operational efficacy, collaboration and interoperability.

The Committee advises the Corporate Executive on continuous improvement of our emergency management service delivery.

People and Culture Committee

The People and Culture Committee fosters strategies and activities that promote a positive organisational culture and alignment of our resource capability to our strategic plan.

The Committee endorses the Workforce and Diversity Plan and helps develop and implement strategic people management initiatives, including industrial relations, talent management, leadership development, volunteer sustainability and succession planning.

Strategic Communications Committee

The Strategic Communications Committee monitors the development, implementation and evaluation of strategies and initiatives that promote effective communications and improved service delivery.

The Committee provides strategic direction for internal and external communications, consistent and timely messaging, reputation management and brand enhancement.

Importantly, the Committee fosters innovative communication strategies that build and protect our reputation and achieve our strategic objectives.

Program Management Committee

The Program Management Committee supports and guides all projects from planning through to execution and closure. It also provides the Commissioner and Corporate Executive with the information to:

- validate ongoing alignment between initiatives and strategic objectives
- ensure projects deliver improved business outcomes through transition and change management strategies
- ensure benefits and outcomes are clearly defined and meet each project's agreed scope, time, cost and quality
- allocate appropriate skills and capacity to initiatives
- coordinate the transition of deliverables into operations.

The Committee's governance processes enabled three high risk and/or high dollar value projects to commence and five projects to close this year.

Internal Audit

Our internal audit function is performed through an out-sourced arrangement.

Internal audit provides the Audit and Risk Management Committee and Corporate Executive with an independent appraisal of the operation and effectiveness of systems and controls.

Audits and reviews are performed in accordance with an approved Strategic Internal Audit Plan. Key reviews and audits undertaken during the year include:

- State Supply Commission Partial Exemption Compliance
- Asset Management
- Governance Assessment
- Contract Management System Pre-Implementation
- Cloud Transition Management
- Key Safety Controls
- Key Performance Indicator Assessment
- Rural Fire Division Reform Health Check
- Emergency Public Information

Recommendations from these internal audits are managed and monitored through our integrated planning and reporting system. The implementation and status of these recommendations are reported quarterly to the Audit and Risk Management Committee .

Risk Management

We actively identify and manage risk. We assess the environment and prepare for change, developing our workforce so they have the right skills and resources to reduce the risk of emergencies in WA and protect people, property and the environment.

Managing risk is fundamental to decision-making, the effective allocation of our limited resources, and achieving our strategic priorities.

Our structured risk management process meets the requirements of the Treasurer's Instruction 825 Risk Management and Security, the Public Sector Commissioner's Circular 2015-3 Risk Management and Business Planning and is aligned with the international standard ISO 31000:2018 Risk Management – Guidelines.

In April 2019, the Business Continuity Management and Disaster Recovery Subcommittee was established to increase oversight and manage disruptive events that have potential to negatively affect our service delivery. Our risks are regularly reviewed, updated and reported to the Corporate Executive and the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

Managing risk is a shared responsibility. We work with our stakeholders, including other State Government agencies, local governments, suppliers, grant recipients, industry and communities to understand and manage risks.

Risk Appetite

Risk appetite is the amount of risk that we are willing to accept or retain to achieve our objectives.

Emergency services activities are, by definition, hazardous. We use a calculated risk approach during emergency operations to prevent or minimise adverse outcomes.

In general terms, we have a low risk appetite.

This means that as far as reasonably practical, we are not willing to accept or be exposed to risk that compromises our ability to meet our obligations to effectively manage emergencies within WA, including the protection and preservation of life and critical assets.

Cyber Security

This year we continued to increase our resilience to information and cyber security threats through our cyber security program. Our alignment with the ISO 27001 standards for information security management continues along with our participation in the Department of Premier and Cabinet's Cyber Security Working Group.

Our Cyber Security program focuses on these high level areas:

- documenting a Governance framework to clearly define our cyber security requirements and responsibilities across the agency
- implementing technical improvements within our IT environment
- defining processes and procedures to ensure cyber security requirements are embedded into work practices.

These initiatives are tracked by the Cyber Security Manager and reported quarterly to the Audit and Risk Management Committee. This ensures cyber risk is managed within our accepted risk appetite.

Code of Conduct

The *Public Sector Management Act 1994* provides the principles of conduct for all public sector bodies and employees. These include compliance with any legislation governing conduct, Public Sector Commissioner's Instructions, Public Sector Standards and Code of Ethics.

The Code of Conduct prescribes mandatory standards of behaviour, conduct and integrity expected of all personnel. The Code places an obligation on all personnel to take responsibility for their own behaviours, conduct and integrity, to work cooperatively with the community, and to establish a safe and healthy work place and culture.

Our Fraud and Corruption Control Plan gives employees guidance and direction on the processes for preventing, detecting and responding to fraud and corruption.

Legislative Compliance

The Regulation and Compliance Framework identifies, documents and manages our legislative responsibilities. It establishes a separate action pathway to ensure we adhere to relevant legislation (regulation compliance) and the community complies with administered legislation, such as total fire bans (external compliance).

With more than 4,000 individual legislative compliance provisions relating to DFES, software has been acquired and processes developed to ensure a defined, transparent and holistic system for ensuring our overall management of legislated responsibilities.

Indemnity Insurance

Our indemnity insurance is through RiskCover.

Following our transition from a statutory authority to a department on 1 November 2012, Directors' and Officers' liability insurance was taken out for seven years ending 30 June 2020 as prescribed in the Limitation Act 2005.

The amount of the liability insurance premium paid for seven years was \$58,865. The proportion relating to this reporting period is \$8,306.

State Hazard Plans

Under the *Emergency Management Act 2005*, the State Emergency Management Committee arranges for the preparation and review State Hazard Plans with strategic, State-level arrangements for managing specific hazards. We are responsible for nine State Hazard Plans which were tested through the following incident activation or inter-agency operational exercises in 2018-19. All State Hazards Plans are current.



Cyclone



Flood



Storm



Tsunami



Structure Collapse



Hazmat












Earthquake



Fire

State Hazard Plan Tested Activation / Exercises

Date

	Trench rescue in Mosman Park Exercise Jaguar, a multi agency exercise based on a light aircraft crash causing a gas leak explosion	17 October 2018 19-20 October 2018
	Kewdale factory fire	6 June 2019
	Exercise Praetorian, a multi agency State exercise based on a large scale bushfire incident Esperance complex of fires (10 fires) multi agency response Lewana bushfire Burswood structure fire	27 October – 3 November 2018 13 January – 1 March 2019 20-23 February 2019 9 March 2019
	Shire of Plantagenet flooding	March 2019
	Exercise Indian Ocean Wave, an international exercise based on an earthquake off the Sumatran coast	11 September 2018
  	Tropical Cyclone Riley Tropical Cyclone Veronica	21-24 January 2019 23-26 March 2019
	Lake Muir earthquake	16 September 2018

Complaints Handling

We use complaints and other stakeholder feedback as valuable input into our continuous improvement process. We willingly acknowledge that people have a right to provide feedback about services or aspects of operations. Complaints provide an opportunity to improve services and operations, and can alert us to potential problems.

The Contact Us link on our website has a Customer Feedback option to encourage community feedback. Our Customer Feedback policy and associated procedures are regularly reviewed and are available to all staff and volunteers.

All feedback received through the Customer Feedback mechanism is logged into our electronic records management system for prompt action.

Feedback Received

DFES received a total of 119 feedback items in 2018-19, of which two were deemed invalid. The remaining 117 items were made up of:

- 73 complaints
- 12 compliments
- 32 suggestions for improvement.

All 73 complaints have been addressed. All complainants have been contacted by a staff member and provided an explanation or given the opportunity to discuss the matter or take the matter further if they were not satisfied with the response. No further follow up was required for the 73 items.

The issues were wide ranging and included concerns about fire permits, smoke from fires and prescribed burns, road closure during an incident, fire hydrant maintenance and replacement of personal protective equipment.

The 12 compliments received were relayed to the personnel involved. They included commendations for courses at the WA Fire and Emergency Services Academy being well delivered and for services provided at emergency incidents.

The 32 suggestions received helped us make improvements during the year. These included suggestions for additional information on our website, safety concerns for staff at night time incidents and suggested training courses to be added to the WA Fire and Emergency Services Academy training calendar.

Unauthorised use of Credit Cards

Our staff hold corporate credit cards where their functions warrant. The cardholder agreement, signed by staff, includes an acknowledgement they are aware of their obligations under the credit card policy. During 2018-19 more than 32,000 Corporate Credit Card transactions were processed. Of those, 54 instances of personal use were identified and in each instance was declared by the cardholder. As these matters were noted and dealt with promptly, the nature of the expenditure was immaterial and the instances were characteristic of an honest mistake, no disciplinary action was taken.

Aggregate amount	2017-18 \$	2018-19 \$
Personal use expenditure for the reporting period	1,666	2,860
Personal use expenditure settled within 5 working days	1,533	2,294
Personal use expenditure settled after 5 working days	133	566
Personal use expenditure outstanding at balance date	51	-

State Emergency Management Committee Remuneration

Fees paid to the members of the State Emergency Management Committee this year were:

Position	Period of Membership	Gross Remuneration
Chair Dr Ron Edwards	1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019	\$66,078 per annum
Deputy Ms Melissa Pexton	1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019	\$0
Member Mr Malcolm Cronstedt	1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019	\$0
Member Mr Chris Dawson	1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019	\$0
Member Mr Darren Klemm	1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019	\$0
Member Mr Darren Foster	1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019	\$0
Member Mr Richard Simpson	1 July 2018 to 2 September 2018	\$5,972 [\$33,039 per annum]
Member Ms Linda Savage	3 September 2018 to 30 June 2019	\$27,194 [\$33,039 per annum]
Member Ms Ricky Burges	1 July 2018 to 15 February 2019	\$0
Member Mr Grahame Searle	1 July 2018 to 1 February 2019	\$0

Position	Period of Membership	Gross Remuneration
Member Mr Mark Webb	1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019	\$0
Member Dr David Russell-Weisz	1 July 2018 to 7 October 2018	\$0
Member Dr Andy Robertson	8 October 2018 to 30 June 2019	\$0
Total		\$99,244

Compliance with Public Sector Standards and Ethical Codes

[Public Sector Management Act 1994, s31(1)]

In the administration of DFES during 2018-19, I have complied with the Public Sector Standards in Human Resource Management, the Western Australian Public Sector Code of Ethics and our Code of Conduct.

I have established procedures to ensure compliance with these standards and codes and conducted appropriate internal assessments to satisfy myself that the statement made above is correct.



D Klemm AFSM
Accountable Authority

23 August 2019

Breaches of Standards Review

The applications made for breach of standards review and the corresponding outcomes for the reporting period are:

Number lodged: Six

Number of breaches found: Nil

Number of multiple breaches: Nil

Number still under review: Nil

Ministerial Directives

There were no Ministerial Directives pursuant to Treasurer's Instruction 903(12) during 2018-19.

Ministerial Communication

In accordance with Section 74 of the Public Sector Management Act 1994, we have a communications agreement with the Minister for Emergency Services that outlines communication procedures between the Minister's office and our employees. This agreement ensures that the Minister receives accurate and timely information and advice. In 2018-19, 98% of correspondence was attended to within the specified timeframes.

	2018-19	2017-18
Ministerial items	1,027 (not including Parliamentary Questions)	900 (not including Parliamentary Questions)
Parliamentary Questions	89	68
Functions attended by the Minister	94 (including events/ meetings/visits)	135 (including events/ meetings/visits)

Pricing Policies of Services Provided

User charges and fees are reviewed annually. Increases in user charges and fees are generally limited to consumer price index increases as advised by the Department of Treasury.

Emergency Services Levy

Every year we respond to tens of thousands of incidents and work hard to prevent many more. Whether on land, sea or by air, our staff and volunteers work with communities to make WA a safer place to live.

The Emergency Services Levy (ESL) is our primary funding source and ensures our people have the resources, training and support that they need for:

- bushfires
- structure fires
- cyclones
- earthquakes
- floods
- incidents involving hazardous materials
- severe storms
- tsunamis
- road crash rescues
- a range of search and rescue call outs on land and water.

ESL funds are distributed across the state and aim to ensure that emergency services are available where and when they are needed most. This year the ESL will raise \$405 million with every cent going towards providing emergency services to the community including:

- Career and Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service brigades
- Volunteer Fire and Emergency Service units
- Bushfire fighting and management services including the Rural Fire Division and Local Government Bush Fire Brigades
- State Emergency Service units

- Aviation services in the high-risk bushfire season
- 50 % of the South West Emergency Rescue Helicopter Service
- Volunteer Marine Rescue Service
- ChemCentre emergency response services
- 000 communications centre
- maintenance of facilities and equipment
- training programs
- specialist activities such as fire investigations, building inspections and community safety programs.

ESL rates vary according to the type of primary emergency response available to be provided to a property. Properties classified as ESL category 1 to 4 are charged based on the gross rental value (GRV) determined by the Valuer General and the declared ESL rate for that category. Charges are subject to minimum and maximum thresholds based on property use. Properties classified as ESL category 5 attract a fixed annual charge.

Direct Brigade Alarm

The Direct Brigade Alarm network provides fire alarm monitoring for 4,061 premises across WA. Customer service, management, administration and monitoring services are provided by Fire Safety Pty Ltd trading as Fire Alarm Monitoring Services – Chubb.

The Direct Brigade Alarm monitoring charge recovers the cost of this service through a service level agreement.

False Fire Alarm

We charge a fee for attending false fire alarms after the third attendance to a premise in the same financial year. The fee reflects the cost of the resources in responding to false alarms.

As we are committed to reducing the number of false fire alarms, the fee is imposed to encourage proper maintenance of alarm systems.

Advertising

In accordance with section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*, during 2018-19 we paid \$954,883 to advertising agencies and media advertising organisations.

Advertising agencies	\$755,377	Adcorp Australia Limited	\$353
		Initiative Media Australia Pty Ltd	\$754,759
		Rare Pty Ltd	\$265
Market research organisations	Nil		
Polling organisations	Nil		
Direct mail organisations	\$418	Campaign Monitor	\$349
		Mailchimp	\$69
Media advertising organisations	\$199,088	Albany Chamber of Commerce & Industry Inc	\$168
		Beilby Corporation Pty Ltd	\$20,985
		Discuss Digital Print	\$225
		Facebook	\$2,932
		Fairfax Media Publications Pty Ltd	\$671
		Gatecrasher Advertising Pty Ltd	\$4,970
		Harvey Reporter	\$513

Media advertising organisations (cont.)	J Walter Thompson Australia Pty Ltd	\$166,271
	Marsh Agencies	\$1,300
	Media on Mars	\$180
	RUOK? Limited	\$363
	Shutterstock	\$49
	Spencer Signs	\$110
	The West Australian Sunday Times	\$131
	The West Australian-Manjimup Bridgetown Times	\$136
	Walpole Community Resource Centre	\$42
	Walpole Community Resource Telecentre	\$42
Total	\$954,883	

Capital Works

DFES has no contracts that fall within the scope of the Government Building Training Policy.

This information relates to land and building capital projects contracted through the Department of Finance's Building Management and Works.

Capital building projects	Completion date
Nil	

Capital works in progress	Estimated completion (F/Y)	Comment
Bushfire Centre of Excellence	2020-21	Land purchase and concept design progressing
Collie multipurpose facility	2020-21	Land purchase and concept design progressing
Northampton VFRS	2020-21	progressing site selection
Cockburn CFS	2020-21	Contract documentation
Kensington CFS	2020-21	DA submission imminent, finalising design development
Halls Creek VFES	2020-21	progressing site selection and land assembly

Employment and Industrial Relations

Our Fleet and Equipment Enterprise Bargaining Agreement 2018 was registered on 20 December 2018.

Our Agency Specific Agreement for public service staff nominally expired in 2011 but continues to apply until cancelled or replaced. In May 2018 the Civil Service Association submitted their log of claims for a replacement agreement and negotiations have progressed with a favourable outcome anticipated.

Workforce Management

We value, protect and invest in children as future emergency responders and champions of community disaster resilience.

Our Child Safe, Child Friendly Policy supports and protects children that work or volunteer in emergency services, or, who might engage with our staff or volunteers.

Our ongoing commitment to building a more diverse and collaborative organisation saw 297 staff members trained in substantive equality and unconscious bias in 2018-19.

A reinvigorated People and Culture Committee, which incorporated the former Equity and Diversity Committee, was established. The Committee provides stewardship of people and culture related matters and fosters strategies and activities that promote a positive organisational culture and aligns human resource capabilities to achieve our strategic plan.

Equity and Diversity

We are committed to providing a workplace where all staff and volunteers are valued and respected. We work to identify barriers to achieve a better equity and diversity balance and formulate strategies to overcome these barriers.

We are working to diversify our workforce with a strong focus on gender equality and employment of Aboriginal people. Our Workforce and Diversity Plan is being updated to include how gender equity can be incorporated into future capability requirements. We also continue to actively promote the benefits of gender balance, diversity and inclusion which is evidenced by the following 2018-19 achievements:

- Our Commissioner represents DFES as an AFAC Male Champion of Change
- Opportunities for our female leaders to:
 - Shadow at the Queensland Commonwealth Games
 - Attend the IPAA Women in Leadership Conference
 - Participate in Balance: Women Leaders in Public Safety
- Ongoing employment of Aboriginal trainees
- Review of our Disability Access and Inclusion Plan
- Continual review and update of workforce management policies, processes and practices

We continue to celebrate equity and diversity in the workplace through a number of events including:

- International Women's Day
- Harmony Day
- NAIDOC Week
- International Day of People with Disability

At 30 June 2019, our diversity representation was:

Diversity Group
Total number of staff 1,734 (head count)
Operational Firefighters 1,218 Non-operational staff 516

	2018-19 Target [% FTE]	2018-19 Actual [% FTE]
Staff from a culturally diverse background	5.16% (78)	4.6% (80)
Staff identifying as Indigenous Australians	3.7% (56)	2.6% (46)
Staff with a disability	3.4% (51)	0.47% (8)
Women (Operational)	5.2% (57)	6% (73)
Women (Non-operational)	51% (209)	59.3% (306)
Youth (under 25 years) (Operational)	1.5% (16)	0.33% (4)
Youth (under 25 years) (Non-operational)	6% (24)	2.71% (14)

Wellbeing

To ensure the health and wellbeing for all staff, volunteers and their immediate families, our Wellness Branch has implemented an integrated, proactive model of support that includes a health and wellbeing strategy to inform policies, processes and new initiatives.

Our mental health first aid training and refresher courses increase the skills to recognise negative mental health, develop effective coping strategies and building resilience. This year, we:

- ran 16 mental health first aid courses
- ran more than 10 targeted training sessions on a variety of health and wellbeing topics
- visited more than 105 brigades/groups/units across the state.

Our new critical incident process has seen an increase in the number of incidents reported and requests for support from 155 in 2017-18 to 222 in 2018-19. This support is delivered in the form of text message, wellness calls and/or home or work visits.

A Chaplain has joined the Wellness Branch and will develop a state-wide network of Chaplains and other allied health professionals to ensure effective support is available to all our members.

We have partnered with Beyond Blue for phase three of the "Answering the Call" project. This phase involves reviewing findings to date and applying them to meet specific priorities and situations. This will ensure the we implement an evidence based tailored response.

Equal Opportunity, Bullying and Harassment Training

Equal Opportunity, Bullying and Harassment training within three months of employment is mandatory for all staff and contractors. The training covers the Equal Opportunity Act 1984 and the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984. It explores what inappropriate behaviour looks like, so it can be recognised and managed.

Recruitment

Firefighter Recruitment

Our new Firefighter Success Profile formed part of the 2019 selection process. The research-based Profile defines the behavioural competencies required to be a successful firefighter and supports the assessment of applicants' personal attributes. Developed in partnership with subject matter experts, it is tailored to our emergency management environment.

The 2019 Firefighter Recruitment Campaign attracted 1,646 applications during two weeks in January. The number of applicants identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander decreased slightly since our last campaign in 2016.

We are pleased there were twice as many female applicants compared to 2016. As part of our focus on gender equality within the career firefighting cohort, we actively targeted female applicants in our 2018 social media recruitment campaign.

A total 102 applicants passed all stages of the selection process and may be offered positions in Trainee Firefighter Schools as places become available. A significantly larger number of female trainees are included in the 24 successful applicants who have already commenced training in our June 2019 Trainee Firefighter School.



[Click on the photo to watch one of our recruitment campaign videos targeting female applicants.](#)

General Recruitment

On 10 August 2018 the Public Sector Commissioner issued Commissioner's Instruction No. 23 Conversion and appointment of fixed term contract and casual employees to permanency. This Instruction required us to review fixed term and casual staff against set criteria, and convert those eligible to permanent staff. A total of 87 fixed term and casual contracts were reviewed with eight people being permanently appointed.

Staff Profile	2017-18	2018-19
Full-time permanent	1,478	1,537.2
Full-time contract	52	78
Full-time trainees	0	0
Full-time apprentice	1	1
Part-time permanent	28.7	27.55
Part-time contract	4.77	9.6
Part-time trainee	0	0
On secondment (at DFES)	0.6	4.6
On secondment (to other agencies)	1	3
Casual	0	0
Total FTE	1,566.07	1660.95

Staff Development

Learning and Development is responsible for the development, delivery and management of:

- operational training including firefighter training programs
- Pathways
- training administration systems and records
- state exercise development
- training and specialist programs
- registered training organisation compliance.

In 2018-19, our internal and external training providers delivered:

- 2,207 courses across WA attended by staff 9,091 times, volunteers 17,958 times and external personnel 310 times
- 234 of the 2,207 courses were conducted at the WA Fire and Emergency Services Academy for 733 staff, 1,428 volunteers and 73 external personnel
- staff completed 1,733 online courses, volunteers completed 4,824 and external personnel completed six through the eAcademy Learning Management System.

Occupational Safety, Health and Injury Management

[*Public Sector Commissioner's Circular 2012-05*: Code of Practice: Occupational Safety and Health in the Western Australian Public Sector]

We are committed to providing a healthy and safe workplace for our staff, volunteers, visitors and contractors.

Our people are committed to creating a workplace where everyone sees health and safety as part of their job and works together to reduce injury and illness, to create a healthy and safe work environment.

Our commitment to health and safety is driven by the Commissioner, who provides regular health and safety messages to staff and volunteers.

Executive Director Corporate Services Richard Burnell said the establishment of the DFES Health and Safety Governance Committee demonstrated our commitment to health and safety.

"The committee's purpose is to support the Commissioner and CorpEx in fulfilling their obligations with health and safety legislation, culture and performance," Richard said.

"The dynamic nature of our emergency service work means our staff and volunteers regularly operate in high risk, hazardous environments."

Richard said it was important to have fit for purpose systems to effectively manage hazards, often in extreme circumstances.

"Making our working environments as healthy and safe as possible is a shared responsibility so it is important that we all reinforce and display behaviours that promote a positive health and safety culture," Richard said.

Hazard Reporting

"To mark National Safe Work month last October, we produced a video in which staff share why health and safety and reporting hazards is important to them."

Health and Safety Services Director Matthew Watson said the video helped motivate and inspire our people to not only report hazards but also participate in their mitigation.

"Hazard mitigation often requires a creative approach and thinking outside the box is often essential."

The video was published on the website and received 780 views across the organisation.

"Data analysis showed an increase in online hazard reports submitted and so we conclude the video achieved its purpose," Matthew said.



Click on National Safe Work Month to watch hazard reporting video.

Countdown to Safety

In September 2018 we held "Countdown to Safety". The event presented an opportunity for 60 key internal and external stakeholders to be informed on how to support their role in maintaining a healthy and safe workplace.

Matthew said retired NASA astronaut Colonel Mike Mullane opened the event with a key note speech that was followed by workshop sessions with Health and Safety Services team members.

"Colonel Mullane completed three space missions on space shuttles Discovery and Atlantis," Matthew said.

"He discussed the safety lessons learnt from the Challenger disaster and how they applied to our workplace."

Delegates identified numerous safety messages from Colonel Mullane's address, including:

- 'See something, say something, do something'.
- Preventing 'normalisation of deviance' occurring in work practices and procedures.
- Ensuring a safety related event does not materialise into a 'predicable surprise'.

Empowering People to Create a Healthier and Safer Environment

We continue to engage, consult and work collaboratively with staff and volunteers on health and safety matters through:

Health and Safety Committee Meetings

Health and Safety Governance Committee meetings take place quarterly and include input from more than 50 Health and Safety Representatives across the state. Local committee meetings allow Health and Safety Representatives to escalate complex safety issues to senior management.

Tool Box Meetings

Tool box meetings are held quarterly to raise health and safety awareness and manage local issues identified in online hazard reports.

Project Engagement

Project engagement integrates safety and health engagement, communication, consultation, specialist advice and risk assessment processes with all staff and volunteers.

Information Sessions

We held a number of information sessions this year for Health and Safety Representatives, staff and volunteers. Presentations included a session facilitated by Dr Barry Chesson on polyfluoroalkyl firefighting foams (PFAS) as well as ergonomics, mental health and wellbeing. PFAS are found in Class B Firefighting foams used by fire services nationally until 2003. Stephanie Mayman also presented on proposed changes to work health and safety legislation.

Certificate IV in Work Health and Safety

We offer a customised Certificate IV qualification in Work Health and Safety.

The qualification will help Health and Safety Representatives develop an understanding of all key safety areas, including effective workplace health and safety management and compliance with the latest health and safety legislation. Participants learn effective consultation and communication techniques to help in the continual improvement of our health and safety.

Changing How We Report on Safety Performance

We have developed a new internal health and safety performance report. The report provides Corporate Executive and the Health and Safety Governance Committee with a clear view of health and safety performance and provides guidance to develop strategies and prioritise resources to reduce injury and illness.

Proactive Health and Safety Strategies

Heat Stress

Heat stress is a significant risk for our people. To help combat heat stress, we developed the 'Don't let heat stress bring you down video'. The video was widely promoted to staff and volunteers in the lead up to the bushfire season. The video is also available on our intranet site.

Health and Safety Training

We introduced safety incident investigation training for Health and Safety Representatives and managers that might be part of an incident investigation team.

Volunteer Engagement

We publish a safety message in each edition of our volunteer newsletter. Topics covered over the year included hazard and injury reporting, working at heights, heat stress and fatigue management.

To improve volunteer engagement, we presented at Volunteer Advisory Group meetings and visited metropolitan and country volunteer brigades. The visits and presentations provided an opportunity to understand the different regions' unique hazards and challenges and gave valuable insight into volunteers' health and safety needs.

Health and Wellbeing

We are developing a contemporary Health and Wellbeing Program including occupational medical health screening. The screening will evaluate specific occupational risks such as exposure to hazardous substances and noise. A video has been developed to promote the program.

We have also implemented a proactive blood testing program for all past and present firefighters, including volunteers who might have been exposed to PFAS. In 2018-19, 223 people enrolled in the voluntary blood testing program, 106 took blood tests and all

results were below the national average for people not working in emergency services. The results of this program will contribute to future research into the PFAS issue and provide a baseline blood level.

Safety Management System

An audit of our Safety Management System was completed in 2016 against AS 4801. The audit identified 40 recommendations and actions for improvement to the system. In May 2019, 100% of the agreed recommendations and action items were finalised.

An internal management review of the system was carried out in May 2019 and an internal audit against ISO 45001 commenced in June 2019. The results will assist in our continuous improvement of health and safety processes.

Workers' Compensation and Injury Management

Our Workers' Compensation and Injury Management team support injured and sick staff and volunteers including those going through the medical retirement process or diagnosed with cancer under the presumptive legislation.

This legislation was brought in because in a structure fire, synthetic materials often release carcinogens. There is scientific evidence that certain types of cancer are caused by accumulated exposure to these carcinogens.

Triage

The number of long-term psychological injuries has increased significantly in 2018-19 and this is reflected in a reduction in return to work rates.

We have implemented a 'triage' initiative for reported stress and bullying related psychological injuries. This encourages inter-team collaboration between our health and human services branches as soon as these types of psychological injuries are reported. This ensures staff are supported and workplace hazards are managed and resolved.

Senate Inquiry

In August 2018 we participated, with WA Police and St John Ambulance, in the Commonwealth Senate Inquiry into mental health conditions experienced by first responders, emergency service workers and volunteers. Senators responded positively to our evidence and how we support injured and sick staff.

We were specifically acknowledged for our response to the Beyond Blue Research outcomes at the Mental Health Strategies for First Responders Conference in March 2019. Particularly the way we support our sick and injured staff and the quality of our process for psychological injury claims, which align with Beyond Blue's research findings.

Increased Engagement with Line Managers

We are providing increased support to line managers, who are responsible for supporting their sick and injured staff. We meet monthly with managers to review open workers' compensation claims and injuries sustained outside of work. In assisting managers support their staff, we clarify managers' roles and responsibilities, provide information on recovery timeframes and ensure any medical restrictions are followed.

Volunteers

Claim lodgement and injury management procedures for volunteers have been reviewed and streamlined to assist them recover from injury or illness as quickly as possible.

We are rolling out face-to-face education presentations to volunteer brigades, groups and units. The presentations cover:

- the importance of seeking first aid
- the importance of reporting an injury
- how to contact the team for support
- what forms and documents are required
- what to expect throughout recovery and rehabilitation.

We also provide information on the presumptive legislation, including the requirements to claim under the legislation, the importance of recording attendance at incidents and managing records correctly. Sessions were also provided to anyone who manages volunteers, so appropriate support through recovery and rehabilitation is provided. These presentations have been well received and developed a better level of service.

University Students

We continue to provide injury management placements for students from allied health universities. Students undertake a range of projects including duty manual development and are mentored to deliver workers' compensation and injury management services to staff.

Table of Results

Public Sector Commissioner's Occupational Safety and Health Performance indicators 2018-19.

Indicator	Target	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	Rolling 3 Year Average	2018-19	Comment on Result	
							Result	Achieved?
Number of Fatalities	Zero (0)	1	0	0	0.3	0	0	✓
*Lost time injury/disease (LTI/D) incidence rate	Zero (0) or 10% improvement on the previous three (3) years	10.91	8.95	6.77	8.88	6.74	-24%	✓
Lost time injury severity rate	Zero (0) or 10% improvement on the previous three (3) years	20.48	16.08	13.21	16.59	11.82	-29%	✓
% of injured workers returned to work within 13 weeks		96.99%	97.90%	84.91%	93.27%	73.64%		
% of injured workers returned to work within 26 weeks	Greater than or equal to 80%	98.95%	100%	97.17%	98.71%	81.82%		✓
% of managers and supervisors trained in occupational safety, health and injury management responsibilities	Greater than or equal to 80%	85%	85%	85%	85%	95%		✓

Statistics have been calculated using RiskCover data and our average FTE data.

*Results relate to injured workers whose accident date occurred during 2018-19 and who returned to their pre-injury hours.

Reconciliation Action Plan

Our Aboriginal Advancement Unit (AAU) oversees our implementation of emergency management with Aboriginal Elders and their communities in WA. Using an all-hazards approach and working in partnership with the communities and other stakeholders, the AAU aim to develop local skills and knowledge so communities are better able to prevent, prepare, respond and recover from natural disasters and emergencies.

The AAU contributes to national policy and strategy development under the National Emergency Management Strategy for remote Indigenous communities.

Cultural Governance Training

Richard Burnell, Executive Director Corporate Services said building organisational capacity to engage effectively with Aboriginal communities was a core outcome for the AAU.

"The team continues to deliver cultural governance training to staff and volunteers around the state," Mr Burnell said.

Traditional Burning Practices Forum

Traditional Owners, staff, volunteers and other stakeholders attended the Bunbury Traditional Burning Practices Forum in Bunbury on 15 November 2018. The purpose of the forum was to:

- discuss traditional burning practices
- learn to use the Balga Bush as a drip torch
- encourage cold burns and mosaic burns.

"The forum was invaluable for developing an understanding of Noongar calendar months, the correct times to burn Country and ensuring fledging bird survival by using cold burns," Mr Burnell said.

Following the forum, 30 staff from DFES, the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions and volunteers were invited by the Custodians to participate in a Cultural Custodian Walk in Margaret River on 14 December, 2018. Another Cultural Custodian walk was organised in Margaret River on 30 May, 2019 for our Assistant Commissioners and Superintendents as well as shire presidents and staff from WA Police and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.



The Cultural Custodian Walk in Margaret River December 2018

Liaison with Elders

Pinjarra

Mr Burnell said he was pleased with the progress the AAU team is making in developing relationships with Traditional Owners.

“On 28 February 2019, the team met with ten Pinjareb Elders in Pinjarra to discuss the Bushfire Centre for Excellence which the government announced would be in the Murray region.”

“The relationships built in this meeting paved the way for the centre project team to meet with the Elders a week later. It shows how far we have come that we were able to agree on a site that meets the project’s needs while not interrupting any Aboriginal Song lines or heritage listed areas in the Murray region.”

Collie

On 10 May 2019, the AAU visited Collie Elders, Joe Northover and James Khan to discuss the Level 3 Incident Control Centre planned for Collie and on 24 May, executive staff and the AAU met with Elders to discuss possible sites.

Disability Access and Inclusion Plan

In accordance with Section 29 of the *Disability Services Act 1993*, we are committed to providing for all people, including those with disabilities, through improved access to information, services and facilities.

Our Disability Access and Inclusion Plan lists our strategies. In 2018-19 we completed 20 initiatives, another 15 activities are progressing and 27 will be ongoing. Our Steering Committee provides oversight of our initiatives.

Some of our achievements over the past 12 months include:

Online Disability Awareness Training

We launched our Online Disability Awareness training this year. Key messages of the training were:

- what does disability mean to you?
- positive outcomes
- the law
- small effort
- building accessible communities
- respect and positive attitudes.

To overcome limitations identified with online training, we interviewed a range of staff and volunteers and broke the training down into modules.

Since the launch 1,235 staff and contractors have completed the training and in 2019-20 our priority is to extend the training to volunteers.

Assisting the Hearing Impaired

Captioning Videos

Four years ago Melanie Hawkes from Media and Corporate Communications initiated adding captions to and making transcripts of our videos. In 2018-19 Melanie also:

- back-captured 39 of our older Facebook and YouTube videos.
- produced videos with open captions on the silent screen in the Emergency Services Complex reception area, ensuring visitors could watch seasonally relevant information on bushfires or storms.
- developed video transcripts, which are stored on a publically accessible website with the URL published with the YouTube video or Facebook link.



Melanie Hawkes at work captioning one of our videos

Melanie said “Captioning and writing transcripts could be challenging and time consuming.

“It takes time, but I enjoy it. I like the satisfaction of knowing that I have made the information in the video more accessible to all of our viewers,” Melanie said.

Working with AccessPlus WA Deaf

To ensure public information is delivered to as many members of the community as possible during emergencies, we use a range of strategies to support the hearing impaired.

Before and during major emergencies we work with AccessPlus WA Deaf to ensure broadcasts are as accessible as possible to the whole community. This includes ensuring information on the Emergency WA website, our Facebook page or Twitter feed on what action to take in an emergency is captioned or able to be viewed with an AUSLAN interpreter. For instance, we:

- have produced videos specifically for hard of hearing people explaining what to do in an emergency. These have been provided to TV news outlets and are ready for broadcast during emergencies
- use AUSLAN interpreters for all press conferences during emergencies. TV news outlets are very supportive and try to ensure the interpreter is captured in vision alongside the spokesperson
- ensure vision used on our social media pages during an emergency is captioned and transcripts provided wherever possible
- use an AUSLAN interpreter at press conferences for preseason briefings
- have acquired LiveU technology giving us the capacity to broadcast 'live' to YouTube or Facebook. We are currently investigating using a 'live open captioning' service to broadcast to YouTube and Facebook
- provide funding for AccessPlus WA Deaf interpreters to attend emergency public information training interstate.

Refresh of Our Website

We comply with State Government policy to ensure that existing Online environments meet Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 Level A (mandatory), or Level AA (preferred) so that internal and external stakeholders affected by auditory, cognitive, neurological, physical, speech or visual challenges have access to our online products.

Last year we worked closely with a specialist provider, WebKey IT, on a range of online accessibility measures for our website. Following consultation with accessibility experts, each with a different disability, our new website homepage, Total Fire Ban and Volunteer Recruitment pages were launched.

Emergency Services Cadet Corp Students

We are the host organisation for the Emergency Services Cadet Corp in WA, working with the 38 schools in the program.

Three of those schools support children with special needs. The cadets based at the education support centres participate in activities with an emergency services focus. They develop skills such as gaining their skippers ticket, completing first aid and other emergency response proficiencies.

The Skills Development Framework can be adapted to meet the needs and capabilities of all young people, including those with disabilities, ensuring they reach their potential as cadets. The program hosts 116 young people between 15 and 18 years.

Our priorities for 2019-20 are to:

- finalise the 15 outstanding Disability Access and Inclusion Plan initiatives
- update our Disability Access and Inclusion Plan beyond 2020
- caption the remaining 122 videos
- increase staff, volunteer and contractor completion of our online Disability Awareness training.

Record Keeping Plans

In accordance with *State Records Act 2000* and State Records Commission Standard 2, Principle 6, we are committed to providing efficient and effective record keeping practices and continue to develop processes to meet business needs.

Our initiatives to support good record keeping practice include:

- establishing processes and procedures for digitisation of source records in accordance with the requirements of the General Disposal Authority for Source Records and the State Records Office Guideline: Digitisation Specification.
- developing an Archiving Program for the processing and disposal/transfer of physical records in accordance with the General Disposal Authority for State Government Information and our Retention Disposal Authority: RD2003101/1. This Program will reduce our storage space costs.

Training and Record Keeping

As part of their induction, 334 new employees have completed Record Keeping Awareness Training and 212 staff received training on the Electronic Document Records Management System (Content Manager).

Disposal Program

Over the year, 534 archive boxes were processed for storage, of which 162 boxes were deemed State Archives.

Freedom of Information

[*Freedom of Information Act 1992* section 111]

As in previous years, most Freedom of Information applications were for access to non-personal information such as fire incident and fire investigation reports in relation to structure fires.

We received 223 valid applications, a 15% increase on last year and 15 applications were carried over from the previous reporting period.

During 2018-19, 226 Freedom of Information applications were addressed. Edited access was granted to 217 applications (including documents not found), of which 25 were later withdrawn. One application was granted full access to our information and eight were deferred. No applications were denied.

There was one request for internal review and the original decision was upheld.

Seven applications under the Act were carried over to 2019-20.

The average application processing time was 21.6 days, well below the allowed maximum period of 45 days.

The Information Statement required under Part 5 – Publication of Information about Agencies of the *Freedom of Information Act 1992*, has been updated and is available with the Application Form on our website.

Freedom of Information Applications 2018-19

Applications carried over from previous reporting period	15
New valid applications received within this reporting period	223
Total applications for 2018-19	238
Applications withdrawn or invalid (includes documents not found)	25
Applications transferred to another agency	0
Edited access granted	192
Full access granted	1
Access denied	0
Access deferred	8
Applications not yet finalised (rolled over to next reporting period)	7

Freedom of Information Fees and Charges 2018-19

Application fees collected	\$6,690
Actual charges collected	\$81.80
Charges waived (when processing costs are less than \$20.00)	\$5,499.80

Acronyms

AAU	Aboriginal Advancement Unit
AFAC	Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council
AFSM	Australian Fire Service Medal
ARMC	Audit and Risk Management Committee
BFS	Bush Fire Service
CFRS	Career Fire and Rescue Service
DFES	Department of Fire and Emergency Services
ESL	Emergency Services Levy
ESM	Emergency Services Medal
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials
IPAA	Institute of Public Administration Australia
MLA	Member of the Legislative Assembly
PFAS	Polyfluoroalkyl substances
SEMC	State Emergency Management Committee
SES	State Emergency Service
TI	Treasurer's Instruction
VFES	Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services
VFRS	Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service
VMRS	Volunteer Marine Rescue Services
WA	Western Australia

Appendices



Appendix 1: Emergency Response Statistics

All Figures Current as at 30 June 2019

Staff Allocation

	FTE
Employees covered by the Western Australian Fire Service Enterprise Bargaining Agreement 2017	1,189.50
Public Service Officers and others	471.45
Total	1,660.95
Cadets and Juniors	
Emergency Services Cadets	615
Juniors registered with brigades, groups and units	724
Total cadets and juniors	1,339
Emergency Services Cadet Units	41
Junior Cadet Programs	96

Volunteers	Number of Brigades, Groups or Units	Volunteer Numbers		
		Operational	Support	Total
Volunteer Bush Fire Service	560	17,256	2,265	19,521
State Emergency Service	65	1,785	54	1,839
Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services	36	883	126	1,009
Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service	94	2,363	8	2,371
Volunteer Marine Rescue Services	39	1,752	0	1,752
Other DFES Volunteers	2	15	66	81
Total	796	24,054	2,519	26,573

Note: Total will not correlate with total regional volunteer numbers on page 35 as it includes volunteers who are dual registered.

Fire and Emergency Services Incident Response – All Services

	Number of incidents
Structure Fires	1,289
Bushfires	5,014
Other Fires – Includes Rubbish	2,887
Road Crash Rescues	2,807
Non-Fire Rescue Calls	2,163
Hazardous Situations – Not Fire	544
Petrol or Flammable Spills and Gas Leaks	422
System Initiated False Alarms	8,931
Good Intent False Alarm Calls	3,694
Malicious False Alarms	279
Flood, Storm or Other Natural Disaster	271
Service Calls (Excludes Storm and Natural Hazards)	93
Attendance Called Off on Route	606
Not Classified	6
Total responses provided by all services	29,006

We attended a similar number of incidents last year (28,961 responses in 2017-18).

Aviation Services

Aircraft type	Number of aircraft	Incidents in 2018-19	Activations	Number of drops	Total litres of fire suppressant
Aerial Fire Suppression Type 1 (Bell 214B) Helitak	6	90	208	2,504	7,240,897
Aerial Fire Suppression Type 1HV (Aircrane) Helitak	1	18	19	351	1,476,018
				2,855	8,716,915
Aerial Intelligence Aircraft	1	58	88		
Linescan (Lear35A) Fixed Wing Jet	1	14	20		
Air Attack and Utility Support Helicopter	2	44	61		

Aerial firefighting and helicopter services are provided through a combination of state and national procurement arrangements. Aerial firefighting prime contractors include McDermott Aviation, Kestrel Aviation and Heliwest.

Emergency Rescue Helicopters	Number of aircraft	Primary retrievals	Secondary retrievals	Search and rescue	Tasks
Bell 412EP – Jandakot	1	224	94	25	343
Bell 412EP – Bunbury	1	179	66	22	267

Contractors providing the aeromedical rescue services known as RAC Rescue are:

- CHC Helicopters (Australia) provides the helicopters and flight crew
- St John Ambulance provides critical care paramedic services.

Arson and fire investigation

2018-19

Formal Investigations	107
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This year there were 3% more formal investigations than 2017-18 (104).

Built environment safety

2018-19

New building plan assessments (Commercial and non-commercial)	1,433
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Inspections	461
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Non commercial building plan assessments include health care facilities, aged care facilities, assembly buildings, schools, universities and residential apartments (hostels, motels, etc.). Commercial assessments include major complex building sites are also presented for assessment (i.e. shopping centres with apartments above and within these complexes). This year 1,433 commercial building plan assessments were conducted, a 2.7% increase from 2017-18 (1,395).

Inspections increased by 27.7% this year compared to 2017-18 (361). This was a result of actively inspecting and ensuring Aged Care Facilities' fire safety systems are correctly maintained and fit for purpose suitability and operational readiness in these high risk facilities.

DFES does not have a statutory obligation to test and inspect installed fire services for newly constructed buildings.

Appendix 2: Emergency Services Levy Collections and Allocations

In 2018-19, the Emergency Services Levy (ESL) raised \$365 million from ratepayers, \$4 million from local government owned properties and \$24 million from the State Government and non-trading State enterprises. The ESL raised by local government area is shown in Table 3 on page 201.

The money collected provides facilities, equipment and resources, protective clothing, uniforms, vehicles and training for WA's fire and emergency services personnel, both career and volunteer across the State.

The ESL also supports specialist activities across the State such as fire investigations, building inspections, emergency planning and community safety programs.

ESL raised in 2018-19 has been used to fund the following major activities. Please note this is a high-level grouping of cost allocations for the year¹.

Table 1: Major activities funded through the ESL

	<p>Career Fire and Rescue Service – \$128 million Employed personnel in fire stations across Perth, Albany, Bunbury, Geraldton and Kalgoorlie who are response ready for a variety of emergency situations, 24/7.</p>		<p>Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service / Volunteer Fire and Emergency Service – \$19 million The committed volunteers in towns and built-up areas who provide an emergency response when it is needed most.</p>		<p>Bush Fire Service – \$32 million The dedicated volunteers who protect us from bushfires through fire suppression, prevention and risk management services and fire safety education in rural and pastoral areas.</p>
	<p>State Emergency Service – \$10 million The steadfast volunteers in orange who provide help to the community in a variety of situations such as severe weather and search and rescue operations.</p>		<p>Volunteer Marine Rescue Services – \$8 million The devoted volunteers along our coastline who protect and save lives at sea.</p>		<p>Rural Fire Division – \$11 million Improving rural fire management through increased investment in mitigation, strengthening relationships with volunteers, and greater collaboration between agencies.</p>

¹ ESL raised in 2018-19 was \$3 million more than the amount expended due to delayed disbursement of ESL funded mitigation grants. These funds are planned to be distributed during the 2019-20 financial year. Figures have been rounded to the nearest million and include an allocation of indirect expenditure of \$26 million on a weighted average basis.

Table 1: Major activities funded through the ESL

	<p>Emergency Services Training – \$28 million Providing professional development for volunteers and career personnel to enhance their operational and organisational skills.</p>		<p>Aerial Firefighting and Aviation Services – \$18 million Operation and coordination of the aerial fleet that is deployed rapidly to emergency incidents, protecting lives and property during the bushfire season.</p>		<p>Asset Construction and Maintenance – \$58 million Includes construction of fire stations and other facilities as well as maintenance, improvement and replacement of facilities, response vehicles and equipment.</p>
	<p>Volunteer Engagement – \$4 million Working with communities and local governments to strengthen relationships with our volunteers.</p>		<p>Emergency Management, Strategy and Planning – \$11 million Research and planning activities to improve our services and inform decisions on how we allocate our resources.</p>		<p>Health and Wellness – \$4 million Enhancing psychological and physical well-being for emergency services employees, volunteers and their families.</p>
	<p>Investigation and Compliance – \$4 million Determining the cause of fires and ensuring compliance with relevant standards to reduce the frequency and impact of emergency incidents.</p>		<p>Emergency Response Coordination – \$13 million Includes the running of emergency operations centres and the '000' communications centre to dispatch and coordinate emergency responses.</p>		<p>Technology and Communications – \$28 million Improving and maintaining the technology and communications infrastructure behind all our emergency services.</p>
	<p>Special Operations – \$3 million Upskilling personnel and maintaining specialist equipment to enhance our emergency response across a range of events such as hazardous material spills and building collapse.</p>		<p>Community Awareness and Education – \$12 million Providing information and programs to communities to increase awareness and build a more resilient and safer State.</p>		

A summary of the ESL monies collected for direct distribution in the form of operating and capital grants is reflected below. Further information on all grant expenditure is available in note 3.2 of the Financial Statements.

	Operating \$'000	Capital \$'000	Total \$'000
Local Government Grants Scheme – Bush Fire Service	9,947	10,371	20,318
Local Government Grants Scheme – State Emergency Services	2,104	2,851	4,955
Comprehensive Crew Cab Protection – Bush Fire Service	–	2,428	2,428
Community Emergency Services Managers	2,371	–	2,371
Volunteer Marine Rescue Services	2,199	2,798	4,997
Local Government Bushfire Risk Management	1,462	–	1,462
Mitigation Activity Fund – ESL	966	–	966
Grants to volunteer entities	733	–	733
Grants to volunteer representative bodies	592	–	592
Private brigades	197	–	197
Other ESL grants	529	–	529
	21,100	18,448	39,548

A detailed breakdown of grant allocations approved to local governments for Bush Fire Brigades and the State Emergency Service can be found on our website at www.dfes.wa.gov.au.

Table 3: 2018-19 ESL Raised by Local Government

ESL raised represents levies raised by local governments on behalf of ratepayers and in respect of local government owned properties. It does not include ESL relating to property owned by the State Government or Government Corporations.

Local Government	ESL raised (\$'000s)	Local Government	ESL raised (\$'000s)	Local Government	ESL raised (\$'000s)
City of Albany	3,408	Shire of Busselton	2,400	Shire of Cuballing	57
City of Armadale	10,272	Town of Cambridge	5,638	Shire of Cue	35
Shire of Ashburton	391	City of Canning	19,548	Shire of Cunderdin	81
Shire of Augusta-Margaret River	953	Shire of Capel	1,117	Shire of Dalwallinu	87
Town of Bassendean	2,641	Shire of Carnamah	45	Shire of Dandaragan	338
City of Bayswater	10,581	Shire of Carnarvon	283	Shire of Dardanup	657
City of Belmont	9,683	Shire of Chapman Valley	74	Shire of Denmark	360
Shire of Beverley	120	Shire of Chittering	233	Shire of Derby-West Kimberley	231
Shire of Boddington	101	Town of Claremont	2,824	Shire of Donnybrook-Ballingup	295
Shire of Boyup Brook	112	City of Cockburn	18,363	Shire of Dowerin	50
Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes	284	Shire of Collie	418	Shire of Dumbleyung	47
Shire of Brookton	63	Shire of Coolgardie	258	Shire of Dundas	82
Shire of Broome	1,093	Shire of Coorow	99	Town of East Fremantle	1,381
Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup	68	Shire of Corrigin	74	Shire of East Pilbara	416
Shire of Bruce Rock	64	Town of Cottesloe	1,723	Shire of Esperance	774
City of Bunbury	4,553	Shire of Cranbrook	72	Shire of Exmouth	226

Local Government	ESL raised (\$'000s)	Local Government	ESL raised (\$'000s)	Local Government	ESL raised (\$'000s)
City of Fremantle	8,493	Shire of Kondinin	62	Shire of Mt Marshall	45
Shire of Gingin	464	Shire of Koorda	35	Shire of Mukinbudin	38
Shire of Gnowangerup	69	Shire of Kulin	51	Shire of Mundaring	3,489
Shire of Goomalling	62	Town of Kwinana	5,772	Shire of Murchison	4
City of Gosnells	14,933	Shire of Lake Grace	90	Shire of Murray	819
City of Greater Geraldton	3,355	Shire of Laverton	52	Shire of Nannup	96
Shire of Halls Creek	76	Shire of Leonora	145	Shire of Narembeen	52
Shire of Harvey	1,184	City of Mandurah	9,074	Shire of Narrogin	262
Shire of Irwin	241	Shire of Manjimup	522	City of Nedlands	4,261
Shire of Jerramungup	102	Shire of Meekatharra	76	Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku	1
City of Joondalup	23,785	City of Melville	17,468	Shire of Northam	581
Shire of Kalamunda	7,049	Shire of Menzies	51	Shire of Northampton	279
City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder	3,210	Shire of Merredin	190	Shire of Nungarin	19
Shire of Karratha	1,495	Shire of Mingenew	31	Shire of Peppermint Grove	395
Shire of Katanning	200	Shire of Moora	135	Shire of Perenjori	36
Shire of Kellerberrin	74	Shire of Morawa	49	City of Perth	25,006
Shire of Kent	39	Town of Mosman Park	1,540	Shire of Pingelly	72
Shire of Kojonup	106	Shire of Mt Magnet	46	Shire of Plantagenet	299

Local Government	ESL raised (\$'000s)
Town of Port Hedland	1,074
Shire of Quairading	73
Shire of Ravensthorpe	151
City of Rockingham	13,566
Shire of Sandstone	14
Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale	1,678
Shire of Shark Bay	64
City of South Perth	7,767
City of Stirling	38,813
City of Subiaco	4,737
City of Swan	20,630
Shire of Tammin	30
Shire of Three Springs	40
Shire of Toodyay	262
Shire of Trayning	32
Shire of Upper Gascoyne	9
Town of Victoria Park	7,291
Shire of Victoria Plains	48

Local Government	ESL raised (\$'000s)
Town of Vincent	7,447
Shire of Wagin	117
Shire of Wandering	34
City of Wanneroo	25,243
Shire of Waroona	242
Shire of West Arthur	53
Shire of Westonia	19
Shire of Wickopin	47
Shire of Williams	59
Shire of Wiluna	32
Shire of Wongan-Ballidu	88
Shire of Woodanilling	31
Shire of Wyalkatchem	43
Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley	345
Shire of Yalgoo	19
Shire of Yilgarn	108
Shire of York	237

Appendix 3: Infrastructure and Vehicles

Infrastructure and vehicle numbers include only structures and operational vehicles in use. It does not include facilities or operational vehicles that are unoccupied, unused or due for disposal. CFRS, VFRS & VFES facilities and vehicles include only DFES owned and managed.

Infrastructure	CFRS	BFS	SES	VFRS	VFES
Number of existing structures as at 30 June 2019	29*	363	61	74	12
Number of new (additional facilities) structure approvals 2018-19	0	6	0	0	0
Number of new (replacement facilities) structure approvals 2018-19	1	8	1	0	0
Number of structure improvements 2018-19 (excludes minor works)	0	17	4	0	0

*Includes three collocated CFRS/VFRS facilities.

Response Vehicles	CFRS	BFS	SES	VFRS	VFES
Number of existing response vehicles as at 30 June 2019	81	639	313**	169	72
Number of replacement response vehicle approvals 2018-19	8	35	5	25	3
Number of existing trailers as at 30 June 2019	23	14	199	46	24

**SES includes licenced equipment such as trailers and major capital equipment such as lighting towers.

In addition, there are:

141 High fire appliances available to be deployed across the State and used by all services except SES

34 Standby appliances used for rotation of fleet during maintenance and support for breakdowns

33 Training appliances held at the Western Australian Fire and Emergency Service Academy

40 Appliances at various locations including 50 under Comprehensive Crew protection scheme, regional office and SWORD

41 Trailers at Regional offices, SWORD, Urban Search and Rescue and Aviation services.

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