



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.