

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.

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.



Volunteer Liaison Officers Hazel Darkin and Kristi Milana