

COMMUNIQUE

The State Bushfire Advisory Council (SBAC) met for the first time on 3 March at the Fire and Emergency Services Complex in Cockburn.

The SBAC has been established as part of State Government rural fire reforms announced in 2018. The SBAC will provide advice and recommendations to the Minister for Emergency Services and FES Commissioner on issues of strategic importance in the bushfire management sector.

The Honourable Francis Logan and FES Commissioner Darren Klemm AFSM addressed the membership and welcomed them to the Council.



After introductions and meeting formalities, the membership reviewed and accepted the Council's governance and operating instructions, appointing Mel Pexton from WALGA as Deputy Chair. The Council also confirmed their meeting schedule which is to meet quarterly in the first week of March, June, September and December.

Council member Chief Superintendent John Tillman gave a presentation and overview on developments at the Bushfire Centre of Excellence. This provided the council with an insight into the work to date, including the procuring of the development site and the building plans, securing of an interim facility, the development of the centre's functions, training priorities including traditional fire practices, and engagement and outreach initiatives.

The next SBAC meeting is scheduled for 08 June 2020.

For SBAC related information or enquiries, please email RuralFire@dfes.wa.gov.au