

Attachment 7.2 Report to the City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) meeting to be held on 13 June 2023

Agency: Department of Fire & Emergency Services

Officer Representing: Andy Thompson, Area Officer Geographe - LSW

Matters to be reported:

- **Training**

Regional training has started increasing with several courses being conducted across the region.

LSW Leadership Forum

This year we will be conducting our Leadership forum for both the VFERS and BFB. Marine Rescue Service will also be invited to some sessions. These will be combined and conducted in Nannup at the rec centre. BFB will be entitled to nominate 4 people to attend. This year the following sessions will be conducted, Aircraft Uses – Focus on LAT, Safety Advisor – Workplace Safety, Dealing with conflict, Fire Investigation (Structural and Bush), Incident Control and Dynamic Risk Assessment. We will shortly be asking for each Local Government to nominate 4 volunteers to attend.

- **International Fire Fighters Day Memorial**

In honour of International Firefighters' Day on the 4th of May, DFES LSW hosted a memorial service at the Busselton Fire and Rescue Station and supported the Bridgetown service also. The service commemorates Western Australian career and volunteer firefighters who have lost their lives serving the community and included on the Fallen Firefighters' Honour Roll

- **Staff**

New CESM will commence at Shire of Nannup on 19th June Mr Nathan Manning.

DO Capes Peter Thomas currently deployed to Canada.

- **Relevant Circulars.**

- Nominations the 2023 WA Fire and Emergency Services (WAFES) awards announced. Busselton VFERS – Donna Virgo and SES Margaret River/SW - VR Team
- Safety Circular 08/2023 Safety towing of Trailers
- Safety Circular 07/2023 Driving & Transporting Fleet for Non-Routine Tasks.

- **Review Zone Response (Capes)**

A review of the Capes Zone response is due September this year. The Capes response zone is agreed between all agencies (DFES, DBCA and LGs) and operates within the Shires of Augusta-Margaret River and the City of Busselton LG boundaries. Two distinct zones have been identified - I Zone and O Zone

- **Fire and Emergency Services Conference**

The 2023 WAFES Conference will be held on Friday 8 and Saturday 9 September at Crown Perth. The theme for 2023, Working together to make a difference, highlights how, by working together at all levels across all services and all agencies, we not only create a safer State but also make a difference in the lives of the Western Australian community. The two keynote speakers have also been confirmed as former coach of the Australian Cricket team

Justin Langer AM and retired British Army officer, criminal and human rights lawyer and hostage survivor Rabia Siddique.

- **Chief Bushfire Control Officer Forum.**

DFES Bushfire Centre Of Excellence 19th-21st July 2023

- **EOI – Kimberley Burning**

LSW region is supporting Kimberley Hazard reduction burning deploying volunteers and staff during 18th to 24th June. This provides an opportunity to work in different fuel types, landscape, and conditions also provides and promotes a better understanding of mitigation processes

- **Expressions of Interest for Deployment to Canada**

An expression of interest as been sent out to Staff and Volunteer Firefighters for possible further deployments to Canada Wildfires. Fire fighters can complete the registration form signed and approved by your brigade Captain and the CESM. This is a very arduous and physical deployment. If applicant is selected, he/she will have to complete Pack test and medical. Please also ensure they have current passport.

- **Building & Facilities**

Busselton VFRS Station building improvements have been completed with the full refurbishment of the station amenities/ kitchen/ BA room/ Tunic room and outdoor area.

- **Volunteer Fuel Cards**

A reminder to all brigades to utilise their Volunteer fuel cards before expiry 30th June 2023.

Andy Thompson
Area Officer Geographe - LSW