



City of Busselton

Geographe Bay

Bush Fire Advisory Committee Agenda

14 June 2022

City of Busselton, Kaloorup Room, 2 Southern Drive Busselton on Tuesday 14th June 2022 commencing
at 6:30pm.

CITY OF BUSSELTON

AGENDA FOR THE BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD ON
14 JUNE 2022

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CITY OF BUSSELTON**MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA – 14 JUNE 2022**

NOTICE is given that a meeting of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee will be held at the City of Busselton, Kaloorup Meeting Room, 2 Southern Drive, Busselton with the option of via Microsoft Teams video conference on Tuesday 14th June 2022 commencing at 6:30pm.

Your attendance is respectfully requested.



TONY NOTTLE
Acting Chief Executive Officer, City of Busselton

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING, ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Presiding Member noted this meeting is held on the lands of the Wadandi people and acknowledged them as the Traditional Owners, paying respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging and Aboriginal Elders of the other communities who may be present.

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Welcome to our new Manager of Regulatory Services (Rachel Runco) - Allan Guthrie

Attendance:

Refer to attached list.

Apologies:

Peter Thomas	DFES, District Officer Capes
Kate Cox	City of Busselton, Councillor
Matt Muir	Fire Control Officer, Yallingup Rural
Colin Sanderson	Fire Control Officer, Eagle Bay
Peter Stark	ICV

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 Confirmation of minutes from meeting held 8 March 2022

Moved:

Seconded:

5. BUSINESS ARISING**6. PRESENTATIONS**

6.1 Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions - Ed Hatherly

7. BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

7.1 WA Local Government Association Proposed Advocacy Position on Arrangements for Management of Volunteer Bushfire Brigades - Blake Moore

7.2 COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination changes and volunteer return to service process - Blake Moore

8. OFFICER/DELEGATE REPORTS

Attachment 8.1 - Department of Fire and Emergency Services – Andy Thompson

Attachment 8.2 - CoB/Department of Fire and Emergency Services - Blake Moore

Officer Recommendation

- 1) Department of Fire and Emergency Services - Peter Thomas
- 2) CoB/Department of Fire and Emergency Services - Blake Moore

9. MATTERS OF URGENCY**10. OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY (OH&S)****11. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on 13 September 2022 6:30pm Kaloorup meeting room.

12. CLOSURE

Attachment 8.1 Report to the City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) meeting to be held on 14th June 2022

Agency: Department of Fire and Emergency Services

Officer Representing: Andy Thompson

Matters to be discussed:



Government of Western Australia
Department of Fire & Emergency Services



City of Busselton BFAC Meeting

DFES LSW Region Report – 14th June 2022

- **Covid Restrictions**

With the state easing the Covid restrictions this has rolled out to both our staff and volunteers.

Masks

The use of Face Masks will no longer be mandatory in indoor venues, such as workplaces. However, Face Masks will still be required when –

- Visiting hospitals, residential aged care, disability services and correctional facilities.
- Using public transport, taxi, or rideshare vehicles.
- At any airport or on any aircraft, including those used for DFES operations.

Under the OSH Act, DFES, as an employer, has the responsibility to provide a safe workplace and therefore staff and volunteers are encouraged to continue to wear Face Masks, especially where physical distancing isn't possible. If you feel at risk, you are encouraged to wear a Face Mask.

Reporting COVID-19 details

Staff and volunteers are still required to register their positive PCR test or RAT results and Close Contact status with the DFES COVID-19 Call centre and if unwell they are not to attend work or Brigades, Groups, or Units.

- **Training**

Face to Face Training has started back up with courses starting to fill up with new volunteers.

- **DFES Staff**

The region has several new staff that have joined our office,

Area Officer Leeuwin (Capes District) Paul Dennison

Bush Fire Mitigation Officers – Rob Brogan and Tim Hutton

Area Officer Warren Blackwood – Tim Wray a firefighter from Perth will be acting in the role for a minimum of 3 months.

Admin – Casey has joined the team in Manjimup.

- **International Firefighters Day Memorial**

Wednesday the 4th of May was International Firefighters Day, whereby we remember the firefighters that gave their lives in the line of duty. Two services were conducted in our region, one in Bridgetown and the other in Busselton.

- **Burn SMART**

Burn SMART was launched as a resource package in 2020 to inform and support landholders preparing for and undertaking planned burns. The resources include:

- Burn SMART - A planned burning guide for small landholders (Burn SMART Guide)
- Burn SMART checklist
- Leaf moisture method
- Planned burning fact sheet

In 2021 a four-part video series was released to bolster the Burn SMART toolkit.

The series covers the six stages of preparing for and conducting a planned burn, as outlined in the Burn SMART Guide. The videos are designed to be watched in conjunction with reading the Burn SMART Guide to give landholders a visual understanding of all necessary steps.

Volunteers and staff can help their community be better prepared to undertake a planned burn by sharing the Burn SMART resources and including the videos in engagement and education activities.

All of the resources, including imagery for your social media pages and talking points to guide your conversations, are available on the Volunteer Hub, Intranet and DFES website.

- **Vehicle/Structure Fires**

There has been several vehicle and structure fires throughout the region which have occurred outside the gazetted fire district for VFRS. The Local Government BFB are the controlling agency for these and usually the VFRS will be mobilised to support and work along side the BFB. In some situations, the VFRS have not been called or local crews have extinguished the fire. I would like to stress the importance for crews without Breathing Apparatus to exercise extreme caution when dealing with these incidents. Car fires pose a great risk to health and safety of crews these include and not limited to,

- Toxic smoke
- Metals that react to water (Magnesium)
- Tail shafts/ Gas struts/ Air Bags
- Fuel
- Gas cylinders

It is important to keep out of the smoke from these types of fire unless you are in Breathing Apparatus as the bush fire masks do not offer adequate protection and should not be used.

Andy Thompson

A/District Officer Capes - LSW

Attachment 8.2 Report to the City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) meeting to be held on 14 June 2022**Agency:** City of Busselton/Department of Fire & Emergency Services**Officer Representing:** Blake Moore, Community Emergency Service Manager (CESM)**Matters to be reported:****Incidents**

- Nil significant

Mitigation

- Unfortunately no autumn mitigation was conducted.
- The City of Busselton is currently recruiting a full time Bushfire Mitigation Officer that will allow for better continuity of mitigation programs across the city and will lead to beneficial long term strategic plan outcomes.
- Spring burns have been programmed including capitalising on mitigation in Meelup using current fire scars

Vehicles

- Annual servicing has commenced. Please keep an eye on BART for appliance movements
- Significant number of faults and damage reported. These will be fixed during annual service program if able, otherwise parts will be ordered and fixed following the service program.

COVID

- Vaccination requirements have been removed. We will now work with brigades to contact members that were suspended as a result of the mandate, to gain member intentions and a return program for these members.

Training

- Training calendar has been developed and dates set for the training. COVID restrictions will potentially reduce courses run at times.
- Online options for introductory courses are still being developed

Safety

- SAFETY CIRCULAR 02/2022 – POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO CHROMATED COPPER ARSENATE (CCA)