



**Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting to be held
Wednesday 7 May 2025**

Commencing at 3.00pm

**Nannup State Emergency Service (SES)
319 Sexton Way, Nannup**

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Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 7 May 2025

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS / ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY:

Deputy Presiding Member, Cr Gibb declared the meeting open at 3.01pm

Welcome to country acknowledged by the Presiding member:

I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land we are meeting on, the Wardandi and Bibbulmun people. I acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and their contribution they make to the life of this region.

2. ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES:

2.1

Councillors	Staff
Cr Ian Gibb – Councillor (Deputy to Presiding Member)	David Taylor –Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
	Geoff Allam – Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM)
	Lisa Atkinson – Executive Support Officer

Members
Renee Flaxman, Department of Communities, Regional Coordinator, South West Region
Erin Hutchins, Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES), District Emergency Management Advisor
Peter Thomas, Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES), District Officer
Warren Smith, St John's Ambulance
James Whale, St John's Ambulance, Community Paramedic Lower South West
Ian Guthridge, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), Agriculture Section
Peter Thomas, DFES, District Officer
Bruce Hancock, Main Roads Western Australia, Asset Manager Operations
Tanya Coffey – SES
Kym Sandilands – Nannup Hospital, Manger
Sally Shaw, Acting Director of Nursing WREPS, Representing WA Health
Dave Hendry, St John Ambulance, Operations Lead for Southern Forest District
Keith Tarver, Officer in Charge, Nannup Police Station

2.2 Apologies

Councillors	Staff
Cr Tony Dean – Shire President (Presiding Member)	Lorraine Learmond, Recovery Coordinator, Shire of Nannup

Members
Ed Hatherley, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), District Fire Coordinator, Blackwood District
Paige Weaver, Nannup Health Service
Dave Stanik, Water Corporation, Operations Manager, Warren Blackwood District
Leonie Creigh, Nannup District Highschool

3. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS:

Nil.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

4.1 Local Emergency Management Committee meeting – 5 February 2025

That the Minutes from the Local Emergency Management Committee held 5 February 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record (Attachment 4.1).

MOVED: Keith Traver	SECONDED: Warren Smith
CARRIED	

5. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST:

Nil.

6. CORRESPONDENCE:

6.1 Event Update (Attachment 6.1)

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES:

This item was not discussed at the meeting

7.1 Actions from previous meeting 5 February 2025

8.2 Executive to explore worthwhile potential projects that the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) can undertake at the Shire of Nannup.

Response: Public Wi-fi Disaster resilience Fund Application made.

8. REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

8.1 Department of Communities - Renee Flaxman

Renee Flaxman reported that the Department of Communities have transitioned into the low-threat season, preparedness continues with monitoring, pre-positioning equipment, updating kits, and training exercises. Communities recently attended the Busselton Airport Glasgow exercise, and on 8 May 2025 they will attend a cross-region exercise with the Shire of Murray for the Murray River flood. There have been 16 activations of evacuation centres, 4 events deploying staff across the State, and 3 ongoing recovery programs: Marble storm, Kimberley floods, and Bunbury storms, which will conclude by the end of June 2025.

8.2 Department of Fire and Emergency Services - Erin Hutchins (Attachment 8.2)

Erin Hutchins reported amendments to the State Emergency Management Framework documents, including policy procedures and plans. These changes are listed in her report, with a link to the Engage WA website for detailed information. The report also includes a review schedule for upcoming documents, such as the local recovery guidelines, impact statement guideline, and WA community and evacuation guideline, all due for review.

The strategic plan for 2025-28, containing six measurable strategic objectives, is awaiting approval from the Minister for Emergency Services. Once approved, these objectives will be integrated into the LEMC business plan to align local efforts with state emergency management goals.

Updates on the LEMA Improvement Plan are available on the WALGA website. The pilot project is being rolled out, with several local governments selected to review their LEMA's based on contributions from various agencies and local governments over the past few years.

8.3 Department of Fire and Emergency Services - Peter Thomas

Peter Thomas (DFES) reported that International Fire Fighters Day was observed on 4 May 2025. DFES held a service on 3 May 2025 to honour firefighters from all services who have lost their lives in the line of duty. This tradition has been ongoing for around 8 years. The memorial at Busselton Fire Station had a fantastic turnout, providing an opportunity to acknowledge those who have tragically died. A member of the public attended to lay flowers in memory of her father, who died fighting fires.

Peter advised he oversees Nannup, City of Busselton, and Augusta. DFES is trialling a new program in his area, the first of its kind in the State, developed locally. The program aims to maintain and encourage brigades by visiting them and encouraging skill practice. This year, the focus has been on road crash rescue and structural firefighting, with plans to address other skills annually.

Peter reported on the growing risk of lithium battery fires in the region and across the state. DFES has responded to three such incidents recently, A scooter fire caused by a thermal overload in a battery cell. A camper trailer battery cell that ignited when exposed to oxygen, producing highly flammable and toxic gases, a cordless tool fire in Bridgetown. Peter highlighted the dangers of these fires, including toxic gases and explosion risks, and stressed the importance of proper disposal and safety measures of Lithium Batteries. He included safety documents and a link to the DFES site for more information.

Deputy Presiding Member, Cr Gibb asked Peter Thomas (DFES) if the public is getting caught unaware by these devices. Peter Thomas (DFES), responded that the person who dragged the scooter seemed fine, showing no signs of smoke inhalation, and no ambulance was needed. He highlighted the unknowns in the community's absorption of safety information, comparing it to Bush Fire safety. He emphasised the lack of saturation regarding lithium battery safety, noting the risks of personal injury from improper handling and the broader issue of disposal and storage of old batteries.

8.4 Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) – Ian Gutheridge

Ian Gutheridge (DPIRD) reported that the response to the Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer continues in the metro area and the Queensland fruit fly in Willagee. DPIRD supported the ISG in the Chesapeake fire, where no agricultural land was impacted. They are working on access permits for milk trucks and horticultural properties, which was a positive outcome for DPIRD in that incident

8.5 Shire of Nannup – Geoff Allam

Shire of Nannup Local Management Arrangements (LEMA) (Attachment 8.5.1)

Shire of Nannup Local Emergency Recovery Plan (Attachment 8.5.2)

Shire of Nannup LEMA contacts and Resources (Attachment 8.5.3)

Geoff Allam (CESM) reported that everyone should have received the Shire of Nannup Local Emergency Management Arrangements and Local Emergency Recovery Plan. Contacts and resources were circulated for review and comment, with a due date of 26 May 2025.

Geoff provided an update on the airstrip, noting more work completed, walls put up, and a smaller generator now usable. Comments were received about the pump needing regular servicing, as it failed during the recent Jalbarragup fires but was replaced the following day. The Shire will work with DBCA and SES on this.

Geoff advised that the Shire, SES and St John's Ambulance will collaborate on the Nannup emergency mountain bike plan, aiming for quicker operations and synchronised activation through COMCEN. This plan should be in place by the end of 2025.

Peter Thomas (DFES) asked Geoff Allam (CESM) how agencies will respond to normal emergencies given the high number of people in Nannup for the UCI event, the ability to get in and out of town, and the volume of traffic. He raised concerns about emergency services ability to support and exit during events, considering normal emergencies like road crashes and structure fires.

Bruce Handcock (Main Roads) noted that the event will saturate roads at 1,000 vehicles per hour, with Nannup exceeding this. All roads leading into Nannup will be congested, and many will be closed for the race, causing stalls.

David Taylor (CEO) shared his experience from Belgium's UCI event, where roads were closed. The Shire is finalising route approval with organisers, determining permanent and temporary road closures. The main start and finish will be on Brockman Street, with a crossover from Balingup Road past the brewery to the Amphitheatre. Traffic diversion plans will be discussed once the course is known. The event holders will use radios to organise escorted emergency service exits as needed.

Bruce Hancock (Main roads) expressed concerns about traffic congestion and parking during the event, questioning how emergency services will navigate through. David Taylor (CEO) acknowledged entry issues but noted that leaving town should be manageable. Bruce suggested resolving access routes to Augusta and Bridgetown for exits.

Peter Thomas (DFES) proposed conducting an ISG with key stakeholders to simulate the event's impact, similar to preparations done during the communication failure, ensuring everyone is aware of the situation. He added the fire risk in town is limited. To support an incident, external resources will be needed. David Taylor (CEO) responded to Peter Thomas (DFES) that once the race details are confirmed then a simulation will be arranged to aid in preparedness.

Ian Gutheridge (DPIRD) asked about business continuity and agricultural impacts on Balingup Road on the week of the event. David Taylor (CEO) responded to Ian Gutheridge (DPIRD) impact will be intense for the two race days, but not the entire week. Event organisers are in contact with those residents.

David Taylor (CEO) mentioned that the UCI's focus on European races makes it challenging for non-European events like Nannup's race. Organisers are working with UCI to plan beyond the next event in October 2025. They aim to avoid thoroughfare roads and use gravel roads around Mt Folly and Balingup Road to manage the large crowds. Bruce Hancock (Main Roads) noted that the traffic ratio is 3:1 for every person in the race, and traffic will start before most have parked unless they arrive very early. David Taylor (CEO) suggested that a plan to mitigate traffic by encouraging camping at the golf course area used for the Music Festival, reducing car congestion but acknowledging bikes will still take up space. Bruce Hancock (Main Roads) agreed, stating that broader planning will help manage the expanding concerns.

Action: The Shire to organise an ISG for preparedness for the UCI event once event parameters are have further confirmation.

Sally Shaw (Department of Health) mentioned that health has many questions, so starting the ISG earlier is crucial. In two weeks, they will test their incident plan, starting preparations 12 months in advance.

Bruce Hancock (Main Roads) noted that UCI is engaging a traffic management engineer, and Main Roads has conducted their own calculations, suggesting one dedicated representative for all competitors.

David Taylor (CEO) reported they are working with other Shires to spread the potential visitors. Observations from Belgium showed varied spectator behaviour, with some staying at gates and others in fan zones or businesses that had viewing such as pubs. They are coordinating with Manjimup, Bridgetown, and Donnybrook Shires to create large fan zones in Busselton, Margaret River, and Nannup to manage people and vehicles. Peter Thomas (DFES) asked about the event month. David Taylor (CEO) confirmed it is in October 2026. Peter Thomas (DFES) advised including DBCA in case of planned burns. David Taylor (CEO) confirmed that DBCA, FPC, and event organisers are collaborating closely.

Deputy Presiding Member, Cr Gibb emphasised the importance of doing a good job, noting that Europeans will be very unforgiving. This is the first time the event is being held outside Europe. He expressed uncertainty about how the FAIL will convert to the screen and feedback to Europe, stressing that promoters need to ensure they have the correct televisions and shots. He also mentioned observing advanced camera stands when in Belgium.

Bruce Hancock (Main Roads) highlighted that international presentation is crucial, and a well-televised race will sell itself. He believes local issues may not be significant internationally and that the international occurrence of the race is beneficial.

Deputy Presiding Member, Cr Gibb added that good television coverage will keep people in fan zones, as Europeans are accustomed to. Depending on Busselton's approach, many people might stay, but visitors will come to see Australia's unique terrain. David Taylor (CEO) added that there will be a building effect, with people arriving days before and staying to watch the race and possibly staying after the race.

David Taylor (CEO) reported that the Shire is collaborating with event organisers for the G7 Festival of Cycling. This includes five days leading up to the race and two race days, aiming to create a festival atmosphere with activities to attract visitors to Nannup and boost local spending. It's anticipated that participants will arrive a week or two early to prepare, tweak equipment, acclimatise, and recover from jet lag.

Tanya Coffey (SES) raised a question about community engagement, noting that initial discussions on vehicle movement issues have begun. Although details are still early, there is potential for community involvement in the program as a business opportunity or support for other businesses. This could include preferential access for tour companies offering travel packages. Tanya emphasised the importance of including tourist operators in traffic management plans, as they will bring visitors to the event.

8.6 Nannup Hospital - Kym Sandilands

Kim Sandilands (Nannup Hospital) reported that the hospital has been working with UCI and has had preliminary meetings to identify stakeholders from the health system. The hospital plans to hold more meetings with representatives from the LEMC group in the future. Michelle Spargo is overseeing preparations from the health department.

Sally Shaw (Department of Health) mentioned that the next event will be used as a troubleshooting opportunity to identify what works and what doesn't. Discussions with St John's highlighted the risk of overwhelming the town and the hospital, which currently has only two nurses on shift and two emergency beds. Strategies to increase these numbers are being explored.

Peter Thomas (DFES) advised Kim Sandilands (Nannup Hospital) to talk to Busselton Police about how they run schoolies. Kim Sandilands (Nannup Hospital) responded to Peter Thomas (DFES) they had discussed a possible emergency tent. Sally Shaw (Department of Health) added that the tent is for next year; this year, they have more officers and nurses on site, and James Whale (St John Ambulance) is in town.

James Whale (St John Ambulance) reported that the setup can be organised as a field hospital. They have the right area and access points for it, and it's a system they are keen to continue using. It has been successfully used in Exmouth and during the first year of Leavers. The setup includes all the equipment of a local hospital and has a greater capacity to house patients. They bring their own team, including specialists, to make appropriate referrals without overwhelming local resources. It's a good plan worth considering.

Sally Shaw (Department of Health) reported that the South West Region has been busy managing the Chesapeake fires in Pemberton. The WACHS team provided significant input, and their learnings were shared with other MPS sites. Both Pemberton and Nannup, being small hospitals, benefited from staff upskilling in evacuation processes. The tests at Pemberton were successful, indicating strong processes that can be applied in Nannup if needed. Currently, staff are preparing for potential storm threats typical for this time of year.

8.7 Nannup SES – Tanya Coffey

Tanya Coffey (SES) reported that the activities of the water bomber reloading for the fires in Nannup, locally, and near Windy Harbour have been significant. There had also been a considerable deployment of members to the North and Interstate, keeping the SES quite busy. Tanya added the ICC is now capable of being activated for full operations, thanks to the increased hard stand, double garage for storage, and compacted area for stabilisation. These improvements have been tested and proven effective. Additionally, works at the airfield, including pumps and related operations, have been completed.

Tanya reported promising developments in collaboration with St John's, DFES, and district officers regarding mapping. This was particularly important during a recent multi-incident on a public holiday weekend, which tested communications under pressure. St John had two callouts with split teams, and the SES attended to someone in the park, facing challenges in communications and mapping. The issues will be addressed with support from expert agencies. Additionally, the SES conducted an exercise, with four members from Nannup SES participating in a multi-casualty scenario in Margaret River. The exercise involved vehicle movement and resource management, highlighting the need for better organisation and coordination, especially with volunteers. The exercise provided valuable lessons on utilising volunteers effectively, despite the limitations in multiskilling.

Tanya raised an issue from a previous meeting where there was no quorum. Tanya asked Bruce Hancock (Main Roads) about the improved signage for Mountain Bike Park emergency access, specifically mentioning the appreciated Felspar road sign. She inquired about further developments, noting that the road has been ungraded for a year, causing issues for emergency vehicles. The current signage is ineffective for traffic coming from the other end, leading to speeding issues. Tanya also asked about the helipad, pointing out that public parking is obstructing its use.

Sally Shaw (Department of Health) asked if the helipad was at the recreation centre, adding that car's should not be parked there. David Taylor (CEO) responded that the Tank 7 helipad location being referred to is near the emu statue at the Tank Seven Trail Head.

Tanya Coffey (SES) advised that pilots decide on the day where they land. It's one of those areas that would be ideal for events if you don't want to deal with the public. Is there going to be a plan for that? Deputy Presiding Member, Cr Gibb responded that a windsock is planned. He knows where the pole is but not the actual windsock, which will help identify the helipad better.

Action: Shire to organise a windsock for the Tank 7 Helipad.

David Taylor (CEO) reported he inspected Felspar Road and will check if it's on the work schedule due to erosion from rain. Warren Smith (St John's Ambulance) noted the work done from the main entrance to the helicopter pad is excellent. David Taylor (CEO) confirmed he spoke with the Executive Manager, Works and Services about cutting the growth on the helipad lower and improving the levels on the area.

Tanya Coffey (SES) reported that in the Peel region, there's a major exercise for Road Smart where managing the landing zone is crucial. If we prepare in advance, it will reassure SES that they can access it without issues.

Peter Thomas (DFES) suggested testing the site with an exercise involving a rescue helicopter team. He can coordinate with the manager responsible for rescue helicopters if assistance is needed.

Deputy Presiding Member, Cr Ian Gibb noted that helicopters frequently use the site and it's better if the ground is damp to prevent rocks and dirt from being thrown up. He added that the north side of the highway is private land, and the pilot will decide where to land. SES supports WAPOL and SJA in stopping traffic on the highway until the helicopter takes off and lands.

Tanya Coffey (SES) mentioned that incidents tend to happen at the end of the day when people are tired. SES is trying to identify hotspots, but it's challenging as the information is publicly available. Tanya added she has studied injury patterns to determine the best landing scenarios for medivac, ensuring it's expedited with minimal hassle. In towns with traffic and reduced communications, clear signage, especially on Felspar Road, is crucial. Traffic on the hill can be unpredictable, and ambulances need quick access.

David Taylor (CEO) reported he attended a meeting with Main Roads about reducing the speed limit to 70 km/h from town to the top of the Brockman hill. The Shire needs to make a formal application, and Main Roads will process it. Main roads support the speed limit reduction as proposed. Tanya Coffey (SES) noted that Main Roads display electronic signs during events, which is effective in getting people's attention.

8.8 St John Ambulance – Warren Smith

Warren Smith introduced James Whale (St John Ambulance), the new community paramedic, who will be stationed in Nannup for a few months. Warren reported he received a non-urgent phone call from the Carlotta Bushfire Brigade because they could not access the AED. Warren suggested that the AEDs on the side of the bushfire sheds, not the ones on the trucks, need to be registered with first responders. This way, anyone in the area who needs an AED before an ambulance arrives can be advised of the nearest AED.

St John Ambulance held a meeting with the CP and an operational lead. They established a protocol for callouts related to bike tracks, including Tank 7. Trigger words will be used for these callouts. Geoff Allam (CESM) will be included in the 000-call and will automatically deploy his resources if needed. Warren advised he doesn't know the exact details but confirmed this is how it will work in the future.

Warren noted that the biggest issue for the UCI event will be communication. Nannup has no communication infrastructure, which will be problematic if the town receives many visitors. He suggested to the operational lead that a helicopter be stationed in Nannup for the event.

Warren thanked the Shire for placing ambulance signs on Cross Street and the main road, as well as on Kearney Street and Walter Road.

Warren reported he received a notice about a film coming to Nannup called "Just a Farmer," focused on suicide prevention. Fundraising is needed to cover costs, including \$3,000 for food, advertising, and the film. Apryl Longford from the Shire is knowledgeable about this and can support the fundraising efforts.

David Taylor (CEO) responded that Apryl can provide the necessary information, which can be circulated through the LEMC network.

Action: Apryl Longford to circulate some information on the film just a famer to the LEMC members. Warren Smith to confirm AEDs outside of fire sheds are registered.

Peter Thomas (DFES) responded to Warren Smith (St John Ambulance) concerns about communications. The SES manager carries a Starlink on his vehicle, and DFES is considering mini Starlinks for the SES office. They are exploring options to strategically place these for support during major events. Peter emphasized the need for a robust mobilization plan and wants to discuss this further, including involving St John and the rescue helicopter manager. Once the helicopter pad is ready, they will conduct an exercise to ensure the mobilization process is well-established.

David Taylor (CEO) reported that preparing the helicopter pad is fairly straightforward, requiring a machine for levelling and cleanup. Regarding communications, the Shire has applied for a Disaster Resilience Funding grant to install a fibre connection at the recreation centre, along with antennas for Wi-Fi coverage throughout the golf course. This setup will support camping and large gatherings. They also applied for a mobile trailer with Wi-Fi capability, including Starlink and 4G/5G, which can be deployed anywhere. The trailer will enhance disaster resilience and provide public Wi-Fi along Brockman Street during major events.

Tanya Coffey (SES) raised concerns about signal reduction in certain areas and mentioned the potential shutdown of 4G. David Taylor (CEO) responded and clarified that only 3G is shutting down and suggested that issues with mobile repeaters might be due to outdated antennas. Tanya noted that valleys, moisture, and pine plantations disrupt radio signals. David mentioned that emergency services might need to rely on radios instead of mobiles during major events. Tanya added that SES training focuses on radio use but has limitations.

Peter Thomas (DFES) confirmed that Blackwood Valley uses radios. David Taylor (CEO) acknowledged DFES had communication issues where mobile phones weren't working.

David Taylor (CEO) advised that with the DRF application submitted, there's a strong argument from the trial work that was completed. A trial this year showed that covering Brockman Street improved the situation, but as the camping area was not covered still meant that the communications had disruptions. The town's omni antenna for Telstra needs upgrading to a compartment antenna to prevent signal demand in one area causing the whole antenna to lose signal. David is lobbying Telstra for this upgrade.

Tanya Coffey (SES) raised concerns about a "first come, first served" approach for vendors and stall holders. David mentioned that a trailer with a 400-meter radius could provide a Wi-Fi system for the festival area. Peter Thomas (DFES) emphasised the importance of having reliable backup systems, suggesting radios and Starlink to cover all bases.

David Taylor (CEO) reported that the NBN fibre is reliable as it is directly connected, but he is concerned about the capacity of the fibre line leading into Nannup. He has asked Telstra about its capacity but hasn't received an answer.

Sally Shaw (Department of Health) responded that this issue should be raised early, as the hospital's connectivity is poor at times. David asked if the hospital uses fibre, and Sally confirmed that it does, but the connectivity is sometimes terrible.

Tanya Coffey (SES) noted that while some key areas in town have good connectivity, the hospital's signal should not be compromised. David Taylor (CEO) advised that the shire has fibre and the service is fine.

8.9 Nannup Police – Keith Tarver

Keith Traver reported Nannup police responded to an emergency on 11 April 2025. A single male in his 40s went missing at 9.30pm while working in the East Nannup Forest area. Officers searched accessible tracks, and the missing person was fortunately equipped with an activated emergency distress beacon. Emergency operations units were involved, and SES assistance was requested and approved. The missing person was successfully located the following morning at 9.00am and all services were stood down.

He advised that he and Jeff Cook recently assisted in a marine search and rescue in Margaret River, which was successfully resolved. Both Nannup police officers are qualified in marine and land search and rescue operations.

Keith added National security has implemented new protocols for all police forces nationwide. Presentations are being provided to organisers of crowded places and mass gatherings to prevent terrorist or hostile activities. Events attracting thousands of people fall under this definition. Organisers should be aware of their obligations and plan accordingly. The Shire, as an organiser of such events, needs to note these protocols when planning.

Action: Shire to be aware of Police crowded places requirements for potential ~~terrorist~~ ~~hostile~~ attacks.

8.10 Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions – Ed Hatherley

Nil.

8.11 Water Corporation – David Stanik

Nil

8.12 Nannup District High School – Leonie Creagh

Nil

8.13 Main Roads Western Australia, Asset Manager Operations, Bruce Hancock

Bruce Hancock reported that he will provide a standard report for future LEMC meetings. The report will focus on Main Roads' capacity and capability, detailing the timing of each event to give a clear understanding of the depth of Main Roads' capacity.

Bruce advised of the importance of the Main Roads contact number (138 138) and asked if anyone had experienced difficulties reaching them. Tanya Coffey (SES) responded that she got through on the contact number but was put on hold. Bruce Hancock (Main Roads) responded that he will address this issue with the relevant section.

Bruce reported he did not receive a copy of the agenda and minutes and is not on the contact list. Deputy Presiding Member, Cr Gibb assured that the Shire will investigate that.

9. STANDING ITEMS:

9.1 Shire of Nannup EM Arrangements Part B Review:

David Taylor (CEO) advised this is a standing item for contact lists for the Shires's Emergency Management Arrangements if there are changes to contact persons inform Geoff Allam (CESM).

10. GENERAL BUSINESS:

10.1 Warren Smith

Warren Smith (St John Ambulance) shared that they handled three heart cases recently in one weekend, one of which was critical and required a helicopter. He added that due to misty conditions the helicopter might not have been able to land. The helicopter crew asked the ambulance to wait at the hospital in case they needed to drive the patient to Bunbury, but the patient needed to go to Fiona Stanley Hospital, that would have caused a few issues. He added that the pilot was on a tight schedule and had to rush the medics because he couldn't take off once the mist settled too much.

David Taylor (CEO) asked if the issue was related to helicopter operations or safety policy. Warren Smith (St John Ambulance) responded that it was due to visual conditions.

Peter Thomas (DFES) commented that the ISG exercise will align well. We can bring the helicopter down and ask questions about their limitations and expectations during landing. Peter has previously done this with the Fire and Rescue Brigades, who visited a helicopter rescue site in Bunbury to ask similar questions. This is a good opportunity to discuss the challenges they might face in Nannup and during the mountain bike track rescue. This will help us understand their capabilities and limitations.

David Taylor (CEO) asked Peter Thomas (DFES) Thomas if the helicopters also land at the DBCA airstrip noting that it has better elevation.

Warren Smith (St John Ambulance) responded to David Taylor (CEO) that helicopters have landed there but more often it's the flying doctors.

Sally Shaw (Health Department) mentioned that Nannup is very resilient knowing that helicopters can't land. Peter Thomas (DFES) added that Bridgetown and Balingup face similar issues, with mist sometimes locking in for hours.

Tanya Coffey (SES) reported several options that included the Highschool top oval, main oval, top and bottom of tank 7, and the airstrip. Deputy Presiding Member, Cr Gibb responded that the decision is ultimately up to the pilot, who may choose differently than another pilot.

11. PROPOSED DATE FOR NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday 6 August 2025 at 3pm.

12. CLOSURE OF MEETING: 4.23PM

Deputy Presiding Member closed the meeting at 4.23pm.

Attachments

Attachments	Title
4.1	Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting Minutes 6 November 2024
6.2	Event Update
7.1	Actions from Previous Meeting 5 February 2025
8.2	District Emergency Manager Report
8.5	Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM) Report
8.5.1	Shire of Nannup Local Management Arrangements (LEMA)
8.5.2	Shire of Nannup Local Emergency Recovery Plan
8.5.3	Shire of Nannup LEMA contacts and Resources