

Meeting 103 – 1 December 2016

COMMUNIQUÉ

The State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) held its last meeting of the year on Thursday 1 December in Sydney.

Farewells

Members paid tribute to the outgoing Commissioner of Fire & Rescue NSW, Greg Mullins and Mr Barry Hanstrum of the Australian Bureau of Meteorology for their significant contribution and service to the SEMC. New representatives for these agencies will take over in early 2017.

Emergency Risk Management Framework

The State Mitigation Standing Committee (SMSC) advised that an integrated framework for Emergency Management in NSW at a local, regional and state level is required. The SMSC has devised a series of principles to establish the framework and the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) has engaged 'Risk Frontiers' to commence a scoping study. The State Level Risk Assessment will articulate the work completed over the last five years and include a review of local emergency management plans, focussing on primary infrastructure issues.

State Emergency Rescue Management Act 1989 (SERM Act)

A review of the SERM Act will commence in early 2017 to ensure it remains current and encompasses up to date NSW emergency management practices. A sub-committee will be established in the New Year to discuss proposed amendments to the Act.

Commonwealth Disaster Funding Reforms

The Commonwealth has proposed changes to the National Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA). A steering committee will be formed to review current funding processes and engage with other NSW Government agencies.

NSW Recovery Plan

SEMC endorsed the revised NSW Recovery Plan following a two year review in consultation with key stakeholders.

NSW Community Resilience and Response Plan

Multicultural NSW presented the NSW Community Resilience and Response Plan to the SEMC. NSW is the first state to adopt the Multicultural Policies and Services Program to ensure access to all services, regardless of diversity. The SEMC endorsed the plan, noting it will align with the New South Wales State Emergency Management Plan.

NSW State Waters Marine Oil and Chemical Spill Contingency Plan

SEMC endorsed the updated NSW State Waters Marine Oil and Chemical Spill Contingency Plan which incorporates related guidelines and reflects recent agency and machinery legislative changes to the *Marine Pollution Act 2012*.

The next State Emergency Management Committee is scheduled for 2 March 2017.