

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the November 2019 Newsletter.

This is indeed a busy time for most of us in the SES.

In the north of the state, units continue to be involved in fire operations as well as preparing for the wet season.

The balance of the state's units look to a season of - what will it bring? Storms, Fire, Flooding? The variety of tasks and the opportunities they bring for SES volunteers seems to be growing year by year.

Three key priorities in the coming months for all SES Units and their members, some of which comes from the honest and candid discussions I recently had with the Commissioner, Mr Darren Klemm AFSM.

- A complete Learning and development review of the training framework packages that currently exist.

- Emergency Services Legislation is up for discussion again. DFES see that the future of the SES as being under the umbrella of DFES and not funded through the Local Government Grants Scheme. So funding directly through DFES, a little back to the future.

- The Volunteer Sustainability Strategy and Steering Committee commence meeting on the 5 Nov 2019. The outcomes from this may have an impact on all of us into the future

If you have information or wish to have input into the topics above, please talk with your regional committee members.

They will be actively pursuing all units across the state to determine what our advocacy position is to be on your behalf.

Take care everyone, this could be a very busy season coming.

*Greg Cook*  
President

## FROM YOUR TEAM AT THE SESVA

### *What's in this edition:-*

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### ANNUAL CONFERENCE

There is talk of the annual WAFES Conference being held every two years rather than annually.

Please let Bella know your thoughts on this matter.

Her contact details are at the bottom of page 2.

### LEGISLATION REVIEW

We have received a letter from the Minister for Emergency Services advising Cabinet has approved the consolidation of the three emergency service Acts into a single piece of legislation.

We all know the issues which were presented when this action was attempted by the previous government.

As many SES Volunteers would be aware, this issue will seriously impact on the future of the State Emergency Service as we know it, and our ability to support our communities.

Watch this space, and we will keep you informed as this issue progresses.



## VEHICLE LOAD STICKERS

As many SES Volunteers are aware, the legal load limitations on the PC's we use are a major problem.

Unfortunately under the law, if a PC is over-loaded, **the driver is held responsible.**

In an endeavour to simplify the understanding by drivers of the limits on the various vehicles they may drive in the SES, new stickers and load calculation sheets are being produced.

The load calculation sheets will be in paper format, and also available as a spreadsheet to enable easy load calculations.

The new stickers will clearly and simply explain the basic load limitations for the vehicle being driven.

DO's will be liaising with Units to explain the stickers, use of the load calculation sheets, and working out the limits for the various vehicles.

The installation of the stickers, training in how to ensure vehicles stay within the legal load limits, will assist in preventing SES Volunteers driving the vehicles being in contravention of the law.

## OPERATIONAL CAREER PATH FOR SES DISTRICT OFFICERS AND SES VOLUNTEERS

This is an issue the SESVA has been pursuing clarification of for quite a while, and we are pleased to advise that the address by AC Rick Curtis at the recent WAFES Conference was pleasing to hear.

If you attended the session you would have heard that a process is being worked on to ensure there is a positive, clear career path being defined for SES District Officers and for Volunteers to join DFES as career staff.

It is planned to have the path in place and operational by 30th June 2020.

AC Curtis has assured the SESVA that he wants to achieve the June deadline and is working as hard as he can to ensure that happens.

We are very hopeful this will be achieved.

Watch this space for future updates.

## eACADEMY 2.0

It is anticipated the new training streams for SES Volunteers and eAcademy 2.0 will be released in January 2020.

We are all looking forward to this, as it will make training so much simpler.

The delays in the release of eAcademy 2.0 and the new training streams has been caused by supplier issues with the software upgrade.

Until the software operates to match the new training streams it is not feasible to release the new training streams.

DFES have been working hard to overcome the issues, and hopefully the release date will hold.

## PATHWAYS WORKAROUND

While we wait for eAcademy 2.0 and the new training streams, the current PATHWAYS can be implemented in the interim as a work around.

Units can still use the arrangement for Superintendent discretion to approve beyond PATHWAY stipulation to satisfy capability requirements.

So, if specific training is needed talk to your DO and obtain Superintendent approval to provide the training.

## MEMORABILIA

Don't forget the SESVA has a range of items that can help with recruitment and promotion of your Unit.

Just contact Bella at the SESVA office.

## HOW TO KEEP INFORMED

Don't forget we have a website which keeps you informed of what is happening across the state in SES land.

We also have "the App".

And also, if you would like our newsletters, other relevant information etc forwarded direct to your email, just contact the SESVA office ([sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au](mailto:sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au)), and advise your details.