

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The SES Duxton Forum – An Update on the Outcomes

Over the past five years there have been many issues raised with DFES that affect the SES Volunteers and the roles they carry out.

Most of these issues were represented to DFES by the SES units through their Regional Offices or by the SESVA direct to DFES staff.

Many issues were resolved whilst others took years or got bogged down and had fallen off the radar.

During a meeting in October with the Minister for Emergency Services, the Minister advised the SESVA that he has decided that DFES will have a forum of all SES leaders in December (2018).

The date was set for 2/3 December and DFES, with assistance from the SESVA, put a forum together.

More than 100 SES Volunteers and DFES staff attended the forum held at the Duxton Hotel in Perth.

Churchill Consulting facilitated the forum using certain themes to flush out many of the issues that SES Volunteers and their units are dealing with on a weekly basis. A report on the Duxton Forum was sent to all participants and the SESVA on 30 January.

There are many issues in the 153 page “Summary of SES Volunteers Forum Outcomes” report.

DFES have decided that there will be a number of working groups supported by SES District Officers;

1. Reduce administration workload
2. Process optimisation
3. Role clarity and communication effectiveness
4. Local government engagement
5. SES branding and recruitment support
6. Training and careers development
7. Training delivery
8. SES and cross-service collaboration

The progress of the working groups will be tracked and reported upwards and will include the Chief Superintendents, the SESVA, the Commissioner and the Minister.

Working together co-operatively on each of the recommendations is the best way to quickly move forward to determine possible solutions.

SES Volunteers should be able to access a copy of the report which has been sent to all of the SES Volunteers who attended the Duxton Forum.

If any Unit has issues getting access to a copy of the document, please contact your regional office.

The SESVA has personally thanked both the Minister for this initiative and the Commissioner for the timely release of the report and advised both, that this Association looks forward to working with DFES on the outstanding issues and participating in the working groups.

It is hoped that the outcomes from the working groups will reduce the number of SES issues into the future and improve the delivery of service to the SES Volunteers, the SES Units and the communities.

The SESVA has also discussed with the Minister about conducting a Training Forum (as mentioned in the report) early this year and reviewing the progress of the Duxton Forum outcomes within 4 months.

Gordon Hall ESM
President

**THIS UPDATE HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO YOU
BY YOUR TEAM AT THE SESVA TO KEEP
YOU UP TO DATE**

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), and advise your details.