



SES Volunteers Association of WA (Inc)

2024 Annual General Meeting

1. Agenda

1. Declaration of meeting opening
2. Record of Attendance/Apologies
3. Register of Unit Delegates
4. Disclosure of Interest
5. Minutes of AGM 2023
6. Matters arising from the minutes
7. President's report
8. Treasurer's report
9. The President declares the relevant positions vacant
10. Returning Officer declares appointments
11. Membership Fee
12. Appointment of Auditor
13. Relevant Notified Business
14. Closure of meeting

2. Previous AGM Minutes, 10th September 2023

UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held in Studio Room 2 Crown Burswood

09:00 Sunday 10th September 2023 and Via TEAMS

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING: The President declared the meeting open at 09:00

2. REGISTER OF UNIT ATTENDEES

2.1 SESVA Executive Members

Greg Cook, SES Comms Support (SESVA President)	Allen Gale, (SESVA Secretary)
Alan Hawke, Bayswater (Vice President)	Robbie Palmer, Mundaring (SESVA Treasurer)

2.2 Unit Authorised Delegates

Albany – Nathan Anderson	Armadale – Connie Eikelboom (Teams)
Australind – Beverley Miller (Teams)	Bayswater – Mic Dunn (Teams)
Boddington – Wayne English	Bunbury – Ros McConchie (Teams)
Canine – Mark Smith (Teams)	Canning South Perth – Varun Sequeira
Denmark – James Anderson	Donnybrook – Julie Carrick
Geraldton Greenough – Ross Jones	Gosnells – Graham Fixter
Hedland – Brad Western	Kalgoorlie Boulder – Anjuli Till
Mandurah – Chris Stickland	Moora – Hugh Bryan
Northam – Pam Walsh (Teams)	Pingelly – Bill Mulronev
Stirling – Aurun Baynham (Teams)	SWORD Logistics – Seigmund Belczowski
Walpole – Peter Newton (Teams)	Wanneroo Joondalup – Karina Skipworth

2.3 Observers/Guests

Susan Heazlewood – Pingelly	Trent Rippin
Gordon Hall ESM - Mandurah	Darren Spencer
Leonie Briggs – Canine	Mandy Hanna – Gnowangerup
Brad Skipworth – Wanneroo Joondalup	Erica Gray – Mandurah
Alex Cuswell – Gnowangerup	John Capes OAM (SESVA Webmaster) & Nita Capes (Guest)
Kerry Watts – Pingelly	Bella Scharfenstein (minutes)
Mauritz Oberholzer – Narrogin	Betts Oberholzer – Narrogin
Peter Bloor – Gnowangerup	Paul O'Brien – Pingelly
Bob Gray – Mandurah	Glen Churchland – Esperance
Arthur Hutchison – Kalamunda	Les Hayter – Margaret River (Teams)
Marty Seward – SESVA South East (Teams)	Keith Jackson – Serpentine Jarrahdale (Teams)
Craig Masarei – SESVA Consultant - (Guest)	Bella Scharfenstein – SESVA Admin Officer (Minutes)

2.4 Apologies

Trevor Patton – SESVA VP North	Steve Cable – SESVA MG
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3 AUTHORISED DELEGATES

Secretary advised the minimum number of Unit authorised delegates had been achieved and declared a quorum.

4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil

5. PREVIOUS MINUTES

11th September 2022

MOVED: Allen Gale

SECONDED: William Mulroney

That the Minutes of the State Emergency Services Volunteers Association of WA (Incorporated) Annual General Meeting of 11 September 2022 be confirmed. **MOTION CARRIED**

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nil.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Correspondence Out

Notice of 2023 AGM, Agenda items, Call for Nominations for Vacancies and Authorised Delegate Form was sent to SES units by email and posted on the SESVA website.

7.2 Correspondence In

Nominations for SESVA committee positions, Authorised Delegate forms.

8. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President spoke to his report, as tabled, and attached as Appendix A.

MOVED: Hugh Bryan

SECONDED: Ross Jones

That the 2023 SESVA AGM President's Report be accepted.

MOTION CARRIED

9. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer presented the SESVA 2022-2023 Financial Reports, as displayed on screen and shared via Teams, noting:

- The objective of the Association is to promote and foster the interests of SES Volunteers in WA with its financial resources.
- The SESVA is in a stable financial position and is well placed to remain so into the future.
- The main source of income is from DFES, which we'd like to acknowledge, who provide the SESVA with an Operating Grant of \$136,000 per annum including GST. This supports the day to day business of the SESVA including wages of the Administration Officer and enables the VA to support SES Units with promotional materials for their community engagement activities.
- SESVA operate five accounts :
 - DFES Grant Account

- General Account
- BHP Bus Grant
- Benevolent Fund
- Mastercard Debit Card
- Accounts have been audited by Moore Australia who provided the following opinion: The SESVA is in a sound financial condition. All five accounts, in the Auditor's opinion, present fairly in accordance with the cash basis of accounting, the receipts and payments of the SESVA in relation to all accounts for 12 months ending 30/6/23 and its bank balances at that date.
There are no issues to bring to the attention of members.

Treasurer invited questions from the floor and on receiving none moved the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

MOVED: Robert Palmer

SECONDED: Ross Jones

That the Financial and Audit Reports for the 2022-2023 financial year, as presented and read,
be accepted.

MOTION CARRIED

10. DECLARATION OF VACANT POSITIONS

President declared the following positions vacant:

President	Vacant	
Vice President South		Vacant
South East	Vacant	
South West	Vacant	
Goldfields Midlands	Vacant	
Lower South West	Vacant	
North Coastal	Vacant	
Kimberley	Vacant	
South Coastal	Vacant	
Pilbara	Vacant	
North East	Vacant	

11. RETURNING OFFICER DECLARED APPOINTMENTS

Returning Officer declared the following appointments being for terms as indicated.

		Term Expires
President	Greg Cook, SES Communications Support Unit	2025
Vice President South	Alan Hawke, Bayswater Unit	2025
South East	Martin Seward, Serpentine-Jarrahdale Unit	2025
South West	Ros McConchie, Bunbury Unit	2025
Goldfields Midlands	Pam Walsh – Northam District Unit	2025
Lower South West	Les Hayter, Margaret River Unit	2024
North Coastal	Simon Robinson, Two Rocks Unit	2024
Kimberley	Vacant – no nomination received	2025
South Coastal	Vacant – no nomination received	2025
Pilbara	Vacant – no nomination received	2025

North East

Vacant – no nomination received

2024

President invited Members to speak for or against the nominations.

There being no opposition to the nominations, all the nominees were appointed unopposed.

President sought acceptance from Members with a show of hands and declared the Appointments were accepted unanimously.

President advised the SESVA management committee has authority under the Constitution to make appointments to the region vacancies and would be consulting with Unit Managers and members in those regions in that regard.

12. MEMBERSHIP FEE

President noted that, historically SES VA Members had elected not to have a Membership Fee, however invited Members to give consideration as to whether to continue this position.

W Mulroneu noted that as the Association was able to operate effectively with the DFES grant there was no reason to seek a membership fee.

MOVED: William Mulroneu

SECONDED: James Anderson

That the Annual Subscription of the SES Volunteers Association of Western Australia (Incorporated) be set at \$0.00 for 2023/2024 Financial Year.

MOTION CARRIED

13. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

MOVED: Robert Palmer

SECONDED: Chris Stickland

That the SESVA retain Moore Australia as SESVA auditor for the 2023-2024 period.

MOTION CARRIED

15. RELEVANT NOTIFIED BUSINESS

Nil.

16. CLOSURE OF MEETING

SESVA President Greg Cook concluded that he looked forward to working with everyone throughout the following year. There being no further business he declared the meeting closed at 09:56.

Certified as a true and correct record:

SESVA President
Greg Cook

Date

Annual Presidents Report 2023 AGM (10Sept 2023)

The SES Volunteers Association of WA (Inc).

Advocacy for SES Volunteers by SES Volunteers.

The SES Volunteers Association would like to acknowledge and express its gratitude to DFES for the funding and resources provided that enable the activities to be undertaken for SES Volunteer Units across Western Australia.

A sample of committee member activities 2022-23.

- Advanced activities to provide a higher level of transparency to member SES Units.
- Ongoing support of the BHP / SES Volunteers Association buses.
- Activities in support of improvement in the activities for SES volunteers in the WOW Day recognition celebrations.
- Input and actions in developing the WAFES Conference as part of the DFES working group.
- SES Volunteer advocacy in learning improvement through the VTAG and ATAG with the academy staff.
- Involvement and attendance at the Pride Parade in Northbridge.
- Representation on the DFES LGGS Capital Grants Committee.
- Participation as judges in the WAFES Awards for the SES Volunteers.
- Participation in the Australian Honours and Awards applications.
- Participation in the reformation and active within the SES Volunteers Advisory Committee.
- Represented on the WAPOL State Search and Rescue Advisory Group.
- Active in the SEMC Policy Sub Committee as a member.
- Active member of the Strategic Volunteer Advisory Committee
- High-level strategic meetings with DFES Chief Superintendents about SES Volunteer raised issues.
- Provided a Director and Councillor, on the National SESVA Board.
- Attended the national memorial service in Canberra for fallen emergency services personnel.
- Represented SES Volunteers and their role to the Minister, several MPs, and the DFES Commissioner.
- Member of the DFES Mental Health Advisory Committee.
- Driving the SES volunteer raised and coordinated review submission into the WA Combined Emergency Services legislation. (Meeting every two weeks)
- Facilitated SES Volunteer Forums enabling direction and feedback for the CESL.
- Continued SES Unit visits and combined Teams / Zoom meetings with SES Volunteer Leaders and members.
- Focused Executive and Management Committee meetings to maintain the Association's activities in accordance with its legal responsibilities and DFES Grant Conditions.
- Extend the scope and business plans for the Heritage and Media Sub Committee to meet the contemporary needs of SES Volunteers.

- Establish and maintain an editorial working group for the Association Newsletter, Web Page, Facebook, SES APP, and Twitter information tools.
- Active participation and promotion of the NDRC in Kings Park 2022.
- Attend on the invitation from DFES Regions, their Leadership Forums to provide an extension of available and current information to SES Unit Members.
- Create, fund, and promote SES members-created skills and knowledge exercises to link and have fun in the volunteer movement.

Numerous volunteers have consistently asked what the Association does. There are countless hours provided by the SES Volunteers that make up the Association. The examples provided are only some of the works that are undertaken in good faith for SES Volunteers and their partners such as Local Government and DFES.

The endeavour is and will continue to deliver solutions sourced from the 64 member Units by improving communication. The Executive understands that some members are still somewhat sceptical about the motivations of our Association. The simple answer is to become a little more involved in the activities to receive, provide, and understand the why, with whom, the how, and when we are doing things. Sitting on the outside achieves nothing for both of us, this includes DFES who participate in many mutually beneficial discussions and activities with us.

Our regionally based management committee members that are elected by the Volunteers Units do regularly struggle to engage in the simple tasks of information gathering to provide an informed position to our partners. We ask that you just open the door a little more and let's chat. It will benefit all of us.

The Coming Year 2023 / 24.

Proposed Plans for the SES Volunteers Association:

- CES Legislation Submission
- Focus on better learning outcomes for SES Volunteers including employability skills.
- Continue to improve transparency and accountability to member SES Units.
- Provide the provision of an SES Raffle enabling higher-level services and benefits to SES Volunteers.
- Create a member's benefits opportunity for SES Volunteers.

I personally thank each SES Unit and its members for allowing this journey to continue and we all look forward to creating a better volunteering experience with you during the coming year.

Greg Cook – WA SES Volunteers Association President. 10 Sept 2023.

3. SESVA President's Report for 2023-2024

Member SES Units, WA State Emergency Service

Reference; Presidents AGM Report 2023-2024

The SES Volunteer's Association of Western Australian Inc (SESVA) is pleased to present the annual report to the 64 member units.

On behalf of the SESVA committee members, I would like to acknowledge DFES for their financial support during this period.

Honesty, integrity, and collaboration are so important for long-term mutually beneficial relationships.

Our wish is to establish benchmark co-dependencies, and Commonwealth, State, and Local partnerships to ensure communities are the beneficiaries.

The SESVA trusts this report meets your requirements.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Greg Cook', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Greg Cook

President

SES Volunteer's Association of WA (Inc.)

8 September 2024.

ANNUAL REPORT 2023 – 2024

We refer to and acknowledge the Grant from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) for the 2023 – 2024 financial year. The funding has been approved for the operational and administrative requirements of the SES Volunteers Association of WA (SESVA).

We make the following statements regarding the conditions of the Grant:

1. All funds expended complied with SESVA and DFES guidelines to achieve the schedule of required outcomes and grant conditions.
2. The following principles of operation were adhered to in the application of the Grant funds:
 - Foster the health, safety, and well-being of the volunteers.
 - Encourage participation in the provision of volunteer services directed at prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery.
 - Promote volunteer participation in training and skills development.
 - Encourage open & transparent communication between volunteers, DFES staff & other stakeholders.
 - Foster respect for the Volunteer ethic.
 - Represent emergency services volunteers in an amicable and consultative manner; and
 - Act in the best interest of serving the community as our critical stakeholders

As of 30 June 2024, the SES Volunteer's Association of WA represented 64 State Emergency Service Units and an estimated 2,000 volunteers.

This Annual Report 2023-2024 contains the following:

1. Planned Outcomes
2. Performance Outcomes - that details the SESVA outcomes concerning Planned Outcomes as identified.
3. Impacts to Association
4. SESVA Presidents Discussion
5. Independent Audit Report by Moore Stephens.

Planned Outcomes

Outcome	Measure
Effective support to member Units of the Association	Feedback from members on their satisfaction with the support received. Support is provided to individual volunteer Units.
Effective Use of Resources	Major expenditure items and how they were utilised
Effective communication with member Units and volunteers. Members have current information	<p>Number of times newsletters or other informative publications are issued per year - number of copies distributed.</p> <p>Committee minutes and feedback from DFES meetings are to be made available to all member Units, as per the Association's Constitution</p>
Effective management of the Association	<p>The number of times the Executive Committee meets during the year.</p> <p>Number of visits by President/ Executive to Units during the year.</p> <p>Number of effective contacts/meetings on key topics with members' units</p> <p>Percentage of volunteer Units visited</p>
Effective cooperative partnerships with stakeholders	Attendance of representatives at Volunteer Advisory Committee meetings, and meetings with other external stakeholders
Effective support for the conduct of events.	Number of events during the year and level of participation and engagement from volunteer Units

Grant Performance Outcomes 2023-24

<p>Effective support to member Units of the SESVA</p>	<p>Feedback from members on their satisfaction with the support received. Support is provided to individual volunteer Units.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced activities to provide a higher level of transparency to member SES Units by communicating through the SES VA Newsletter inclusive now of VA meeting minutes. • Ongoing support of the BHP / SES Volunteers Association buses. • Activities in support of improvement in the activities for SES volunteers in the WOW Day recognition celebrations. • Input and actions in developing the WAFES Conference as part of the DFES working group. • SES Volunteer advocacy in learning improvement through the VTAG and ATAG with FES Academy staff. • Involvement and attendance at the Pride Parade in Northbridge. • Representation on the DFES LGGS Capital Grants Committee. • Participation as judges in the WAFES Awards for the SES Volunteers. • Participation in the Australian Honours and Awards applications. • Active in the SEMC Policy Sub Committee as a member. • Leadership at the SES Volunteer Advisory Committee
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- High-level strategic meetings with DFES Assistant Commissioners and DFES Chief Superintendents about SES Volunteer raised issues.
- Provided a Director and Councillor, on the National SESVA Board.
- Attended the national memorial service in Canberra for fallen emergency services personnel.
- Represented SES Volunteers on their role to the Minister, relevant MPs, and the DFES Commissioner.
- Member of the DFES Mental Health Advisory Committee.
- Driving the SES volunteer raised and coordinated review submission into the WA Consolidation of Emergency Services legislation. (Meeting every second week)
- Continued SES Unit visits and combined on-line meetings with SES Volunteer Leaders and members.
- Focused Executive and Management Committee meetings to maintain the Association's activities in accordance with its legal responsibilities and DFES Grant Conditions.
- Extend the scope and business plans for the Media and PR Strategy Sub Committee to meet the contemporary needs of SES Volunteers including:
 - Heritage of the SES in WA
 - Strategic communications planning
 - Media management policy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain an editorial working group for the Association Newsletter, Web Page, Facebook, SES APP, and Twitter information tools. • Attend on the invitation from DFES Regions, their Leadership Forums to provide an extension of available and current information to SES Unit Members. • Create, fund, and promote SES members-created skills and knowledge exercises to link and have fun in the volunteer movement. • Listen to and act on member's feedback and recommendations.
Effective Use of Resources	<p>Major expenditure items and how they were utilised.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wages, Superannuation, Insurance. • Facilities (including storage off-site), stationery and equipment - • ICT – hardware and software including robust cyber security systems are maintained. • Travel and Accommodation (Executive and Management Committee members). • Meals – during travel, for meetings and events. • Rewards and Recognition – certificates, trophies, and plaques. • Promotional items for SES units i.e., open days, recruiting.
Effective communication with member Units and volunteers. Members have current information	<p>Number of times newsletters or other informative publications are issued per year - number of copies distributed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SESVA Newsletter is distributed at the start of each month (except January).

- The SESVA Newsletter is sent to all 64 member Units, many subscribed volunteers, selected DFES staff, Local Governments, and other organisations with strong community links.
- Regular communication of important information for member Units and volunteers is distributed through the SESVA Website, Twitter, the SESVA App, and Facebook.
- Direct mail, usually via email, is used to notify member Units of important information, and proposed changes and to consult on matters requiring member Unit input e.g., voting and commentary around the requests from DFES for formal consultation.

Committee minutes and feedback from DFES meetings are to be made available to all member Units, as per the Association's Constitution.

- SESVA Meeting Minutes are available to member Units upon request, with a regular summary of key points presented via the SESVA Website and the Newsletter. The AGM minutes are sent to all SES Units immediately post the meeting. Feedback is managed through a Register of IN/OUT Correspondence which is presented to all Management Committee meetings for acceptance.

Regular direct contact made with member units:

- Management Committee records of contact.
- Records of engagement by the Executive Committee Members and Administration Officer.

Engagement with units, volunteers, stakeholders, and the public through the website and social media.

- SESVA Website - Date range 01/07/2023 to 30/06/2024

- 39325 visits to the Web page
- 27447 page views
- Total requests to load a single page 67854

- Most Popular Pages
 - The SES
 - SES Training
 - Current News Summary
 - Contact us
 - SESVA Merchandise
 - SES Courses and qualifications
 - SESVA Committee members
 - SESVA about us

- SESVA Facebook Group
 - Members of the Page 1494 at 01/07/2024
 - Average 10 posts per week over the stated year
 - In addition, all new posts to the SESVA website are posted to the SESVA Facebook Group

- SESVA App
 - 01/07/2023 – Registered devices (iPhone, iPad, and Android Devices) 836
 - 30/06/2024 - Registered devices (iPhone. iPad and Android Devices) 1816
 - Push notifications from the SESVA are sent to these devices.

- SESVA X (Twitter) account
 - All new posts to the SESVA website are automatically posted to the Twitter account with 194 followers.

<p>Effective management of the Association</p>	<p>The number of times the Executive Committee meets during the year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management Committee meetings – 6 times (every 8 weeks) • Executive Management Committee – 6 times (every 8 weeks) <p>Number of visits by President/ Executive to Units during the year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of visits has been gradually increasing since COVID-19 caused the program to cease but have been somewhat limited due to budgetary restraints. • 25 units of 64 units were visited by the President/Executive from July 2023 to June 2024. <p>Percentage of volunteer Units visited by SESVA Executive members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 units of 64 units = 40% • Regular visits also conducted by SESVA Management Committee members based in 12 regions.
<p>Effective cooperative partnerships with stakeholders</p>	<p>Attendance of representatives at Volunteer Advisory Committee meetings, and meetings with other external stakeholders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SES VAC – SESVA President, Vice President – North • VTAG – SESVA President, SESVA Vice President - South • SES-ATAG – SESVA Treasurer • SEMC Policy Sub Committee - SESVA President • Fitness for Role – SESVA President and Vice President • Heights Safety PAT - SESVA President • General Rescue Truck PAT – SESVA Management Committee member South-East Region • General Rescue Ute PAT – SESVA Management Committee member South-East Region • SES PPC PAT – SESVA President (has not meet in the current year) • Strategic Volunteering Committee

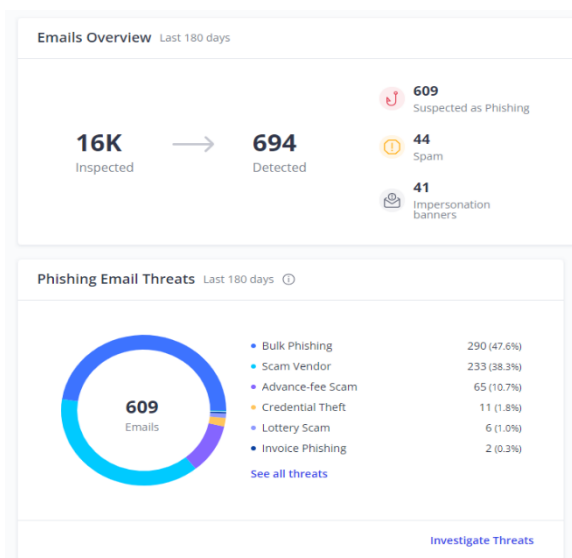
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteering WA – Productivity Commission workshop • Public Sector Review • Combined Associations Working Group
Effective support for the conduct of events.	<p>Number of events during the year and level of participation and engagement from volunteer Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WAFES Conference - SESVA President, SESVA Secretary, SESVA Treasurer • SESVA promotional stand at WAFES Conference – SESVA President, SESVA Office Assistant, SESVA Treasurer, SESVA Vice President - South • SES Awards – Gala Dinner - SESVA President, SESVA Secretary, SESVA Treasurer • Wear Orange Wednesday – WOW Day • Fitness for Role • Swan SES 65th Anniversary Open Day stand/participation • LSW & SW Regional Leaders Conference • UGS & MG Region Leaders Forums • SES Unit – open days, facility openings • Gnowangerup SES Awards Night • Mandurah SES Awards Night • LSW Regional exercise • Midwest-Gascoyne Regional exercise • Upper Great Southern Regional exercises (Apr'24) • Participation in Training Activities across WA – deliver training to SES members
Acknowledgement of funding received from DFES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Report – included in the Annual Report to members at the AGM. • Website – a permanent feature on the SESVA Website • Newsletters – a permanent feature of the SESVA Newsletter • Position Paper – included in the Proposed Emergency Services Act 2024 Position Paper

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Other - verbal acknowledgment during Unit visits, presentations to community groups, and official addresses. |
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Impacts to the Association

Note that there have been financial impacts on the Association and its ability to operate effectively.

Cybersecurity has been a primary focus for the Association this year as it has experienced a sufficient increase in cyber-attacks, due to this the Association has contracted a Cybersecurity firm to ensure that its systems are protected as much as possible.



Benefits for this include

- Protecting sensitive data
- Protecting personal privacy
- Preventing financial loss
- Meeting compliance and legal obligations
- Ensuring business continuity
- Ensuring the continued good reputation/trust between the Association, DFES, and other stakeholders

Graph: Jan to June 2024

We have also experienced, as many organizations have, a general increase in costs due to the cost of living. This has made it increasingly difficult to meet the grant outcomes.

This includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Cost of Travel/fuel
- Wages
- Insurances
- Communication tools
- Office Administration/stationery

With the above in mind and the continued rise in the cost of living it is the wish of the Association to discuss with DFES what the future funding will look like from the 2025-26 period onwards.

SESVA Presidents Discussion

The reporting year July 2023 – June 2024 has indeed been extremely busy for the SESVA consisting of the Association Executive, Management Committee, and Administration Officer.

We have enjoyed the benefits of working with DFES workers to resolve raised issues at the District Officer level and up through the Chief Superintendent meetings. The Associations' formal meetings have made way for partnerships that produce results without aggravation for all parties.

Volunteer Activities

SES Volunteers have again provided countless hours of community service across WA including deployments for incidents and operations such as:

- Severe weather response including storm, flood, and cyclone incidents.
- Search for missing people within Western Australia including remote areas.
- Search for missing people in Western Australia.
- Rescues and recoveries within our national parks and coastline involving cliff rope rescue work.
- Road Crash Rescue to many vehicle incidents throughout the state.
- Supporting community events that continue to benefit from highly trained SES Volunteers
- Substantial support to DFES in training and incident exercises.
- Direct fire support roles that continue to bring value to the communities in WA.
- Training for endless hours to maintain current skills and knowledge.
- Want to gain new and regain expanded roles within the community.

It can be said with considerable proof that SES Volunteers have been the most widely skilled emergency responders who base their activities on their home communities. Giving is the SES code; humility is practiced regularly.

Consolidation of Emergency Service Legislation Activities

The Association continues to be focused on providing a facilitated response to the Minister and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services.

The Association through its Legislation Sub-Committee hosted a workshop at the Cottesloe Town Hall in July 2022 for all Unit Managers that were able to attend. We had 44 attendees who have been enabled through process and consultation to see what is happening and commencing the discussions with unit volunteers on what we see our future to be. This must be lodged with the drafting team before the Green Paper is distributed by DFES.

An options paper discussion paper has been released by the Association that has enabled the desired direction to be noted and confirmed through DFES in legislation and policy. We will then have a second opportunity when the draft legislation is released along with any other actions that are considered by members.

Association - DFES Fitness for Role and National Recognised Training

The SESVA Management Committee has worked exceptionally hard to effectively introduce healthy discussion and decision-making when addressing the linked subjects of fitness for Role and Training as an aligned activity for the National profiled SES service delivery model.

The Association has provided two major opportunities for volunteer enabling commentary:

- Statewide Team link introduced by Commissioner Klemm with guest speakers from DFES, the National FFR Working Group, and Qld. This was an incredible success leading to 14 high-level questions that have been redirected to DFES for clarification.
- In August 24, all units were sent the DFES Supplied answers to all questions posed by the initial meeting attendees. Association Regional Committee members in September will start to obtain unit responses that will consist of Yes, my SES Units to proceed with the Fitness for Role Program or No, my SES Unit will not proceed with the SES Fitness for Role proposal.

A National Training Program that will be aligned and supported Nationally is seen to be critical and volunteers ask that if a fitness Task can be coordinated nationally, then why not training that has a higher level of safety attached to tasks?

National SES Volunteers Association

SESVA of WA continues to be active with the National body and its advocacy roles with the Federal Government and representative bodies such as AFAC. I have attended two interstate events this calendar year representing the values of SES Volunteers from the West. Whilst many of the projects are delivered to have a positive impact on all SES Volunteers across the nation, it is gratifying to acknowledge that no matter where an SES Volunteer is, we as a group bleed orange for our communities.

Through the National SES body, WA has launched a fundraising activity by way of a managed raffle. The funding will be used to provide our SES with external benefits and volunteering retention activities.

Summary

It is with immense pride that I continue into the second year of my third term as the SES Volunteer's Association President. The past five years have been an ever-increasing business process and could not have been possible without the support of the Executive Committee, the Management Committee, and Bella in our office in Belmont.

We now, as an Association, need to continue with the development of key elected representatives that will be our future. This comes through the Management Committee, Executive Committee, and of course our future President(s).

Thank you to DFES, all 64 Unit Managers, and of course all SES Volunteers. May the year 24/25 bring us the recognition and rewards that we work so hard for each day!

ORR - Opportunity, Reset, Respect

Greg Cook



President, SES Volunteers Association of WA (Inc.)

91 Leake Street Belmont WA 6104.

E: sesva.president@ses-wa.asn.au

M: 0418403960

4. Treasurer Report and Auditor Report for 2023-2024

The Treasurer delivers a verbal report.

See the Auditors Reports below:



**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF SES VOLUNTEERS ASSOCIATION
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.**

DFES GRANT ACCOUNT

Scope

We have audited the attached special purpose financial report, comprising the Statement of Receipts and Payments and Bank Reconciliation of SES Volunteers Association of WA in relation to the DFES Grant Account for the 12 months ended 30 June 2024. The Management Committee is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial report and the information contained therein, and have determined that the accounting policies used are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Association and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion to the members of the Association on its preparation and presentation. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Management Committee's financial reporting requirements. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than members or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our procedures included examination on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the cash basis of accounting whereby revenue is recorded when it is received, expenses are recorded when they are paid, and no assets or liabilities, other than cash and bank balances, are recorded. Accounting Standards are not applicable to the cash basis of accounting adopted by SES Volunteers Association of WA.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly in accordance with the cash basis of accounting, as described above, the receipts and payments of SES Volunteers Association of WA in relation to the DFES Grant Account for the 12 months ended 30 June 2024 and its bank balances as at that date.

Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to the following:

This special purpose financial report is prepared in order to fulfil the reporting obligations of the Management Committee. As a result, it may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for SES Volunteers Association of WA, and should not be distributed to any other party.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Shaun Williams'.

SHAUN WILLIAMS
PARTNER

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Moore Australia'.

MOORE AUSTRALIA AUDIT (WA)
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Signed at Perth this 5th day of September 2024.



Moore Australia Audit (WA)

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**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF SES VOLUNTEERS ASSOCIATION
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.**

**BENDIGO BUILDING FUND, BENDIGO BHP / BUS ACCOUNT, MASTERCARD DEBIT CARD
ACCOUNT AND GENERAL ACCOUNT**

Scope

We have audited the attached special purpose financial report, comprising the Statement of Receipts and Payments and Bank Reconciliation of SES Volunteers Association of WA in relation to the above accounts for the 12 months ended 30 June 2024. The Management Committee is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial report and the information contained therein and have determined that the accounting policies used are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Association and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion to the members of the Association on its preparation and presentation. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Management Committee's financial reporting requirements. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than members or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our procedures included examination on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the cash basis of accounting whereby revenue is recorded when it is received, expenses are recorded when they are paid, and no assets or liabilities, other than cash and bank balances, are recorded. Accounting Standards are not applicable to the cash basis of accounting adopted by SES Volunteers Association of WA.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly in accordance with the cash basis of accounting, as described above, the receipts and payments of SES Volunteers Association of WA in relation to the above accounts for the 12 months ended 30 June 2024 and its bank balances as at that date.

Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to the following:

This special purpose financial report is prepared in order to fulfil the reporting obligations of the Management Committee. As a result, it may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for SES Volunteers Association of WA, and should not be distributed to any other party.

SHAUN WILLIAMS
PARTNER

MOORE AUSTRALIA AUDIT (WA)
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Signed at Perth this 5th day of September 2024.

5. Nominations for Vacant Committee Positions

Management Committee position	Nomination received by 11 July 2024 from	SES Unit
Kimberley	nil	n/a
Pilbara	Trevor PATTON	Karratha
Midwest-Gascoyne	Hugh BRYAN	Moora
Upper Great Southern	Sergio (Sarge) BOTTACIN	Pingelly
Lower South West	Les HAYTER	Margaret River
North East (Metro)	nil	n/a
North Coastal (Metro)	Megan REYNOLDS	Mandurah
Executive Management Committee position	Nomination received by 11 July 2024 from	SES Unit
Vice President – North	Leonie BRIGGS	SES Canine

6. AGM close

7. Presentations

Special presentations to members

8. Discussion and Questions from the floor
