



Dear SES Members

I hope this newsletter finds you well. I'd like to take a moment to update you on several important matters currently underway within our SES Volunteers Association.

1. DFES Funding Grant and Agreement Signing Progress

I am pleased to report that the DFES Grant has been finalised and signed. This funding continues to play a critical role in strengthening the Association's capabilities and resources. I deeply appreciate everyone's hard work and dedication in bringing this to fruition and will keep you informed of any further developments.

2. SESVA Bus Replacement Working Group

The recruitment process for the Bus Replacement Working Group has been actively promoted to all SES Units across the state.

Expressions of Interest (EOIs) will close on 20 July 2025, with announcements to follow shortly thereafter.

We will be reviewing our current fleet of eight buses and evaluating the best options for their replacement or disposal. Our aim is to ensure we have reliable, efficient transportation to support both operations and training.

I encourage you to share any insights or suggestions with your regions Association Committee Member. Once the working group has been appointed, we will share the members' names and the terms of reference. Your input is invaluable in guiding decisions that benefit our entire community.

3. SES VAC (Volunteer Advisory Committee)

After a lengthy adjournment due to the Christmas period, the State Election, and the delay in meeting with Minister Papalia, the SES VAC is now scheduled to meet three times during the remainder of 2025. This will allow us to move forward on two key projects:

- Volunteer Fuel Card Scheme:

The current allocation of \$1,000 per unit does not reflect the size or needs of each SES Unit—whether it has 10 or 80 members. There is now a plan to develop a fair and transparent distribution process to better reflect each unit's size and operational needs.

- Landlord's Winter Maintenance Responsibilities:

Residential and business rental properties have lacked support for proactive maintenance. This maintenance can reduce the number of emergency callouts due to issues like blocked gutters and subsequent water damage. A paper to propose a government initiative that would make landlords responsible for certain preventative maintenance measures is to be progressed through the Commissioner and the Minister for consideration.

The SES VAC will also be working on several other strategic initiatives throughout the year to further strengthen our volunteer community.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication. Together, we are making meaningful progress, and I look forward to what we can achieve in the months ahead.

Warm Regards,

Greg Cook, President

REGULAR FEATURES

News and Announcements

Training information

Vehicle, Equipment and PPC issues

SES Volunteer Recognition

Opportunities for SES Volunteers

Committee Updates

Upcoming Events—Important Dates

From the Secretary

The Association wants all SES volunteers to receive the Monthly Updates and the Newsletters via email, but not ALL are subscribed. So please share this Update with all Unit members and encourage those who haven't yet subscribed to send an email to sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au

We're seeking nominations for SESVA elections and SES volunteers have been asking *what do members of the Management Committee do?*

They are essential to the effective functioning of the Association. The role of the Regional Representative is a worthwhile and rewarding one - read more about it on page 3.

The Association is still seeking Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from SES volunteer leaders to be part of the SESVA Bus Replacement working group. See page 5 of this Update on how to apply.

EOIs are also being sought by 20 July for two voluntary Executive Committee positions - Secretary and Treasurer. See page 6 of this Update for information about the roles and how to apply.

Please let your Unit members know of these opportunities by emailing this Update within your Unit and place a copy on your unit notice-board.

Kind Regards

Allen Gale, Secretary

Submit your articles, photos,
feedback and suggestions to:
sesva.secretary@ses-wa.asn.au



SES Volunteer's Association of WA (Inc.) Notice of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

9:00 am Saturday 13th September 2025

SESVA Board Room, 91 Leake Street, Belmont

Unit delegate nomination forms are being emailed direct to each member SES unit.

Call for AGM Agenda Items

SESVA of WA AGM Agenda items should be submitted by 9:00 am Thursday 7th August 2025

To Allen Gale sesva.secretary@ses-wa.asn.au

SESVA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ELECTIONS 2025 NOMINATIONS CLOSE— TUESDAY 15th JULY 2025

Use the links below for more information and download the nomination form:

[Fillable PDF Form](#) - [SESVA Elections 2025 Information](#)

SES Units can nominate their volunteers for
SESVA management committee positions becoming vacant
**Units in the relevant regions are invited to nominate their SES volunteers
for the position in that region.**

Committee member regional representative positions becoming vacant in September:

Kimberley Region

Pilbara Region

Goldfields-Midlands

Great Southern Region

South West Region

South East (Metro) Region

South Coast (Metro) Region

North Coastal (Metro) Region

North East (Metro) Region

Each DFES Region has an elected SESVA representative who is part of the SESVA Management Committee. The regional representative's role is to be the local person to work on any matters for the SES Units and to assist where issues have not been resolved by the Regional Office or DFES head office. More information about their role is on the next page.

The following SESVA Executive positions become vacant in September:

President

Vice President South

ALL Units can nominate SES volunteers for election as President and Vice President.

The formal representative of the SESVA is the President, or their designated delegate. Only the President or their delegate is authorised to make verbal or issue written public statements regarding Association business and policies. In the absence of the President, a Vice President will act as the Chairperson at meetings and carries out other duties, including support of the elected regional representatives.



Role of SESVA Management Committee members The Regional Representatives

The Management Committee members are essential to the effective functioning of the SESVA. The role of the Regional Representative is fulfilling, worthwhile and rewarding and is extremely important in representing and communicating with SES Volunteers in Western Australia.

The SESVA Management Committee is a deliberative body. The general management of the affairs of the SESVA is vested in the Management Committee.

The Management Committee consists of 12 Regional Representatives, plus a President, two Vice Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer.

The principal task of the SESVA Management Committee is to do all things necessary to support and represent the interests of SES Volunteers in WA. Regional representatives are elected for a two-year term in alternate years.

SESVA Management Committee members can have a positive impact on the development and growth of the SES community. They are also afforded the opportunity to develop themselves both professionally and personally while gaining valuable insights and unique experiences through their service to SES volunteers.

Regional Representatives are the SESVA's conduit with SES units. The SESVA responds to SES Unit volunteers through the Regional Representative and the Unit Manager. Their role includes providing information, help and guidance from an SESVA perspective. Management Committee members are expected to:

- attend and participate in management committee meetings, as well as meetings of sub-committees and working groups that they nominate to be appointed to, either in person or on-line;
- attend an SES Volunteers Association conference in Perth each year, usually annually;
- review meeting materials before committee meetings;
- ask questions and raise issues of concern before a meeting so the Executive is prepared to address them;
- exercise independent judgment during meeting deliberations;
- act at all times in a proper and lawful manner, with integrity, fairness and honesty;
- maintain an awareness of the impact of their professional and personal actions on the reputation and standing of the SESVA with members, funding bodies, Government and other important stakeholders;
- not become involved in local Unit matters unless requested to by the Unit Manager. Any matters so requested should be referred to the Executive before any action is contemplated or taken;
- compile written reports from verbal/physical/email communication and on-line meetings with Unit representatives and submit at nominated times. These reports enable the SESVA to advocate on behalf of the SES Units; and
- have an enthusiasm for the SES.



SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - 26TH JUNE 2025

Sub-committee – Media & PR Strategy The Style Guide Working Group has provided artwork and supporting information to enable the rollout of the new SESVA of WA logo on promotional material and uniforms during the W-AFAC Conference.

Sub-committee – Legislation Working Group The Group will meet in mid-July to consider its approach and ongoing role, dependent on the plans of government in relation to the Combined Emergency Services legislation. The passing of legal and legislation expert, Craig Masarei, has dealt a serious blow to the effectiveness of the group which is hopeful a sourcing a replacement member who might bring similar skills and knowledge to that of Craig.

Replacement SESVA bus project – working group Several expressions of interest have been received in response to the EOI emailed to members units and following publication of the EOI in the Winter Newsletter. The EOI will remain open until 20 July. DFES has kindly offered to share bus research information with the working group.

Constitution Amendment - establish a third VP to the Executive A Notice of Motion to amend the SESVA Constitution will be sent to member units advising it is proposed that the constitution of the SES Volunteers' Association of WA Incorporated be amended to include the role of a third Vice President. This change will be considered in a special resolution and, if approved by three fourths majority at the AGM, will modify the current structure to establish this new position within the organisation.

AGM – Committee Nominations and Member Unit Delegate Attendance Committee members were briefed on nominations received so far and encouraged to remind SES volunteers in their respective regions as well as nominate if their term expires at the 13 September AGM. Committee members will also be contacting units to ensure the Unit Delegate form is submitted to the Secretary before the AGM.

DFES Grant Agreement 2025/26 – 3-year term The Executive Council has provided feedback to DFES for the Funding Agreement with the suggested improvements being adopted (President Greg Cook signed the agreement with Commissioner Darren Klemm on 30 June).

Meeting the DFES Funding Grant terms and conditions Committee members will provide data related to their role using Microsoft Planner, which is one of the apps that comes with the SESVA' Office 365 suite. This will help the Association to make data-driven decisions, collaborate efficiently, and track progress with software that adapts to our way of working.

W-AFAC and WAFES Awards Gala Dinner The Association will be present during the W-AFAC Conference and keen to meet with SES volunteers at their booth in the Exhibition Hall. DFES has also reserved a table at Awards Gala Dinner for selected Management Committee members and Association guests.

DFES Leadership Development 'Go1' trial DFES has offered five places for SES leaders to participate in the trial. The Association has supplied details of five volunteers from Country and Metro regions.

Administration Officer retirement and recruiting Bella Scharfenstein retires 4th July and will be missed after having served in the role for 11 years. The Association has outsourced the HR function which includes recruiting a new Administration Officer. An interview panel is working with the HR Director to select a suitable replacement.

Workplace Health and Safety Policy and Procedures These will be developed as a matter of urgency for SESVA since volunteers are now classified as 'Workers' under the WHS Act.

Local Government Grant Scheme (LGGS) Capital Grants Committee Vice President Alan Hawke is the appointed SESVA representative on this committee. Alan provided an update of the recent meeting of the Capital Grants Committee, noting that available funds are insufficient to meet all requests and supply issues still exist. Allocation details could not be shared with the Management Committee as they are confidential.



EOI's Invited SESVA Bus Replacement Working Group

The SES Volunteer's Association of WA is seeking **Expressions of Interest** from SES volunteers to join a new **Bus Replacement Working Group**.

This group will:

- Explore options to replace or dispose of the SESVA's 8 current buses
- Assess suitable vehicle types for SES activities
- Identify potential sponsors

We're looking for SES leaders and volunteers with experience or interest in fleet logistics, sponsorship, or operational planning. The group will be chaired by an SESVA Management Committee Member.

To Apply:

Send your name, SES Unit, role and a brief summary (max 300 words) by 20 July 2025 to Greg Cook, sesva.president@ses-wa.asn.au

**For more information, contact:
Greg Cook — 0418 403 960**

UNIT UPDATES

THIS MONTH WE WELCOME

SWORD Logistics

Local Manager—Ron Davey

Wanneroo-Joondalup SES

Local Manager—Jason Lansom

Stirling SES

Local Manager— Darren Arndt

Merredin SES

Local Manager—Danielle Parkin

Melville SES

Local Manager—Dave Belson

Bridgetown SES

Local Manager— Wayne Douglass

Albany SES

Local Manager—Ben Whittle

Let us know of changes
to your SES Unit Leadership Team
sesva.secretary@ses-wa.asn.au



We're Looking for Your SES Unit's Good News Stories

The SESVA Newsletter and the Monthly Update want to celebrate the dedication, hard work and achievements of our member SES Units and Volunteers.

The SESVA Newsletter in particular has a wide circulation that includes SES volunteers, politicians, interested Local Government Councillors and CEOs, DFES staff, other Emergency Service Associations and various community organisations.

Send your articles and especially some great images to:
sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au

Deadline to submit your article for the August Monthly Update is Thursday 24th July.

If you have any queries, please contact SESVA Secretary Allen Gale on 0419 935 497



SES Volunteer's Association of WA (Inc.) Secretary and Treasurer Roles—EOIs Invited

The SESVA is currently seeking Expressions of Interest from suitably experienced and motivated individuals for the following voluntary Executive Committee positions:

SECRETARY—SESVA

The Secretary plays a vital role in the governance and smooth operation of the Association.

Key responsibilities include:

- Managing Association correspondence;
- Preparing agendas and meeting notices in consultation with the President;
- Recording accurate minutes of meetings;
- Maintaining the Constitution, by-laws, and member register;
- Ensuring safe custody of non-financial Association records;
- Preparing seasonal newsletters and monthly updates;

Performing duties as required under the SESVA Constitution.

Estimated time commitment: 6–10 hours per month (may vary depending on activity).

TREASURER – SESVA

The Treasurer is responsible for the financial stewardship of the Association.

Key responsibilities include:

- Managing financial records, reports, and statements;
- Handling receipts and authorised payments;
- Ensuring compliance with the Associations Incorporation Act 2015;
- Supporting audit/review processes;

Following financial practices as outlined in Section 47 of the SESVA Constitution.

Estimated time commitment: 6–10 hours per month (some seasonal variation).

HOW TO EXPRESS INTEREST

If you're interested in contributing to the leadership and good governance of the SESVA, please submit the following:

- **Your Name**
- **SES Unit**
- **Current SES Role**
- **Brief Summary** (max. 300 words) outlining your relevant experience and motivation

Email: Greg Cook – sesva.president@ses-wa.com.au

Closing Date: 15th August 2025

For more information, please contact: **Greg Cook – 0418 403 960**



Kings Birthday Honours Lincoln Heading - WA's Newest Emergency Services Medal recipient



Lincoln served the Kununurra community for over 34 years in varying volunteer groups.

He demonstrated exceptional leadership as Kununurra SES Unit Manager for 18 years, using strategic guidance to enhance emergency response capabilities in the Kimberley Region

Lincoln stepped up as the Acting District Officer of Natural Hazards for the East Kimberley in 2019, taking on the role of Marine Rescue East Kimberley Commander in 2020, where he conducted vital search and rescue missions, secured new equipment and grew the group.

Emergency Services Minister Paul Papalia congratulated the incredible emergency services personnel in WA for their ongoing dedication and commitment to prioritising the safety of their fellow Western Australians.

"They've been on the frontline of challenging incidents and also driven the development of innovative strategies that improve emergency service capabilities to make our communities safer," said Minister Papalia.

"I am proud to see these prestigious honours awarded to each of these worthy recipients and thank them on behalf of the State Government for giving close to a combined 200 years of service to the people of Western Australia.

A Kununurra SES spokesperson said unit members are absolutely thrilled that their very own Lincoln Heading has been awarded the Emergency Services Medal from this year's King's Birthday Honours!

"Lincoln was a long-standing member of our Unit and a well-known member of our community."

Congratulations Lincoln Heading ESM

TRAINING

Leadership Development Program

The SESVA has provided the names and contact details of five volunteer leaders from SES units across the state to be part of a pilot group to trial a leadership training support service.

The online service known as Go1 is an all-in-one content library designed to provide accessible, engaging learning experiences that support both staff and volunteers in any role, from any location.

The five leaders will represent the SES in WA. At the end of the trial period each will be asked to provide feedback on the content and their learning experience.

DFES Learning and Development extended an invitation during the recent Volunteer Training Advisory Group (VTAG) meeting for volunteers to participate. This project was first announced in DFES General Circular 208/2023 Go1 Training and Development Trial.

The initial focus areas include: Leadership; Coaching and Feedback; Problem Solving and Decision Making; and Teamwork.

The feedback will help DFES to refine the program before extending the trial to an additional five volunteers from the SES. This process may be repeated several times to ensure broad engagement and continuous improvement.

This is an opportunity for existing and emerging SES leaders. If successful, it is expected that the service will help existing and emerging SES leaders to prepare and improve their leadership skills.

Course Improvement Recommendations

Training courses cannot improve without your input using the Initiation and Improvement Recommendation (IIR) reports.

You can find more information about improving training by submitting your questions online via the Volunteer Hub ([How to recommend training improvements](#)).

In the past, there was no feedback on IIRs, which is believed to have resulted in a reduction in feedback. The Academy is working on creating a dashboard to remedy the lack of feedback for those who lodge IIRs. DFES reports that evaluation of the dashboard is in progress. Access is planned through the Volunteer Hub.



L-R: City of Karratha Mayor Daniel Scott, Trevor Patton with his award recognising 40 years of service to the Karratha community and Local Manager Karratha SES Robert Graham.



Karratha SES volunteers (L-R): Maria Waterstrom 10 years, Donna Walker 20 years, Trevor Patton 40 years, LM Robert Graham 15 years, Millie Ingui 5 years, Asela Induka 5 years

KARRATHA EMERGENCY SERVICES VOLUNTEER AWARDS

The City of Karratha held their annual Emergency Services Volunteer Recognition Awards in June with the Karratha SES proudly celebrating nearly 100 years of combined service to the Karratha community from six of its members.

Karratha SES volunteer and SESVA Committee member, Trevor Patton, celebrated an amazing 40 years of service with the Karratha SES as everything from a rescue team member all the way to Local Manager and everything in between. Trevor is a Trainer/Assessor in almost everything SES does and shares this knowledge across the State and across the services.

Congratulations go to Trevor and also to:

- Donna Walker for 20 years of service.
- Robert Graham for 15 years
- Marie Waterstrom for 10 years
- Asela Ranasinghe for 5 years
- Kabarungui also for 5 years.

"A big thank you to the City for hosting the event and congratulations to all the other services who had members celebrating various awards," a Karratha SES spokesperson said.

The other services included the Karratha Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service, Dampier Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service, Nickol Bay BFB, St John WA - Karratha, St John WA - Wickham Roebourne and Marine Rescue Dampier.



afac25

**2025 W-AFAC Conference - a supercharged
WAFES Conference for Volunteers**
Tuesday 26th to Friday 29th August 2025
Perth Exhibition and Convention Centre

Come and meet your SESVA management committee Regional Representatives and Executive members at our Association stand, opposite the Media Lounge (circled **RED** on the exhibition hall layout below). We'll have our great merchandise on sale too.

After almost 30 years, we are retiring the SESVA logo for a fresh new look. Come and see us in the Exhibition Hall to check out the new logo - leveraging the past...seizing the future!

Pre-Order your SES Merchandise for W-AFAC 2025

- ◆ Don't want to stand in line?
- ◆ Tired of waiting for your payment to be processed?

Pre-order before the 20th of August 2025 and we can complete your order and have it packed and ready for the trip home!

You'll be able to collect your SES merchandise at the SESVA W-AFAC25 Exhibition stand.

To place your orders:

Email sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au or phone

0499 619 287 pre-pay pay by credit card or direct debit

Visit the SESVA website to check out the full merchandise

range — ses-wa.asn.au/sesva-merchandise/





ANNOUNCEMENTS

2025 SES Leadership Pre-Winter Forum Metropolitan Regions

Bureau of Meteorology—SOCMET Briefing
Presented by: Gianna Colangelo

Bunbury Storms:

Two major storm events from 2024 were compared, with key lessons shared around forecasting, communication, and response strategies.

[Download presentation](#) from the Volunteer Hub.

What's New for SES – Lightweight PPC, Fleet and others

Presented by:
Superintendent Ryan Murray

An overview of recent updates impacting SES fleet, SES lightweight PPC and Cold Climate PPC.

Download presentation from the [Volunteer Hub](#).



SES Volunteers Association of WA Inc. acknowledges the funding from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services that support the operation of the Association.

SES MERCHANDISE

Winter SPECIALS



SCARF & BEANIE COMBO
Buy 1 Scarf & 1 Beanie for \$30.00

Place orders at sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au

USEFUL LINKS

[SES Volunteer's Association of Western Australia Incorporated – One Association – Many Values](#)

[NSESVA_Yearbook_2024.pdf](#)

[ACTSESVA | Proudly Supporting the ACT Community](#)

[NSWSESVA The_Volunteer_December_2024.pdf](#)

[QLDSESVA - The Volunteers Voice](#)

[SA SES Volunteers' Association](#)

[Tasmania State Emergency Service Volunteers Association](#)

<https://vicsesva.org.au/>

[Home | DFES Department of Fire and Emergency Services](#)

[State Emergency Management Committee](#)

[Home - Volunteering WA](#)

FREMANTLE & WEST COAST EAGLES AFL Football Matches

Emergency Service themed football matches at Optus Stadium to thank Emergency Services Personnel.

FREMANTLE Saturday 12 July, 6:10 pm
bounce down; SES volunteers

WEST COAST Saturday 19 July, 6:10 pm
bounce down; young volunteers



COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT UNIT IS FLYING HIGH

The State Emergency Service, Communications Support Unit (CSU), was welcomed by WA Police at their Jandakot Police Air Wing facility on Wednesday, 18 June 2025.

The collaboration between these services has once gain been demonstrated by establishing a key operational understanding and the ability to develop some additional co-dependency opportunities that further enhance our mutual service to the WA community.

The unit sincerely thanks Rob Crawford for arranging this opportunity and looks forward to continuing to bring agencies together to better understand each other's service delivery requirements.



The photo shows 27 very happy CSU members enjoying receiving some great enabling information about the Police Air Wing resources.

UPCOMING EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

Submit your articles, photos, feedback and suggestions to:
sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au

| | | | |
|-------------|--|------------|--|
| 5 & 6 Jul | GM Region Leaders Forum, Northam | Thu 21 Aug | Management Committee meeting |
| Sat 12 Jul | Emergency Services Footy Match Freo vs Hawthorn (highlighting SES & other Volunteers) | Tue 26 Aug | W-AFAC, Perth—until 29 Aug |
| Tue 15 Jul | Management Committee nominations due | Fri 29 Aug | WAFES Awards and Gala Dinner |
| Sat 19 Jul | Emergency Services Footy Match West Coast vs Richmond (highlighting young volunteers) | Fri 05 Sep | Spring Newsletter published |
| Thu 24 Jul | SESVA Monthly Update submissions due | Sat 13 Sep | SESVA Annual General Meeting, Belmont |
| Sat 27 July | Toodyay SES 10 year anniversary | Tue 16 Sep | SESVA Monthly Update submissions due |
| Fri 01 Aug | SESVA Monthly Update published | Fri 03 Oct | SESVA Monthly Update published |
| Thu 07 Aug | AGM Agenda item submissions due | Fri 31 Oct | Bernie McNamara YEL applications close |
| Tue 19 Aug | Spring Newsletter submissions due | Tue 18 Nov | Summer Newsletter submissions due |
| | | Sat 29 Nov | Youth in Emergency Services Challenge |