

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

SEMC
STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

HAZMAT

STATE HAZARD PLAN

RESPONSIBLE AGENCY

Department of Fire and Emergency Services

APPROVED BY

State Emergency Management Committee

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Amendments Table

Date	Details	Amended by
August 2018	Amalgamation of Westplan Hazardous Materials Emergencies (HAZMAT) with the chemical and radiological components of Westplan Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear, new State Hazard Plan format, statement of fact changes, removal of duplication with the State Emergency Management (EM) Plan, inclusion of assurance activities, machinery of Government changes, inclusion of process maps for notification and function, handover arrangements for controlling agency and handover documentation.	Department of Fire and Emergency Services
December 2018	Version 01.01 - Amendments approved by SEMC (Resolution Number 90/2018) as per State Emergency Management documents amendments table v02.00.	SEMC Business Unit
June 2020	Version 01.02 – Amendments to reflect amendments to the *Emergency Management Act 2005* and *Emergency Management Regulations 2006* and statement of fact amendments approved by SEMC (Resolution Number 39/2020) as per State Emergency Management documents amendments table v02.03.	SEMC Business Unit
December 2022	Version 0.103 - Amendments approved by SEMC Executive Officer (Resolution Number 17/2021). Statement of fact changes and updated hyperlinks to new SEMC website as per amendments table December 2022.	SEMC Business Unit

Date	Details	Amended by
October 2023	Version 01.04 - Consequential amendments approved by SEMC to reflect the change in terminology from 'welfare' to 'emergency relief and support' and related terms (resolution number 77/2023) and statement of fact and accessibility amendments approved by the SEMC Executive Officer (resolution number 17/2021) as outlined in State EM documents amendments table October 2023.	SEMC Business Unit
November 2023	DRAFT for Consultation	Department of Fire and Emergency Services

The SEMC acknowledges the Aboriginal peoples throughout the state of Western Australia as the Traditional Custodians of the lands where we live, work and volunteer. We recognise Aboriginal peoples' continud connection to land, waters and community, and pay our respects to Elders both past and present.

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All of the State emergency management legislation and documents can be accessed via the State Emergency Management Framework page of the State Emergency Management Committee website.

Contents

PART ONE: INTRODUCTION 5

1.1 Scope 6
1.2 Hazard Definition 7
1.4 Multiple Hazards 8
1.5 Related Documents and Legislation 9
1.6 Activities Informing the Assurance Process 10

PART TWO: PREVENTION AND MITIGATION 12

2.1 Responsibility for Prevention and/or Mitigation 13
2.2 Prevention and/or Mitigation Strategies 13

PART THREE: PREPAREDNESS 14

3.1 Responsibility for Preparedness 15
3.2 Resources 15
3.3 Planning and Arrangements 15
3.4 Training 17
3.5 First Responders 17
3.6 Community Information and Education 17
3.7 Assistance Arrangements with Other Jurisdictions 17

PART FOUR: RESPONSE 19

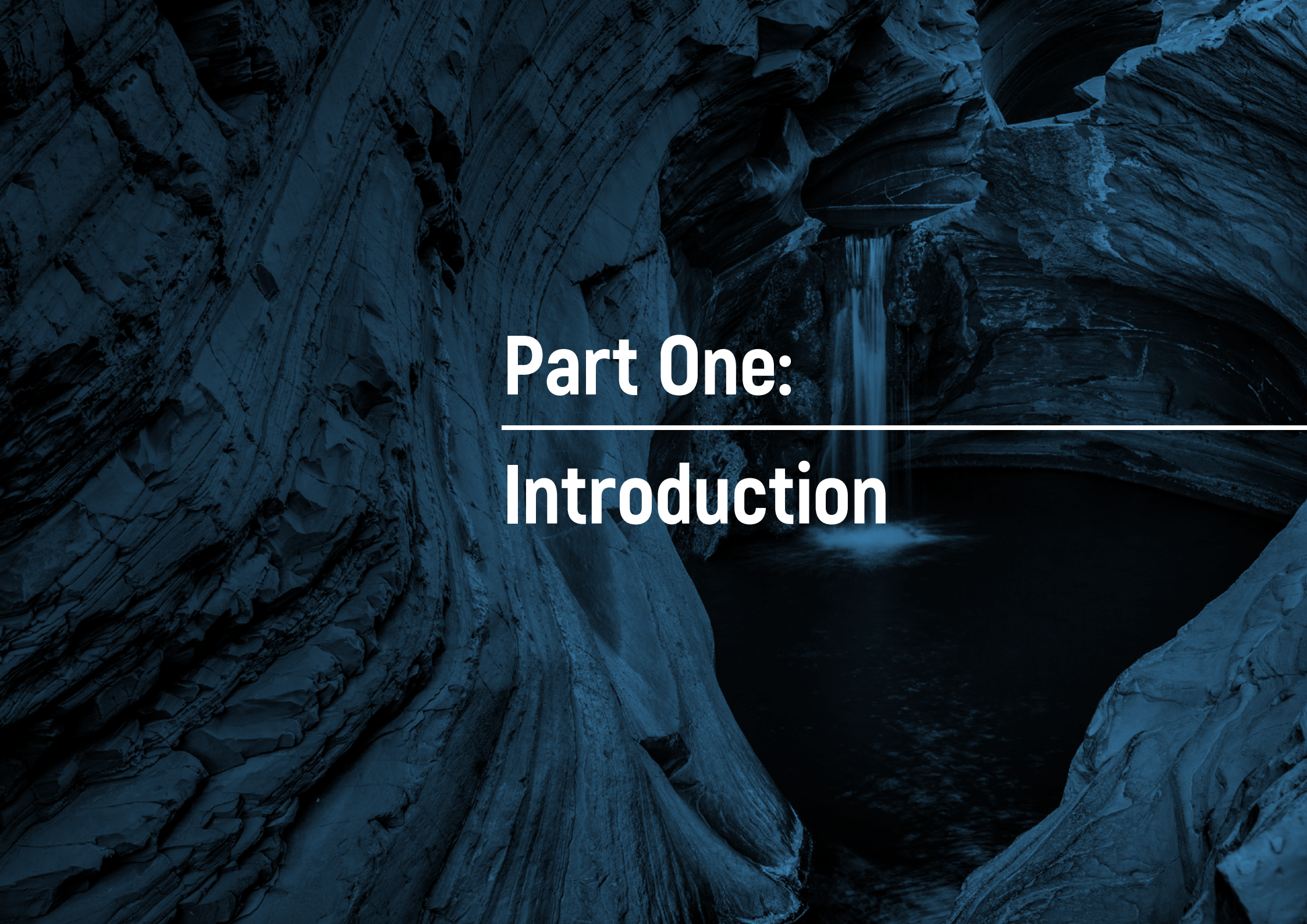
4.1 Responsibility for Response 20
4.2 Response Arrangements 20
4.3 Notifications 22
4.4 Public Warnings/Information 22
4.5 Shelter-In-Place or Evacuation Arrangements During Response 23
4.6 Function Support Plans 23
4.7 Incident and Site Control 24
4.8 Activation of Multi Agency Advisory and Support Groups 24
4.9 Declaration of an Emergency Situation or State of Emergency 24

PART FIVE: RECOVERY 25

5.1 Responsibility for Recovery 26
5.2 Transition to Recovery 26

APPENDICES 28

Appendix A: Distribution List 29
Appendix B: Glossary of Terms/Abbreviations 30
Appendix C: Roles and Responsibilities 37
Appendix D: HAZMAT Emergency Advisory Team (HEAT) 54
Appendix E: HAZMAT Coordinating Committee (HCC) 56



Part One:

Introduction

The State Hazard Plan - HAZMAT (the Plan) provides an overview of arrangements for the management of the actual or impending release or escape of a chemical, radiological or other substance that is capable of causing loss of life, injury to a person, or damage to the health of a person or the environment in Western Australia (WA). The Plan contains information on prevention, preparedness, response and initial recovery.

For the purposes of this Plan, the term HAZMAT emergencies is used to encompass emergencies arising from the release or escape of a chemical, radiological or other substance that requires a significant and coordinated response.

The Plan refers to a range of existing acts, regulations, plans and documents relating to HAZMAT emergencies but does not duplicate the information contained in these, instead providing directions to websites or other sources where further information can be obtained if required.

The Fire and Emergency Services (FES) Commissioner is the HMA for the actual or impending spillage, release or escape of a chemical, radiological or other substance that is capable of causing loss of life, injury to a person or damage to the health of a person, property or the environment. The State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) has delegated responsibility for the development, maintenance, review and exercising of the Plan to the FES Commissioner in accordance with the *Emergency Management Act 2005* (EM Act).

1.1 Scope

This Plan covers emergency management arrangements within the geographic boundaries of WA, for HAZMAT emergencies. It describes risk reduction strategies, preparedness for, response to and initiation of recovery arrangements following the impact of HAZMAT emergencies.

The Plan includes emergencies at or involving:

- **Industry sites and ports** where one or more of the following conditions apply:
  - Hazardous materials have spread, or have the potential to spread, beyond the boundary
  - It is beyond the resources of the occupants to contain and clean up effectively and safely
  - The protective equipment and/or resources at the site are not adequate to deal with the situation
  - Employees are not experienced in dealing with the situation
  - Employees or the public are or could be placed at risk.
- **Fires and/or unusual situations.** Smoke from fires or odours from situations which involve significant quantities of plastics, tyres, mixed chemicals, waste and scrap from warehouses, manufacturing sites, shopping centres, domestic and farming premises, as well as recycling centres, including used-car recycling, landfill disposal sites and noxious industries.
- **Onshore Pipelines.** Onshore pipelines licensed pursuant to the *Petroleum Pipelines Act 1969*, administered by the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) but excluding island facilities (Barrow, Varanus and Airlie).[1]
- **State Waters.** Spillages of HAZMAT (excluding oil) into the areas described as State waters in the *Emergency Management Regulations 2006* (EM Regulations).
- **Unidentified materials.** To be treated as a HAZMAT incident until the materials have been identified.
- **Hazardous materials.** As defined in the *Fire Brigades Act 1942*, anything

Notes

1 Excluded due to privately owned facilities, safety case requirements for emergency response and the inability of Fire Services to respond to remote islands in a reasonable timeframe.

that, if it escapes while being produced, stored, moved, used or otherwise dealt with, may cause personal injury or death, or damage to property or the environment. Hazardous Materials is a term frequently used to cover one or more of hazardous chemicals; hazardous substances; dangerous goods; hazardous or controlled waste materials; and radioactive materials.

While not included in this Plan, the arrangements may be used to support emergencies or situations involving:

- **Biological substances (pathogens)**. The designated HMA for biological substances is the Chief Executive Officer, Department of Health (WA Health). Arrangements for the management of emergencies from this hazard are included in the State Hazard Plan – Human Biosecurity. **Note:** Toxins of a biological nature are to be treated as chemical agents.
- **Oil spills on State Waters.** The designated HMA for spillage, release or escape of oil onto State waters is the Chief Executive Officer, Department of Transport (DoT). Arrangements for the management of emergencies from this hazard are included in State Hazard Plan – Maritime Environmental Emergencies.
- **Space re-entry debris.** The designated HMA for Space Re-entry Debris is the Commissioner of Police. Arrangements for the management of emergencies from this hazard are included in the State Hazard Plan - Space Re-entry Debris (SPRED).
- **Radiation escape from a nuclear powered warship.** The designated HMA for nuclear powered emergencies is the Commissioner of Police. Arrangements for the management of emergencies from this hazard are included in the State Hazard Plan - Radiation Escape from a Nuclear Powered Warship.
- **Use of a hazardous substance for the purpose of a hostile or terrorist act.** The designated HMA for hostile and terrorist acts is the Commissioner of Police. Arrangements for the management of these emergencies are included in the State Hazard Plans Hostile Act and Terrorist Act.
- **Clandestine Laboratories** Non-emergency activities at illicit drug manufacture sites (i.e. clandestine laboratories). Investigation and scene processing is considered day to day business for WA Police Force, under the authority of the *Misuse of Drugs Act 1981*. WA Police Force is responsible for routine non-emergency activities at clandestine laboratories. If a clandestine laboratory generates the occurrence, or an impending occurrence, of a hazard presenting a significantly greater risk (e.g. uncontrolled chemical release, fire or biological agent), control of the incident may be transferred to the relevant Controlling Agency for the subsequent hazard.

1.2 Hazard Definition

The EM Act defines a hazardous substance as a chemical, biological or radiological substance, or any other substance, that is capable of causing loss of life, injury to a person, or damage to the health of a person or to the environment.

The EM Regulations prescribes the FES Commissioner as the HMA for the actual or impending spilling, release or escape of a chemical, radiological or other substance that is capable of causing loss of life, injury to a person or damage to the health of a person, property or the environment.

HAZMAT emergencies includes dangerous goods (DG) as defined in the *Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004* and *Regulations 2007*, petroleum as defined in the *Petroleum Pipelines Act 1969* and the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Resources Act 1967*. They also include any other hazardous substances/materials which are considered by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES), Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER), DMIRS, WA Health or the Water Corporation a threat to people, property or the environment.

HAZMAT can also take the form of emissions from fires, or odours from situations including mixed products that may involve plastics, tyres, mixed chemicals as well as wastes and scrap metals.

1.3 Organisational Roles and Responsibilities

As the HMA, the FES Commissioner is responsible for the management of the adverse effects of a HAZMAT emergency across the spectrum of prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.

The FES Commissioner is also responsible under the *Fire Brigades Act 1942* to take all practicable measures for protecting and saving life and property endangered by HAZMAT incidents; for confining and ending such an incident; and for rendering the site of such an incident safe.

Pollution incidents which require a response by the DWER under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* may not be a HAZMAT emergency; however, it can be anticipated that all HAZMAT emergencies under the EM Act may have the potential to become a significant pollution incident.

DFES is responsible for the development, implementation and revision of this Plan through the HAZMAT Coordinating Committee and in consultation with key stakeholders.

It is recommended that each agency with a role or responsibility under this Plan has appropriate operational procedures detailing their response arrangements in accordance with this Plan. These arrangements should be complementary to the agency's operational procedures detailing their roles and responsibilities under the State Emergency Management Plan.

Information regarding the response roles and responsibilities of relevant agencies under this Plan are detailed in Appendix C.

1.3.1 HAZMAT Emergency Advisory Team (HEAT)

The HEAT is a group of technical and emergency management specialists competent in HAZMAT emergency management, available 24/7. Its role is to assist with the management of HAZMAT emergencies. HEAT's operations must be flexible, however, it will typically function as part of the Incident Management Team (IMT) to provide technical advice. It may also form as part of an Incident Support Group (ISG)/Operational Area Support Group (OASG) as dictated by the needs of the incident.

Organisation and membership will depend on the incident complexity, level, or as required by the HMA in accordance with State Emergency Management (EM) Policy section 5 and State EM Plan section 5. The roles and responsibilities of HEAT are detailed in Appendix D.

1.3.2 HAZMAT Coordinating Committee (HCC)

The HCC is a non-operational committee. Its role is to provide advice and support to the SEMC, Government agencies, industry, commerce and the community to ensure an efficient emergency management capability, for HAZMAT emergencies, in the State of WA. Its functions are outlined in Appendix E.

1.4 Multiple Hazards

1.4.1 Multiple Hazards

In accordance with State EM Plan section 5.1.2, "where a subsequent hazard caused by the initiating hazards presents a significantly greater risk, management of the incident may be transferred to the relevant Controlling Agency for the subsequent hazard by agreement between the two agencies." DFES will assume the role of controlling agency (by agreement) where the subsequent hazard involves chemical, radiological or other substances until it is less of a risk than the initiating hazard.

1.4.2 Hostile or Terrorist Act Arrangements

The Commissioner of Police is the HMA for hostile and terrorist acts. Included in the EM Regulations definition of a Hostile Act, is an event or situation in which an explosive substance or hazardous substance (as defined in the EM Act) is used (deliberate act) to cause loss of life, prejudice to the safety of, or harm to the health, of persons or animals; unlawful destruction of, or damage to, property or any part of the environment.

The deliberate use of a hazardous substance (as per the definition of a hostile act), may have implications relating to Commonwealth, State and Territory responsibilities, public safety, health, public confidence, national security and international relations.

It may take some time before it becomes apparent that a HAZMAT emergency was the result of a hostile or terrorist Act. An incident should not be referred to as a hostile or terrorist act by any responding agency unless the Commissioner of Police has made this determination. Where the cause of an emergency is not apparent and a hostile or terrorist Act cannot be readily discounted, the WA Police Force shall be notified and may deploy forward to commence investigations.

If the emergency is the result of a hostile act or terrorist act, the incident will be dealt with in accordance with the State Hazard Plan – Hostile Act or State Hazard Plan – Terrorist Act respectively and WA Police Force will take control of the emergency on behalf of the HMA, Commissioner of Police.

Where a hazardous substance emergency is the result of (or is suspected to be a result of) a hostile act or terrorist act, DFES Operations staff will operate under a WA Police Force Commander. DFES will be tasked in accordance with WA Police Force procedures during such incidents. Once it is determined that the emergency is not the result of or is no longer a terrorist or hostile act emergency, DFES will by agreement assume roles and responsibilities as the Controlling Agency (not including biological incidents) as per State EM Plan section 5.1.2.

Response agencies will respond to an emergency according to standard emergency response procedures and, if activated, in accordance with the response section of this Plan.

1.4.3 Ships in State Waters

Subject to 1.4.1, in relation to ships in State waters, or at berth, in which the emergency includes HAZMAT, and in which the hazard and/or the mitigating actions required may affect the structural integrity of the ship, then the emergency shall be regarded as a Marine Transport Emergency (MTE).

DFES will be responsible for the chemical, radiological or other substance component of the emergency.

In the event of a radiation escape from a nuclear powered warship, the WA Police Force (on behalf of the HMA, Commissioner of Police), are responsible. DFES will operate under a WA Police Force Commander and will be tasked in accordance with WA Police Force procedures during such incidents.

1.5 Related Documents and Legislation

This Plan is to be read in conjunction with the State Emergency Management Framework including the *Emergency Management Act*, the *Emergency Management Regulations 2006*, State Emergency Management Policy, plans and procedures and other legislative arrangements described in this plan.

This plan is to be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- Australian Bomb Data Centre, Bombs Defusing the Threat, 5th Edition, 2009
- Australian Health CBRNINC Plan. Domestic Health Response Plan for Chemical, Biological, Radiological or Nuclear Incidents of National Consequence, 2014
- Australian Standard 3745-2010, Planning for Emergencies in Facilities
- Australia's Strategy for Protecting Crowded Places from Terrorism, Australia-New Zealand Counter Terrorism Committee (ANZCTC), 2023
- Guidance on the National Coordination Arrangements for Responding to the Deliberate Use of Chemical, Biological and Radiological Materials, National Chemical, Biological and Radiological Working Group (NCBRWG), Feb. 2006
- National Chemical, Biological and Radiological Security Strategy, Australia-New Zealand Counter-Terrorism Committee, 2013
- National Counter-Terrorism Plan, Australia-New Zealand Counter-Terrorism Committee, 4th Edition, 2017

- National Marine Chemical Spill Contingency Plan (Chemplan)
- Planning Guidance for Response to a Nuclear Detonation, 3rd Edition, May 2022, US National Security Staff Interagency Policy Coordinating Subcommittee for Preparedness and Response to Radiological and Nuclear Threats
- State Hazard Plan – Animal and Plant Biosecurity
- State Hazard Plan - Hostile Act
- State Hazard Plan – Human Biosecurity
- State Hazard Plan – Maritime Environmental Emergency
- State Hazard Plan – Terrorist Act
- Suspicious Packages/Substances Assessment Guidelines, National CBR Working Group, May 2011.

Legislation and codes relevant to this plan include but are not limited to:

- Australian and International Standards that apply to the manufacture, storage, transport and safe use of hazardous materials
- Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road & Rail
- *Criminal Code Act Compilation Act 1913*
- *Criminal Investigations Act 2006*
- *Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004 and Regulations 2007*
- *Emergency Management Act 2005*
- *Emergency Management Regulations 2006*
- *Environmental Protection Act 1986 and Regulations*
- *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1998*
- *Fire Brigades Act 1942*
- *Fire Brigades Regulations 1943*
- *Misuse of Drugs Act 1981*
- *Public Health Act 2016*
- *Radiation Safety Act 1975*
- *Radiation Safety (General) Regulations 1983*
- *Radiation Safety (Transport of Radioactive Substances) Regulations 2002*
- *Work Health and Safety Act 2020*
- *Work Health and Safety (General) Regulations 2022.*

1.6 Activities Informing the Assurance Process

The HMA engages with other subject matter experts to ensure an ongoing awareness and a contemporary understanding of the hazard and mitigation strategies.

The HMA ensures aspects of operational performance are reviewed and that a consistent and structured approach is applied to all aspects of operational performance that:

- complies with relevant State Emergency Management Policy and plans
- ensures that identified lessons and opportunities for improvement are actioned
- ensures that the HMA's service delivery meets community expectations.[2]

Notes

2 DFES Operational Lessons Management Policy 2020.

DFES will undertake operational lessons management activities after all incidents in accordance with DFES' Operational Lessons Management Policy and directives. DFES has adopted three types of After Action Reviews. The relevant Assistant Commissioner or Command Head will determine which After Action Review is utilised.

DFES Operations applies lessons management principles in the following manner:[3]

- Observations made during operations or in support of operations are analysed to develop insights and identify lessons for consideration by DFES Operations management.
- Approved lessons are validated by relevant personnel.
- Approved lessons are implemented and tested to ensure operational improvements are embedded.
- Lessons learned and operational successes are sustained by sharing with all DFES personnel and relevant emergency management partners.

The Operational Area Manager (OAM)/Incident Controller (IC) will ensure that all agencies involved in a multi-agency emergency are able to provide input to any post operation analysis. DFES will work towards a collaborative multi-agency debrief, analysis and lesson development process that informs DFES operations.

DFES reviews operational lessons management activities to ensure ongoing effectiveness.

Post Operation Reports must be provided to SEMC in accordance with State Emergency Management Policy section 5.11 and State Emergency Management Plan section 5.7.

Notes

3 DFES Directive 3.19 Operational Lessons Management.



Part Two:

Prevention and Mitigation

2.1 Responsibility for Prevention and/or Mitigation

As the HMA, the FES Commissioner has overall responsibility for prevention and mitigation aspects of the chemical, radiation or other substances hazard.

Prevention and mitigation activities are carried out by other agencies and industry as part of their statutory obligations outside of the EM Act. Risk management processes are regulated by DMIRS, DWER, Department of Transport (DoT), DFES and the Radiological Council.

It is incumbent upon the HMA and all agencies involved in this Plan to support all law enforcement preventative measures, as well as those derived from their legislative and duty-of-care responsibilities.

2.2 Prevention and/or Mitigation Strategies

Prevention requires active commitment by all sections of government, industry and the community that have involvement with hazardous materials/substances. This may include:

- Government through legislation, and Codes of Practice
  - DMIRS administers the *Work Health and Safety Act 2020* and regulations
  - DoT administers the *Pollution of Waters by Oil and Noxious Substances Act 1987*
  - DWER administers the pollution, emission and waste disposal/control provisions of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986.*
  - WA Health administers the *Radiation Safety Act 1975* and regulations
- Independent groups through development of Standards
- Insurance industry through liability and risk assessments
- Industry through risk management, plant design, procedures and investment in safety
- Community and individuals through training or awareness, personal protective equipment and safe practices.

2.2.1 Inspection Programs

Each agency with responsibility for prevention conducts a systematic inspection program based on identified risks relevant to their jurisdiction.

2.2.2 Inspection of Dangerous Goods Sites

DFES in partnership with DMIRS conducts regular inspections of selected licensed DG sites covering a selected range of issues associated with DG.

2.2.3 Storage, Handling and Transport

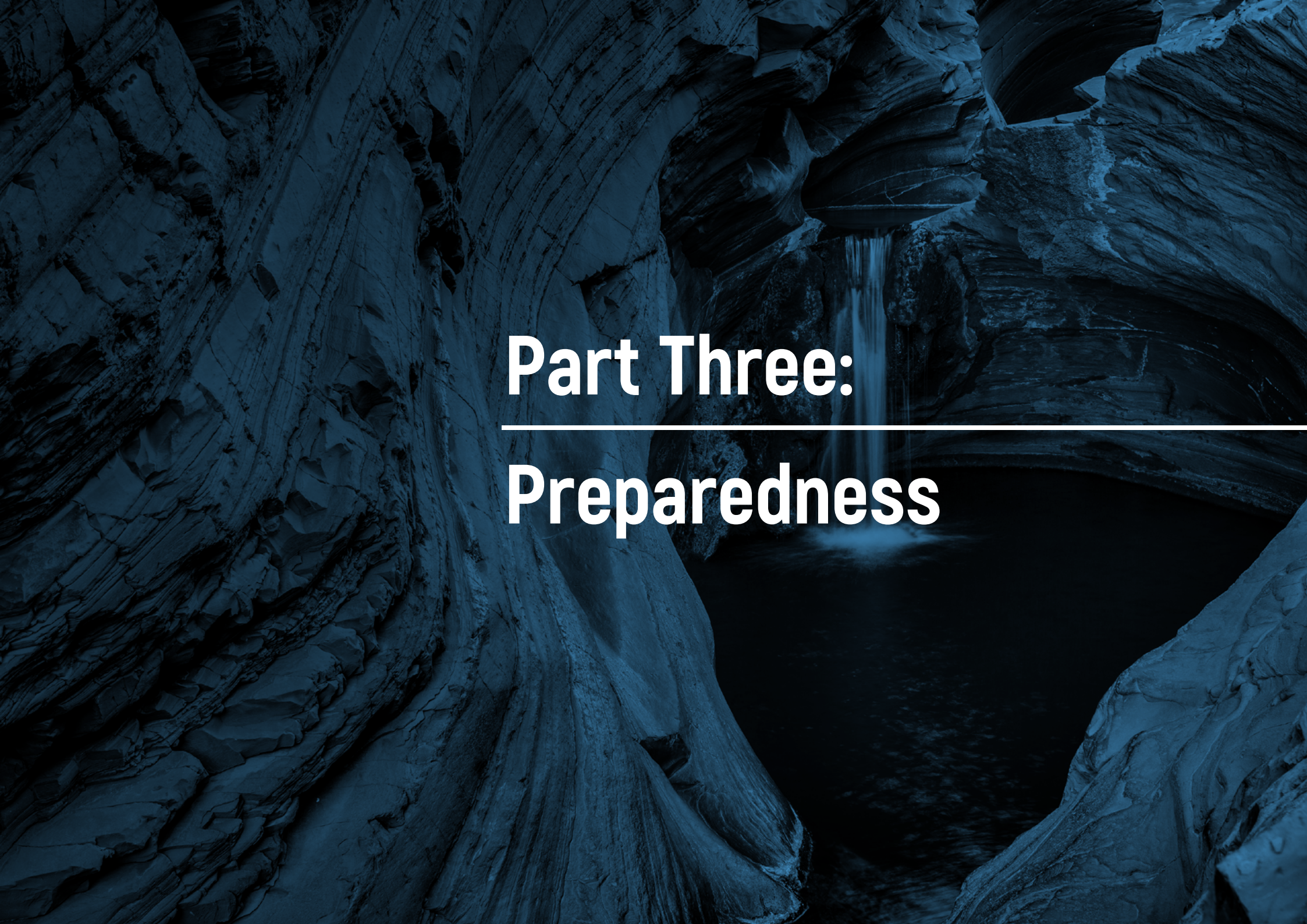
DMIRS administer the *Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004* and associated Regulations, in relation to the storage, handling and transport of DG and the *Petroleum Pipelines Act 1969* and the *Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Resources Act 1967*, in relation to the safe conduct of petroleum exploration and production, and petroleum pipelines.

2.2.4 Reviews and Inspections of Fire and Emergency Services-Emergency Response Guides (FES-ERG) and Hazardous Material Risk Sites

DFES in partnership with DWER and DMIRS develop an intervention list and conduct inspections of FES-ERG sites (refer to section 3.3.2). DFES and DWER also inspect non-Dangerous Goods HAZMAT Risk Sites to reduce the risk and impacts of incidents.

2.2.5 HAZMAT Coordinating Committee (HCC)

The HCC will review significant incidents to determine, where possible, the cause and ensure follow up actions are undertaken.



Part Three:

Preparedness

3.1 Responsibility for Preparedness

As the HMA, the FES Commissioner is responsible for the development of plans and arrangements to manage emergencies in relation to HAZMAT emergencies. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- planning
- provision and arrangements for facilities and equipment
- interstate and international assistance arrangements
- training
- community information and education.

3.2 Resources

3.2.1 State Resources Available through DFES

- **Dedicated resources for HAZMAT emergencies.** DFES maintains resources for an Operational Response capability for HAZMAT emergencies.
- **HEAT meeting rooms.** DFES maintains facilities that may be required to enable the HEAT to meet and fulfill their functions.

3.2.3 Additional State Resources

- **Staff Recall.** All agencies that may be involved in a HAZMAT emergency shall have the ability to recall staff in accordance with their roles and responsibilities within the Plan.
- **Decontamination at Hospitals.** Select metropolitan and regional hospitals with an emergency department shall maintain external showers to be used for decontamination of casualties who may self-present at hospitals.
- **Atropine/Auto-injectors.** St John WA shall maintain a protocol with WA Health to authorise the use by ambulance personnel of Atropine/Auto-injectors that are stored in strategic locations throughout WA.
- **Air, Water, Soil Monitoring**. DWER maintains emergency air water and soil monitoring equipment to be deployed in emergencies to assist the HEAT and the Controlling Agency in decision making.

3.3 Planning and Arrangements

Each agency that has agreed roles and responsibilities within the Plan are responsible for the provision of people and resources to meet those roles and responsibilities as detailed in Appendix C.

Agencies that provide representation to the HEAT shall ensure their representatives are available 24/7, and that they meet the competency requirements that have been mutually agreed with the HCC.

Those agencies whose roles and responsibilities also require on-scene attendance must also ensure an additional 24/7 availability of both personnel and equipment. Those personnel who attend must also meet mutually agreed competency requirements with DFES that are appropriate to their on-scene functions.

3.3.1 DFES Planning and Arrangements

The following plans and arrangements are managed by DFES, on behalf of the FES Commissioner as HMA.

The Western Australian Fire and Emergency Services (WAFES) Manual
This Manual outlines the overall operational management structure and systems used by DFES for emergency preparedness and response throughout the State. It unites State Legislation, State Emergency Management Policies and Plans with the DFES's structures and its operational doctrine. It describes the FES Commissioner's intent for the role of DFES during emergencies in WA.

Fire and Emergency Services – Emergency Response Guides (FES-ERG)
A dangerous goods site requires a FES-ERG if the quantity of DG stored or handled on site exceeds ten (10) times the manifest quantity in relation to those goods.

FES-ERGs are prepared or revised by the operator of the site in consultation with the DFES Officer in Charge (OIC) of the fire station or the office of the Fire and Emergency Services Department nearest the site. The regulation requires that the operator of the site must review the agreed FES-ERG for the site and if necessary revise it:

- whenever there is a significant change to the type or quantity of DG on site
- whenever there is a significant change to the layout of the site or to any structure on the site
- as soon as practicable after a fire or dangerous situation occurs on the site
- in any event, at intervals of not more than 3 years from the day on which the guide was first prepared or last reviewed.[4]

Completed plans are maintained by DFES Special Operations Branch via an electronic database. DFES will provide database access to key stakeholders as required.

Hard copies of the FES-ERG are also kept at the site or premises. Radioactive substances are specifically excluded from the *Dangerous Goods Safety (Storage and Handling of Non-explosives) Regulations 2007*.

Site Inspections and Operational Pre-plans
DFES conducts a program of site inspections throughout WA according to risk. DFES personnel are further required to prepare Operational Pre-plans (OPP). The OPP is designed to provide the OIC with information to help in applying appropriate action at an incident. Completed plans are maintained by DFES Special Operations Branch via an electronic database. DFES will provide database access to key stakeholders as required.

Chemical Database
DFES uses the database of information for HAZMAT emergencies.

Gas Dispersion Modelling
DFES and ChemCentre, through HEAT, maintains a computer-modelling program and competency for the calculation of downwind dispersion of gas releases.

Resourcing HAZMAT capability profiled appliances
DFES ensures all HAZMAT capability profiled appliances are provided with a HAZMAT Emergency Response Guide for its fire-fighting personnel.

3.3.2 Industry Planning and Preparedness

Dangerous Goods Site Emergency Plans
All licensed DG sites under the *Dangerous Goods Safety (Storage and Handling of Non-explosive) Regulations 2007* are required to prepare an emergency plan.

Dangerous Goods Transport Emergency Response Plans
All DG consigned for transport in placard quantities are required under the *Dangerous Goods Transport (Road and Rail Transport of Non-explosives) Regulations 2007* to prepare an emergency plan. This includes a requirement to establish a contract with an "approved emergency responder," to provide a clean-up in the event of an emergency involving DG.

Industry Arrangements
Industries that deal in the storage, handling and transport of DG and hazardous substances shall maintain a 24/7 contact and ensure Safety Data Sheets are available. As appropriate, industry is encouraged to develop their own response capability by:

Notes

4 *Dangerous Goods Safety (Storage and Handling on Non-explosives) Regulation 2007* (as amended 2017) regulation 76B.

- development of an Emergency Response Plan
- mutual aid agreements
- provision of emergency response appliances
- provision of protective equipment
- development of competent response teams
- maintenance of adequate stocks of neutralizing agents.

3.3.3 Approved Emergency Responders

Contractors can seek accreditation to become an approved DG emergency responder (for DG transport) by application to DMIRS. The current list of approved emergency responders is maintained on the DMIRS website.

3.4 Training

DFES is responsible for managing an integrated training program for key personnel that have responsibilities for response under this Plan.

Each agency is responsible for ensuring their personnel receive training for their roles as detailed in the Plan.

3.5 First Responders

Agencies, whose personnel may be the first to arrive at a HAZMAT emergency, shall provide potential first responders with appropriate guidelines with respect to first response actions. First responders could include transport drivers, police, ambulance, and local government employees.

Emergency services need an awareness level of training in what could be expected if responding to a HAZMAT emergency.

First Responder officers need to be aware that an incident may be the result of a hostile or terrorist act.

3.6 Community Information and Education

DFES ensures community awareness through its systematic inspection and compliance programs in collaboration with DWER and DMIRS. DFES maintains community information for a range of hazards, including industrial, hazardous materials and other toxins/hazardous substances on its website.

DFES via HEAT is responsible for the provision of information related to the consequence management and impacts of incidents to the community and environment as required.

3.7 Assistance Arrangements with Other Jurisdictions

If a HAZMAT emergency is beyond the resources of the State, support may be requested from other States, the Australian Government or overseas. Deployment will be managed by the agency employing the deployed personnel in accordance with individual agency policy and directives.

Assistance to interstate, overseas and other jurisdictions for HAZMAT emergencies will be coordinated at a state level by DFES. This will include determination of the process involved and recognition of pre-existing arrangements for inter- jurisdictional assistance by other agencies where such arrangements exist.

Arrangements for Interstate Assistance have been developed on behalf of the Commissioners and Chief Officers Strategic Committee (CCOSC) through the National Resource Sharing Centre to provide the timely and meaningful exchange of capability between Australian states and territories during significant incidents. The Commonwealth, through the Director General National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), co-chairs CCOSC and is integral to this Arrangement.

The Arrangements for Interstate Assistance provides for mutual assistance between Australian emergency management agencies: fire services, emergency services and land management agencies. It is for domestic use within Australia, which may involve New Zealand resources with the focus to support operational deployments.

3.7.1 Australian Government Assistance

The Australian Government Disaster Response Plan (COMDISPLAN) (activated by NEMA), facilitates the provision of Australian Government Physical Assistance (AGPA) to States and Territories, following a formal request from the HMA or their HMA delegate. This assistance can include but is not limited to air and maritime border control, traffic management and communications capabilities, satellite imagery capabilities, Australian Medical Assistance Team deployment and disaster victim identification.

All requests for AGPA are to be made by the State Emergency Coordinator for consideration by NEMA. Further detail on AGPA can be found in State EM Policy section 5.10, State EM Plan section 5.6 and State EM Response Procedure 4.20.

3.7.2 Assistance Request

DFES may request interstate or international assistance from like agencies in the event of a major emergency or multiple emergencies beyond the capability of DFES resources.

Following consultation at DFES State Operations Centre (SOC), NEMA and Australasian Fire and Emergency Services Authorities Council (AFAC) may be contacted and advised that assistance is required including the effect required and/or composition of the resources required.

3.7.3 Assistance to Other States / Territories

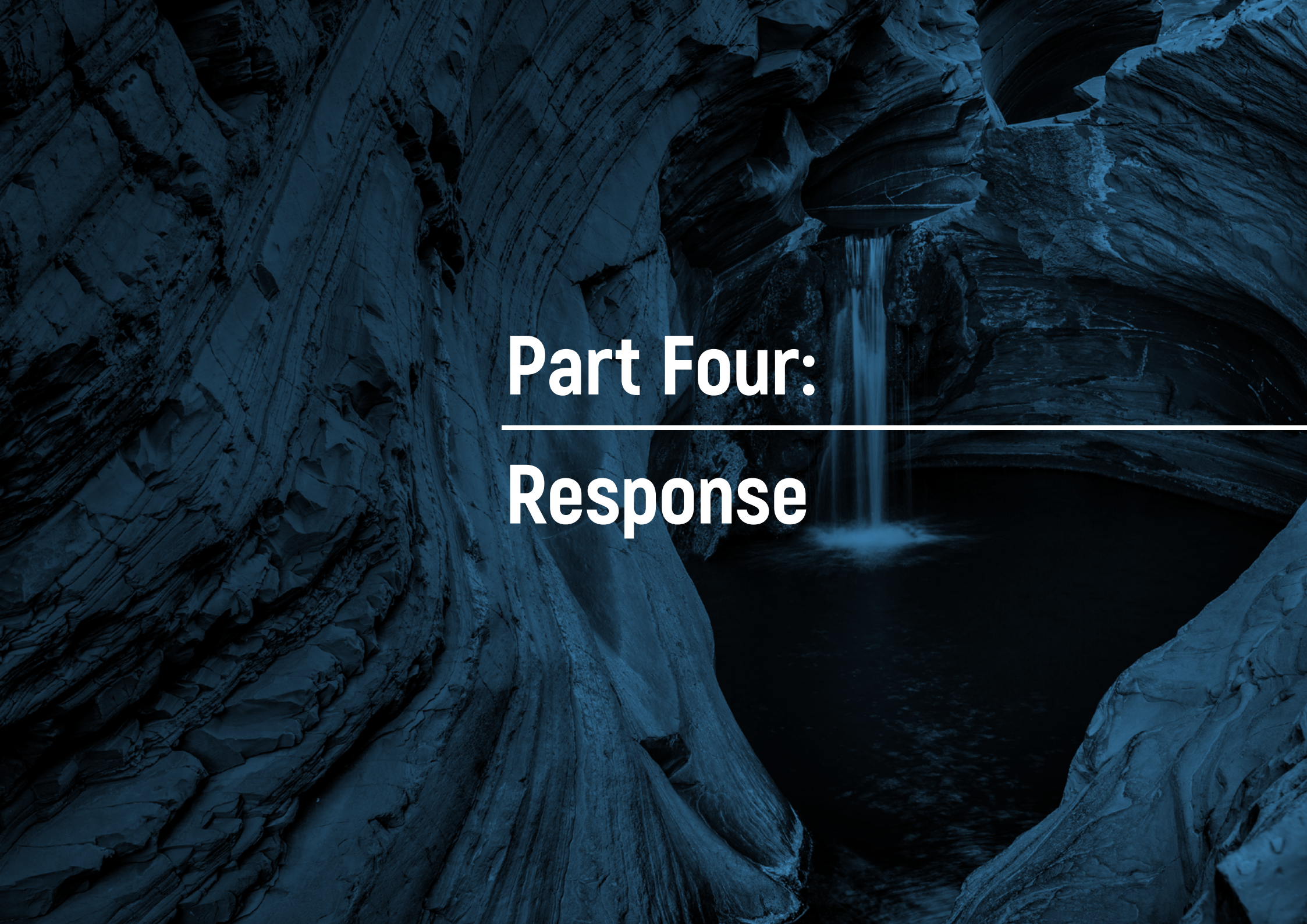
The Commonwealth of Australia and the State of Western Australia, as represented by DFES has a service delivery arrangement for the Indian Ocean Territories of Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling Islands). This includes the provision of consultancy services and advice to the Commonwealth Department on a fee for service basis subject to the State agency's availability.

3.7.4 Assistance to Overseas

Requests for assistance from overseas jurisdictions are managed in accordance with the Department of Home Affairs Australian Government Overseas Disaster Assistance Plan and arrangements. Requests to WA from the Australian Government to assist jurisdictions overseas will be determined at the time by the Commissioner of Police on a case-by-case basis.

3.7.5 Interstate / International Deployment

DFES will consider all requests to provide personnel to assist interstate/international agencies in the combating of large emergencies. The deployment of resources will be dependent on the level of activity and/or prevailing risk in Western Australia at the time. Upon receiving a request for assistance, the FES Commissioner (or Deputy Commissioner Operations or delegate) will liaise with the host State/AFAC to identify the human and resource requirements and confirm deployment procedures.



Part Four:

Response

4.1 Responsibility for Response

The FES Commissioner has responsibility for responding to HAZMAT emergencies as described in this Plan.

4.2 Response Arrangements

The responsibilities for each response function covering HAZMAT emergencies are identified in Appendix C.

4.2.1 Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)

Mobilisation and management of DFES resources are coordinated through its Communications Centre (COMCEN) and the State Operation Centre, Metropolitan Operations Centre or relevant Regional Operations Centre. COMCEN receives Triple Zero (000) calls state-wide and dispatches resources.

4.2.2 WA Police Force

WA Police Force assists the Controlling Agency, through HEAT, in dealing with HAZMAT emergencies.

WA Police Force will assume control for a hazardous substance emergency that are the result of a hostile or terrorism related incident in accordance with State Hazard Plans - Hostile Act, Terrorist Act and the Australia-New Zealand Counter-Terrorism arrangements. It may take some time before it becomes apparent that a HAZMAT emergency was the result of a hostile or terrorist Act. An incident should not be referred to as a hostile or terrorist act by any responding agency unless the Commissioner of Police has made this determination. The WA Police Force will seek specialist support for the management of hostile or terrorism related incidents.

4.2.3 ChemCentre

ChemCentre supports the Controlling Agency with on-scene support and through HEAT with chemical advice, on-scene sampling, detection and identification capability.

This includes expert advice with respect to the chemical and physical properties, neutralisation, decontamination, and environmental fate.

4.2.4 Approved Emergency Responders (Dangerous Goods Transport)

Approved emergency responders provide an approved emergency site clean-up response for DG transport incidents in accordance with their DMIRS approval and any directions from DFES or DWER personnel in regards to the incident.

4.2.5 Bureau of Meteorology

The Bureau of Meteorology provides Incident Weather Forecasts (IWF) for a HAZMAT emergency to DFES during the response phase. IWF provide forecast information (hourly for the first 12 hours). The Bureau can also provide briefings to DFES on forecast weather conditions during a HAZMAT emergency if requested.

4.2.6 Consignors / Prime Contractors

Consignors provide assistance to the Controlling Agency during incident mitigation and to assume responsibility for site clean-up and disposal during the recovery phase.

4.2.7 Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety

DMIRS advises the Controlling Agency, through HEAT on the public safety aspects resulting from an emergency involving HAZMAT or DG and the measures required to minimize the impact on people, property and the environment.

WorkSafe also provides expert advice to the Controlling Agency, through HEAT, on chemicals and the occupational health and safety risks resulting

from HAZMAT or DG emergencies and measures to minimise those risks.

4.2.8 Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

DWER provides environmental advice to the Controlling Agency, through HEAT on the impacts of the emergency on the environment.

DWER provides support as required to assist with identification of contaminated zones; provide air monitoring to assist in determining community protective actions and recommend measures to limit spread of contamination, environmental decontamination and disposal measures. It monitors clean-up to an appropriate environmental standard.

4.2.9 Department of Health (WA Health)

WA Health advises the Controlling Agency, through HEAT, on the public safety aspects resulting from an emergency involving radioactive materials and the measures required to minimize their impact on people, property and the environment.

WA Health provides medical treatment of casualties resulting from a HAZMAT emergency. WA Health also provides expert advice to the Controlling Agency, through HEAT on public health risks resulting from the emergency and advise on measures to minimise the health risks, loss of life and minimise permanent injury.

4.2.10 Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development (DPIRD)

DPIRD manages any resultant disruption to the agricultural sector, including residues in agricultural products.

4.2.11 Department of Transport (Maritime Division)

Department of Transport assists the Controlling Agency with emergencies involving HAZMAT in State waters.

4.2.12 Industry Owners and Operators

Owners and operators assist the Controlling Agency, with dealing with the HAZMAT emergency, and to establish and maintain a capability for coping with HAZMAT emergencies occurring within their facilities.

4.2.13 Local Government

Local governments assist at HAZMAT emergencies with advice and resources. Note: It is the responsibility of each individual Local Government to identify their capability to respond to a HAZMAT emergency within their Local Emergency Management Arrangements.

4.2.14 St John WA

St John WA provides triage, initial medical treatment and transportation of casualties resulting from an emergency. It advises the Controlling Agency,, through HEAT on pre-hospital clinical care of casualties. St John WA may also support the emergency through the deployment of Special Operations Paramedics who are trained to operate in the Hot Zone as part of an entry team.

4.2.15 Water Corporation

Water Corporation provides advice and support to the Controlling Agency regarding water supply, sewerage, drainage and public irrigation services, within its authority, and provides advice and support to the HMA, through HEAT. It advises on water pollution aspects of HAZMAT emergencies and monitors water supplies within its remit to ensure public safety.

4.2.16 Arc Infrastructure Pty Ltd

Arc Infrastructure ensures the overall safety of railway operations outside the emergency area, and to assist the Controlling Agency, to deal with the emergency as it relates to rolling stock on its infrastructure.

4.2.18 Australian Government

Depending upon the emergency, the Australian Government can provide a range of support to the State in the event of a radiological emergency. This can include agencies such as the Defence Science and Technology Group and the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency.

4.3 Notifications

DFES is central to state-wide HAZMAT reporting and monitoring as follows:

- All emergencies involving HAZMAT are reported via Triple Zero (000) and referred to the Fire Service.
- DFES COMCEN or the District Officer State Situation may receive reports from other sources.

4.4 Public Warnings/Information

DFES is responsible for the provision and management of public information in relation to HAZMAT emergencies, in accordance with the State Emergency Management Plan section 5.3.1 and the State Support Plan - Emergency Public Information.

All emergency management organisations must coordinate their public information with DFES and only comment on matters within their jurisdiction approved by the Incident Controller.

4.4.1 HAZMAT Warning System

The IC or Public Information Officer can request the activation of public information in the event of a HAZMAT emergency property fire involving HAZMAT, if it poses a threat to the public or attracts sufficient media attention to warrant the issuing of public warning. This request can be made to the controlling agency's media branch or DFES COMCEN.

If requested, the public warning will advise the public that an incident has occurred and will:

- describe the incident
- outline what people should do to keep safe from the threat
- advise of road closures if appropriate
- advise what firefighters and other government agencies are doing to protect the public.

4.4.2 Standard Emergency Warning Signal (SEWS)

The Standard Emergency Warning Signal (SEWS) is a distinctive siren sound to alert the community to the broadcast of an urgent safety message relating to a major emergency.

SEWS is intended for use as an alert signal to be played on public media such as radio, television, or public address systems to draw listeners' attention to the emergency warning that follows. SEWS should only be used when issuing Emergency Warnings when there is a need to warn people to take urgent and immediate action to reduce the potential for loss of life or property from emergency events.

Note: SEWS is not required for all Emergency Warnings.

4.4.3 Emergency Alert

Emergency Alert is a warning system that uses web technology to send alerts to home phones and mobiles. It is an additional public information tool that can be used for any emergency where there is an imminent threat, to alert people in a specific location.

The IC or Public Information Officer can request an Emergency Alert by calling the DFES District Officer State Situation.

4.4.4 Emergency WA Website

HAZMAT incident and alert information is available on the Emergency WA website.

4.5 Shelter-In-Place or Evacuation Arrangements During Response

Evacuation arrangements will be developed according to the State Emergency Management Policy section 5.7 and State Emergency Management Plan section 5.3.2 that are appropriate for HAZMAT emergencies.

HAZMAT emergencies can sometimes release hazardous gases or contaminants which become airborne and can move off-site with the wind. The onset of these emergencies is sometimes so rapid that evacuation is not an option, and shelter-in-place actions may be required.

DFES, as the Controlling Agency, will determine the need for either shelter-in-place or evacuation, through consultation and consideration of advice provided from HEAT to determine the area where this action will be required.

4.5.1 Triggers for Shelter-in-Place or Evacuation

Shelter-in-Place

Shelter-in-place will be required if:

a. It is safer, or there is no time to conduct an evacuation.

b. The hazard has passed (i.e. a single gas cloud).

c. Secondary devices are suspected along evacuation routes.

Evacuation

Evacuation will be required if:

a. There is a direct threat to people downwind who may be directly exposed.

b. People are within the impact zone of an explosive device (due to overpressure or shrapnel).

c. There is potential for secondary devices targeting evacuees.

4.5.2 Activation of Evacuation Arrangements

DFES will advise other agencies, including the WA Police Force and Department of Communities, of the need to shelter-in-place r evacuate where their assistance is required, in accordance with State emergency management arrangements.

4.5.3 Major Hazard Facilities and Evacuation

In accordance with the *Dangerous Goods Safety (Major Hazard Facilities) Regulations 2007*, the owners of Major Hazard Facilities are required to consult with the local community with respect to the actions they may need to take in the event of an emergency at the Major Hazard Facilities.

4.6 Function Support Plans

4.6.1 Medical Services

The State Health Emergency Response Plan (SHERP) may be activated at any time where casualties have occurred as a consequence of the emergency. This plan is required to consider special control and decontamination procedures for contaminated casualties.

Other plans which may be activated in addition to those already nominated in support of this Plan may include:

- State Support Plan – Emergency Public Information
- State Support Plan - Emergency Relief and Support.

Other State Hazard Plans which may be activated may include:

- State Hazard Plan – Collapse
- State Hazard Plan – Earthquake.

- State Hazard Plan – Fire
- State Hazard Plan - Hostile Act
- State Hazard Plan – Human Biosecurity
- State Hazard Plan – Maritime Environmental Emergencies
- State Hazard Plan – Terrorist Act.

4.7 Incident and Site Control

DFES will apply the Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System (AIIMS) as its tool for incident management framework for incident management.

DFES is responsible for site safety and implementation of control zones in relation to the HAZMAT emergency. The WA Police Force may assist the Controlling Agency, on request, with establishing cordons and other relevant activities for public safety. Site entry and decontamination upon leaving the Hot Zone will be managed by DFES.

4.7.1 Site Control Zones

Site control will be established by dividing the area around the incident into three Zones, referred to as the Hot, Warm and Cold Zones. The IC may consult with SOA/HEAT to assist with determining the boundaries for each zone, and each zone will be clearly identified.

4.8 Activation of Multi Agency Advisory and Support Groups

a. HEAT will be either notified or activated for all significant HAZMAT incidents.

b. The multi-agency support groups ISG, OASG and/or State Emergency Coordination Group (SECG)) may be activated by DFES, in accordance with the provisions of State Emergency Management Policy section 5 and State Emergency Management Plan section 5 as required. For Level 2 HAZMAT emergencies, establishment of an ISG must be considered. For Level 3 HAZMAT emergencies, an ISG and OASG must be established.

4.9 Declaration of an Emergency Situation or State of Emergency

The FES Commissioner has powers in relation to HAZMAT emergencies under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1998* and *Fire Brigades Act 1942.* These powers are wide-ranging and are normally adequate to respond to HAZMAT emergencies. Should additional powers be required, such as the appointment of Hazard Management Officers or Authorised Officers, sharing of information or detainment beyond hours for decontamination, the EM Act can be used to access emergency powers through the declaration of an 'Emergency Situation' or a 'State of Emergency'.



Part Five:

Recovery

5.1 Responsibility for Recovery

The EM Act 2005 requires a local government to include a recovery plan and the nomination of a Local Recovery Coordinator in its LEMA. A local government is required to manage recovery following an emergency affecting the community in its district. Where recovery activities are beyond the capacity of the local community, recovery activities will be undertaken in accordance with the State Emergency Management Policy section 6, State Emergency Management Plan section 6.5 and will commence during the response phase. As such, there needs to be high levels of understanding and cooperation between response and recovery organisations at each level (State, District, local).

5.1.1 Handover

A documented handover process will be applied, to identify that the situation has passed from the response to the recovery phase, and responsibility has passed from the HMA, to those identified as responsible for recovery.

5.1.2 Waste, Debris Management and Disposal

The DWER Pollution Response Unit will provide advice covering waste disposal and site mitigation actions to meet current environmental standards. ChemCentre has a role in advising on site mitigation through a thorough understanding of the chemistry and physics of the contaminant(s). The Radiation Health Directorate will provide advice on radioactive waste.

5.1.3 Clean-up

Direct on-site recovery and clean-up of hazardous materials and infrastructure is the responsibility of the owner of the hazardous materials.

Those transporting placarded DG are required to contact their Approved Emergency Responder, under the *Dangerous Goods Transport (Road and Rail Transport of Non-explosive) Regulations 2007*, to initiate clean-up operations.

Note: Radioactive substances are not included in this regulation.

For incidents that involve radioactive substances, the clean-up in all cases has to be completed to the satisfaction of the Radiological Council.

Under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, DWER may issue a pollution notice to the owner of hazardous materials that are involved in an emergency situation requiring clean-up.

5.1.4 Orphan Hazardous Materials

Recovery and clean-up of orphan hazardous material are the responsibility of the agency or entity that owns or is in control of the land. Under certain circumstances, DWER may cover clean-up costs, where sensitive environments may be under threat. In all cases, clean-up has to be completed to the satisfaction of DWER.

5.2 Transition to Recovery

Prior to the cessation of a response, the Controlling Agency is responsible for the coordination of an assessment of all impacts relating to all recovery environments. This includes a risk assessment and treatment plan to provide for safe community access to the affected area.

On-site recovery and site restoration can only commence once the IC, in consultation with SOA/HEAT have determined the site is 'safe for recovery.' A site is 'safe for recovery' when:

- the emergency impacting the site no longer exists
- control of the situation has been established
- the site is safe for recovery by non-emergency services personnel using appropriate controls (e.g. work practices and personal protection).

At this point a formal handover process will be applied from the Controlling Agency to one or more of the following:

- the property owner/occupier
- product owner

- agency or entity in control of the land
- local government
- local government Recovery Coordinator(s)
- State Recovery Coordinator/Controller.



Appendices

Appendix A: Distribution List

This State Hazard Plan is available on the SEMC website. The agencies below will be notified by the HMA (unless otherwise specified) when an updated version is published on this website.

- All agencies and organisations with responsibilities under this plan
- Australian Federal Police
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry Western Australia
- Fremantle Port
- PathWest
- Australian Defence Force
- Main Roads WA
- National Emergency Management Agency (SEMC Business Unit to notify)
- National Library of Australia (SEMC Business Unit to notify)
- Minister for Emergency Services (SEMC Business Unit to notify)
- Minister for Police (WA Police Force to notify)
- Minister for State Development
- Minister for Transport
- State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC), SEMC subcommittee and SEMC reference group members (SEMC Business Unit to notify)
- State Library of Western Australia (SEMC Business Unit to notify)
- WA Local Government Association.

Appendix B: Glossary of Terms/Abbreviations

Terminology used throughout this document has the meaning prescribed in section 3 of the *Emergency Management Act 2005* or as defined in the State Emergency Management Glossary. In addition, the following hazard-specific definitions apply.

B1 Glossary of Terms

Term	Definition
Absorption	The process by which a substance or object takes in a liquid, gas or chemical and makes it a part of itself. Common absorbents are sawdust, soil and polyolefin-type fibres.
Biological Agent	A microorganism which causes disease in humans, plants or animals.
Cold Zone	The outermost area surrounding the incident site within which it is safe to operate unprotected. It contains the Control Point or Command Post and such other support functions as are deemed necessary to control the incident.
Consequence Management	Measures to protect public health and safety and provide emergency relief to businesses and individuals affected by the consequences of an emergency.
Contamination	Presence or transfer of a hazardous substance(s) on humans, mobile and immobile objects, soil and water.
Controlled Waste	A 'controlled waste' is a waste that can harm human health and the environment unless it is managed properly and appears in Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004*. The Regulations require the transport of these wastes to be carried out only by licensed carriers and each load transported to be documented.
Dangerous Goods (DG)	Substances and articles that, because of their physical and chemical (physiochemical) or acute toxicity properties, present an immediate hazard to people, property or the environment. As defined in WA, dangerous goods are regulated under the *Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004*. Many substances are both hazardous substances and dangerous goods, however, there are substances that are hazardous substances but not dangerous goods and vice versa.

Term	Definition
Decontamination	The neutralisation or removal of dangerous substances, radioactivity, or germs from an area, object or person.
Dispersion	Spread of the hazardous material or substances. Parameters such as weather (especially temperature and wind), substance properties (like volatility and specific weight: lighter or heavier than air) and topographical conditions have great influence on the dispersion.
Exposure	Process by which the hazardous material or substance becomes available for absorption, swallowing, breathing touching the skin or eyes of humans. A person can be exposed to radiation (radiant energy or the particles emitted in the transfer of radiant energy) and receive a radiation dose without coming into contact with the substance emitting the radiation.
Field Liaison Chemist (FLC)	An operational officer provided by ChemCentre, who is trained in emergency management of HAZMAT emergencies. The FLC is fully conversant in the chemical and physical properties of HAZMAT and serves as on-site liaison between DFES FLO and the Lead Chemist (LC) and Sampling Chemist (SC) taking samples of, and analysing hazardous materials.
Field Liaison Officer (FLO)	A DFES officer who is experienced in emergency management and HAZMAT emergencies, to serve as the on-site liaison between the Special Operations Advisor (SOA) and the Incident Controller, and to coordinate the operational activities of all agencies at the incident site.
Hazardous Chemicals	Substances, mixtures and articles that can pose a significant risk to health and safety if not managed correctly. They may have health hazards, physical hazards and/or environmental hazards.
Hazardous Substances	As defined in the EM Act, means a chemical; biological or radiological substance; or any other substance, that is capable of causing loss of life, injury to a person, or damage to the health of a person or to the environment.

Term	Definition
Hostile Act	As defined in the EM Regulations (14a)(2), an event or situation in which: a. an explosive or hazardous substance is used to cause - i. loss of life, prejudice to the safety, or harm to the health, of persons or animals; or ii. unlawful destruction of, or damage to, property or any part of the environment; or b. a threat is made that causes a person to have a reasonable suspicion that an explosive substance or hazardous substance is being or will be used as referred to in paragraph (a); or c. it is reasonably suspected that an explosive substance or hazardous substance is being or will be used as referred to in paragraph (a).
Hot Zone	The area immediately surrounding the incident, which extends far enough to prevent adverse effects associated with either an explosive device or an agent affecting personnel outside the Zone.
Identification	The clear and qualitative determination of which hazardous material is present.
Mass Decontamination	The planned and structured procedure for the decontamination of a large number of casualties.
Mitigation	The actions necessary to minimise risk and impact to life, property and the environment in a HAZMAT emergency. It includes activities that are carried out by other agencies and industry as part of their statutory obligations to reduce the frequency of occurrence, and the severity of impact, of HAZMAT emergencies, including inspection programs.
Monitoring	A continuous or periodic process of qualitatively or quantitatively determining the presence, absence or level of a hazardous material.

Term	Definition
Neutralisation	Neutralisation is the process of applying acids or bases to a spill to form a neutral salt. The application of solids for neutralizing can often result in confinement of the spilled material. One of the advantages of neutralization is that a hazardous material can be rendered non-hazardous.
Orphan Hazardous Materials	Orphan hazardous materials are materials in which the 'owner' of the materials cannot be found to cover the cost for clean-up. They may also be materials in which the chemical composition and degree of hazard are unknown.
Radiological Agent	Any radioactive substance, which could be used in a CBR event to create a radiation hazard to humans or cause disruption to the community.
Sample	A small part selected for inspection or analysis.
Special Operations Advisor (SOA)	A DFES officer who is trained in emergency management and hazardous materials emergencies, to coordinate the technical functions of the HEAT to assist the Incident Controller.
State Waters	As defined in the EM Regulations : a. all waters within the limits of the State; and b. all coastal waters of the State within the meaning given in the *Coastal Waters (State Powers) Act 1980 (Commonwealth)* section 3(1).
Terrorist Act	Actions or threats intended to advance a political, ideological or religious cause by coercing or intimidating an Australian or foreign government or the public, by causing serious harm to people or property, creating a serious risk of health and safety to the public, disrupting trade, critical infrastructure or electronic systems. As defined in the *Commonwealth Criminal Code Act 1995* section 100.1.

Term	Definition
Warm Zone	The area surrounding the Hot Zone where personnel and equipment decontamination and Hot Zone support takes place. It includes control points for the access corridor and thus assists in reducing the spread of contamination.

B2 Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Meaning
AFAC	Australasian Fire and Emergency Services Authorities Council
AIIMS	Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System
CCOSC	Commissioners and Chief Officers Strategic Committee
COMCEN	Communication Centre
COMDISPLAN	Commonwealth Disaster Plan
DFES	Department of Fire and Emergency Services
DG	Dangerous Goods
DMIRS	Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety
DMO	Duty Mapping Officer
DoT	Department of Transport
DPIRD	Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development
DWER	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
EHO	Environmental Health Officer
FES Commissioner	Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner
FES-ERG	Fire and Emergency Services – Emergency Response Guide
FLC	Field Liaison Chemist
FLO	Field Liaison Officer
GIS	Geospatial Information Systems
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials
HCC	Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) Coordination Committee
HEAT	HAZMAT Emergency Advisory Team

Abbreviation	Meaning
HMA	Hazard Management Agency
IC	Incident Controller
IMT	Incident Management Team
ISG	Incident Support Group
IWF	Incident Weather Forecast
LC	Lead Chemist
LEMA	Local Emergency Management Arrangements
LEMC	Local Emergency Management Committee
LG	Local Government
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MTE	Marine Transport Emergency
OASG	Operational Area Support Group

Abbreviation	Meaning
OIC	Officer in Charge
OPP	Operational Pre Plan
PIA	Post Incident Analysis
SC	Sampling Chemist
SECG	State Emergency Coordination Group
SEMC	State Emergency Management Committee
SEWS	Standard Emergency Warning Signal
SHERP	State Health Emergency Response Plan
SOA	Special Operations Advisor
SPRED	Space Re-entry Debris
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures

Appendix C: Roles and Responsibilities

Introduction

DFES, through the FES Commissioner as the HMA, has the primary role of coordinating the response to HAZMAT emergencies.. The assistance and cooperation of other agencies and organisations operating within their functional areas are necessary for effective emergency prevention, preparation, response and recovery.

This appendix outlines the hazard specific response roles and responsibilities of agencies and organisations under this Plan, however some all-hazards information is provided. State Emergency Management Plan, Appendix E provides an outline of the all-hazards roles and responsibilities across the prevention, preparedness, response and recovery spectrum.

The EM Act, EM Regulations, State Emergency Management Policy, Plan and Procedures, State Hazard Plans and State Support Plans should be referenced for a comprehensive understanding of the roles and responsibilities within the emergency management framework.

Agency Responsibilities

The agencies will undertake the agreed responsibilities as detailed below.

Note: The capability and commitment of each local government to undertake the tasks and meet the responsibilities identified in this State Hazard Plan should be confirmed by the HMA and detailed in LEMAs. This will ensure the varying capacity and capabilities of individual local governments are recognised.

Overarching

Organisation	Overarching Roles and Responsibilities
Department of Fire and Emergency Services	**Role:** Supporting the FES Commissioner in their role as the HMA a. Manage the adverse effects of a HAZMAT emergency across the prevention, preparedness, response and recovery spectrum. b. Undertake operational lessons management activities

Prevention and Mitigation

Organisation	Prevention and Mitigation responsibilities for HAZMAT emergencies
Department of Fire and Emergency Services	**Role:** Supporting the FES Commissioner in their role as the HMA a. Maintain a proactive role in the prevention and mitigation aspects of the chemical, radiation or other substances hazard.
Approved Emergency Responders (Dangerous Goods Transport)	a. Maintain all the requirements for accreditation, identified by the DMIRS for the Class or Division of DG for which the proponent intends providing a clean-up service
Consignors / Prime Contractors	a. To operate their services safely and in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

Preparedness

Organisation	Preparedness responsibilities for HAZMAT emergencies
Department of Fire and Emergency Services	**Role:** Supporting the FES Commissioner in their role as the HMA as the Controlling Agency for HAZMAT emergencies a. Review and maintain the SHP - HAZMAT emergencies. b. Provide and maintain the HEAT meeting room and associated facilities.
ChemCentre	a. Maintain detection/analytical equipment (as identified in the ChemCentre/DFES MOU).
Consignors / Prime Contractors	a. Ensure emergency plans are in place for DG transport, including contracts with approved emergency responders.
Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS)	a. Maintain approval process for Approved Emergency Responders according to the *Dangerous Goods Safety (Road and Rail Transport of Non-explosives) Regulations 2007*.
Industry owners/ operators	a. To have available a well-documented and tested contingency plan for coping with HAZMAT emergencies occurring on their facility. b. To ensure employees have proper training and skills to handle on-site HAZMAT emergencies. c. To co-operate with their Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) by participating in the local planning process. d. To participate in mutual aid arrangements with other similar industries in the LG area.

Organisation	Preparedness responsibilities for HAZMAT emergencies
Water Corporation	a. Support district and local emergency management committees; b. Plan for the provision of alternative safe drinking water, as required; c. Develop and maintain arrangements to protect and ensure the resilience of its critical water assets ; and d. Provide advice on non-local authority water supply, drainage, sewerage and public irrigation systems.

Response

Organisation	Response responsibilities for HAZMAT emergencies
Approved Emergency Responders (Dangerous Goods Transport)	a. Respond to the incident site as required, and upon handover by the IC, conduct a site clean-up and disposal under supervision of the Local Recovery Coordinating Group. b. Ensure compliance with written handover processes from response to recovery phase.
Arc Infrastructure Pty Ltd	a. Be contactable on a 24/7 basis. b. Provide on-site railway advice and assistance in support of the railway emergency. c. Arrange provision of appropriate resources support, if available, including equipment for the emergency. d. Assist DFES in establishing railway area security during the emergency. e. Provide support on-site communication facilities. f. Provide a written report and/or participate in posts operation debriefs on the emergency as required.

Organisation	Response responsibilities for HAZMAT emergencies
ChemCentre	a. Be contactable and available on a 24/7 basis. b. Provide a representative to the HEAT. c. Provide, maintain and operate a mobile response laboratory, for the purpose of detecting, identifying, and monitoring hazardous materials or substances, involved in the HAZMAT emergency on a 24/7 basis. d. Provide competent chemical response personnel as an on-scene HEAT representative. e. Provide competent on-site team leader (FLC) an on-site specialist. f. When operating on-site, provide written advice/documentation to the IC, through the FLO, using the proformas as agreed with the HMA. g. Provide on-site Hot Zone triage capability by providing a Lead Chemist (LC) and Sampling Chemist (SC) capable of entering the Hot Zone, operating detection equipment, and collecting samples of hazardous materials. . h. Perform Hot Zone sampling for biological agents using agreed protocols for subsequent biological agent identification by PathWest. i. Provide appropriate sampling equipment with instructions for their use by DFES personnel, either for on-site incident management or off-site environmental monitoring by DWER personnel. j. Provide information with respect to any potential chemical incompatibilities, methods of neutralization, including any reactivity with any media used to control the hazardous materials and substances. k. If required, confirm adequacy of decontamination procedures applied to equipment and personal protective equipment. l. Provide a written report and/or participate in post operation debriefs on the emergency as required.

Organisation	Response responsibilities for HAZMAT emergencies
Consignors / Prime Contractors	a. Keep Industry Owners and Operators informed of the movement of all their vehicles on task. b. Be contactable on a 24/7 basis. c. Provide technical advice as required. d. Provide an on-site representative as required. e. Assist the IC at the site of the incident. f. Provide appropriate equipment including neutralising and/or absorption agents to enable incident mitigation. g. Provide the Director, (Dangerous Goods Petroleum), DMIRS with an incident report in accordance with the *Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004* and *Regulations*. h. Provide a written report and/or to participate in post operation debriefs on the emergency as required.
Department of Communities	a. Provide emergency relief and support services to the community in line with the State Support Plan - Emergency Relief and Support.
Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)	**Role**: Discharge the duties of HMA and Controlling Agency for HAZMAT emergencies, in accordance with the Emergency Management Act 2005 and State EM Policy section 5 and State EM Plan section 5. a. Mobilise DFES resources, and as required, assemble HEAT, ISG, OASG. b. Nominate an IC for each HAZMAT emergency according to AIIMS. c. Ensure a SOA and FLO are available and contactable on a 24/7 basis. d. Establish an on-site Incident Control Point or Incident Control Centre and in consultation with SOA/HEAT, determine the Hot, Warm and Cold Zone perimeters. e. In consultation with SOA/HEAT, determine the requirement for evacuation or shelter-in-place, and execute as necessary. f. Assist with the identification of the hazardous materials or substances involved.

Organisation	Response responsibilities for HAZMAT emergencies
Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) (cont.)	g. Assist ChemCentre personnel with respect to site entry, sample collection and agent identification. h. Provide on-site assessment in association with ChemCentre as required. i. Assist ambulance personnel with respect to site entry, patient triage, treatment and rescue. j. Undertake mass decontamination procedures as required. k. Task and coordinate participating agencies. l. Maintain a record of activities. m. If required, provide assistance during clean-up of the site. n. In consultation with SOA/HEAT, ensure the preparation and approval of public information. o. Arrange a debriefing of participants immediately following an emergency. p. Manage HEAT through the deployment of the SOA and the FLO. q. Maintain a composite database on hazardous materials and substances to provide immediate first strike information. r. If required, undertake a Post Incident Analysis (PIA) and/or a Post Operation Report in accordance with State Emergency Management Policy section 5.11 and State Emergency Management Plan section 5.7. s. Assist the WA Police Force and other relevant agencies [e.g. DMIRS] in determining the cause of the emergency.

Organisation	Response responsibilities for HAZMAT emergencies
Department of Health (WA Health)	**Role:** Coordinate the overall health response. a. Protect health facilities from contamination. b. Provide prophylaxis to those exposed, including first responders and other emergency staff. c. Provide a 24/7 contact for an Environmental Health Officer. d. Provide a 24/7 contact for a Toxicologist. e. Provide a 24/7 contact for a Microbiologist. f. Provide advice and information in the case of emergencies involving biological (or potentially biological hazards), which includes: i. Provide guidance to emergency services on microbiology specimen collection and other methods to assess the biohazard ii. Confirm the presence of a potential biohazard by detection in appropriate specimens using methods consistent with national best practice iii. Provide guidance on the level of biohazard where this can be determined from laboratory results iv. Provide information on the implications for biohazard containment v. Provide and maintain appropriate protective equipment for entry into a biohazard contaminated site vi. Provide surveillance or monitoring appropriate to the identified biohazard until danger has passed g. Develop and maintain laboratory tests for detection of biohazard agents consistent with national best practice. **(i) Public Health** a. Be contactable on a 24/7 basis. b. Provide a representative to the HEAT. c. Provide advice on potential dangers to public health and actions to be taken in order to mitigate the hazard effects. d. Provide detailed toxicological advice to emergency personnel, and the public as required.

Organisation	Response responsibilities for HAZMAT emergencies
Department of Health (WA Health) (cont.)	e. Prepare and maintain a public health response and recovery plan for public advice, health surveillance and medical testing. f. Provide a written report and/or participate in post operation debriefs on the emergency as required. **(ii) Medical Care** a. Provide advice on the need for special medical care as may be required for casualties / exposure to an identified chemical hazard. b. Coordinate the provision of specialised medical care both at the site of the HAZMAT incident and any secondary / tertiary medical care of the victims. **(iii) Radiological Hazards** a. In the case of emergencies involving radiological [*or potentially radioactive*] hazards: i. Provide a representative to the HEAT, when requested ii. Provide a 24/7 contact for Radiation Health iii. Monitor the radioactive environment and define contaminated areas iv. Provide laboratory analysis of air, water, food and fodder samples v. Establish and direct measures to mitigate the radiological impact on public health vi. Establish human exposure criteria and assess the public health impact of radiation levels vii. Recommend measures to limit the spread of radioactive contamination viii. Direct and assist in collection of ingestion pathway samples ix. Establish procedures and make recommendations for the use of substances to prevent or reduce the effects of contamination x. Advise and assist on decontamination measures.

Organisation	Response responsibilities for HAZMAT emergencies
Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS)	a. Provide two DG on-call officers (Dangerous Goods and Critical Risks Directorate) to be contactable and available on a 24/7 basis: i. Provide a DG Officer to HEAT to provide advice on potential dangers to public safety and actions to be taken to mitigate the hazard effects ii. Deploy a DG Officer to the incident scene as required. b. Provide a WorkSafe representative to HEAT, when required, to advise on the hazard and occupational safety and health aspects and actions to be taken. c. Investigate the cause of the emergency, where applicable. d. Provide a written report and/or participate in post operation debriefs on the emergency as required.
Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development WA (DPIRD)	a. To coordinate the appropriate response to any significant disruption to primary industry. b. To coordinate animal welfare in emergencies in line with the arrangements identified in the State Support Plan Animal Welfare in Emergencies.
Department of Transport	a. Provide emergency transport (public).

Organisation	Response responsibilities for HAZMAT emergencies
Department of Transport (DoT) (Maritime Division)	a. To be contactable on a 24/7 basis. b. Provide technical advice and resources support. c. Provide a representative to the HEAT, when requested or where the marine environment may be affected. d. Provide advice to help identify the hazardous material or substance involved. e. Maintain a marine exclusion zone around the affected zone. f. Provide transport (air, sea) to support a response involving a marine HAZMAT emergency. g. Provision of advice on environmental monitoring subsequent to the spillage or release. h. Recover costs from polluter (as detailed in State Hazard Plan – Maritime Environmental Emergencies). i. Provide a written report and/or participate in post operation debriefs on the emergency as required. j. Assist with long term clean-up, when required.

Organisation	Response responsibilities for HAZMAT emergencies
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER)	a. To be contactable and available on a 24/7 basis. b. Provide a representative to the HEAT. c. Provide, maintain and operate a mobile response vehicle, for the purpose of detecting and monitoring chemicals and particulates escaping into the environment during an emergency, on a 24/7 basis. d. Provide competent environmental response personnel as an on-scene HEAT representative. e. Provide and maintain trained personnel in the use of appropriate protective equipment for entry into the contaminated zone if required. f. Provide environmental monitoring during the emergency response phase for off-site impacts in air and water and provide advice on the impacts to the IC, through the FLO, in writing using the proformas as agreed with the HMA. g. Provide advice on minimisation of impacts on the environment, including containment, confinement and clean-up, decontamination, minimisation of wastes, and waste disposal. h. Assist to identify zones of containment. i. Carry out perimeter air and water monitoring and sampling. j. Identify resources required for decontamination of the environment and clean up. k. Coordinate post-incident environmental sampling and provide interpretation of environmental monitoring data and results where required. l. Provide a written report and/or participate in post operation debriefs on the emergency as required.

Organisation	Response responsibilities for HAZMAT emergencies
Industry Owners and Operators	a. To immediately advise the DFES Communications Centre via 000 of any emergencies involving HAZMAT which have occurred on their facility that require activation of State Hazard Plan – HAZMAT. b. To assist the emergency services in coping with a HAZMAT emergency caused by their facility either on-site or off-site by making available their own resources. c. To be contactable on a 24/7 basis. d. To provide specialist advice as required. e. To supply information on the availability and location of neutralising agents and associated special equipment for dealing with HAZMAT emergencies. f. Provide a written report and/or participate in post operation debriefs and investigations on the emergency as required.
Local Government (LG)	a. Maintain liaison with the HMA and be contactable on a 24/7 basis. b. Provide advice, technical drawings and maps on LG drains, water and sewerage systems. c. Provide resources support at the request of the HMA. d. Provide advice through the local Environmental Health Officer (EHO). e. Provide a written report and/or participate in post operation debriefs on the emergency as required.

Organisation	Response responsibilities for HAZMAT emergencies
St John WA	a. To attend at the site of a HAZMAT emergency and undertake obligations as per–the State Health Emergency Response Plan. b. To activate the St John WA Emergency Management Plan (AmbPlan-WA) which provides for pre-hospital mass triage, pre-hospital care and the transport of casualties to hospital. c. Provide a representative to HEAT when required. d. Provide suitably qualified paramedics to assist the HMA, with the triage and extrication of casualties from the Hot Zone. e. Administer basic treatment to casualties in the Hot Zone, including the use of antidotes, and where appropriate, authorized by the State Health Coordinator. f. Assist with the decontamination of casualties and provide patient treatment. g. Transport of casualties from the Casualty Clearing Post to the appropriate hospital facility as directed by the Ambulance Network Coordinator or the State Health Incident Coordination Centre. h. Provide a written report and/or participate in post operation debriefs on the emergency as required.
Water Corporation	a. Support ISG, OASG, AHLG and the SECG during an emergency; b. Provide advice to the Controlling Agency on water and wastewater services; c. Provide a liaison officer to operations and coordination centres, or control points as requested and appropriate; d. Minimise disruption to the water supply and wastewater system, and the impact to people, properties and the environment from interruptions, contaminations and overflows; and e. Be contactable on a 24/7 basis.

Organisation	Response responsibilities for HAZMAT emergencies
WA Police Force	a. To assist the Controlling Agency in dealing with HAZMAT emergencies. b. Incident Control, where agreed between the Controlling Agency and WA Police Force. c. Provide a representative to HEAT when required. d. Ensure a member from the Emergency Operations Unit is contactable and available on a 24/7 basis. e. Assemble the SECG if required. f. In the absence of the Controlling Agency, assume the role of IC, until such time as a DFES Officer arrives. g. Assist in the conduct of evacuations, traffic management, crowd control and other response activities to protect the public, where safe to do so, on the request of the Controlling Agency. h. Registration of casualties. i. Fatalities (Disaster Victim Identification protocols). j. Investigate the cause of the emergency together with other agencies as appropriate. k. Provide a written report and/or participate in post operation debriefs on the emergency as required.

Recovery

Organisation	Recovery responsibilities for HAZMAT emergencies
Department of Fire and Emergency Services	**Role**: Supporting the FES Commissioner as HMA and DFES as Controlling Agency in initiating both relief and recovery activities. a. Commence recovery activities during the response phase in accordance with State EM Policy section 6 and State EM Plan section 6.

Organisation	Recovery responsibilities for HAZMAT emergencies
Arc Infrastructure	a. Arrange for the recovery and/or safe disposal of residual goods, after the emergency has been declared safe by the Controlling Agency.
Consignors / Prime Contractors	a. Assume responsibility for recovery and/or safe disposal of residual goods, damaged equipment and property and/or contaminated soils and water following the situation being rendered safe for recovery. b. Ensure site clean-up and ensure restoration to its original condition as much as reasonably possible.
Industry Owners and Operators	a. To ensure recovery and/or safe disposal of any product residues after the scene has been rendered safe. b. Assist with long term clean-up, when required.
Local Government (LG)	a. Develop a Local Recovery Plan in accordance with the *Emergency Management Act 2005*. b. Manage community recovery process in consultation with the HMA. c. Coordinate long-term community recovery, in accordance with the Local Recovery Plan, when required.
Water Corporation	a. Restore Water Corporation water supplies and wastewater systems in consultation with the Controlling Agency or the designated recovery coordinator. b. Assist with the provision of safe drinking water to affected communities within its area of responsibility, until normal water services are restored. c. Ensure water quality delivered by Water Corporation meets appropriate health standards. d. Provide information or participate in post-operation debriefs as required by the Controlling Agency.

Appendix D: HAZMAT Emergency Advisory Team (HEAT)

Role

To assist with the management of the HAZMAT emergencies.

Functions

a. Assist with identification of the hazardous materials or substances.

b. Provide technical advice.

c. Advise the IC on:

   i. the nature of the hazards (to people, property and the environment)

   ii. potential impacts

   iii. the level of protection for responders

   iv. evacuation requirements and distances required

   v. neutralising agents

   vi. recovery measures.

d. Advise Media Liaison Representatives from either DFES or the WA Police Force.

e. Advise the IC when the situation can be declared safe, and stand down procedures commence.

f. Contribute to the debrief session before leaving.

g. Provide a detailed briefing to the Local Recovery Coordination Group if required.

h. Collect information with respect to their own agencies statutory functions.

i. Have input into a PIA.

Composition

Core members

- Department of Fire and Emergency Services
- ChemCentre WA
- Department of Water and Environment Regulation
- Department of Health, Environmental Health
- Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Dangerous Goods and Critical Risks Directorate
- WA Police Force.

Non-Core members

- Water Corporation
- Department of Transport, Maritime Division
- Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, (Worksafe)
- St John Ambulance Australia (WA) Inc
- Department of Health, Radiation Health.

Note: Core members are required to attend all emergencies when HEAT is activated. Non-core members attend as requested.

Other HEAT members

- **DFES GIS.** Mapping support can be provided through the DFES Spatial Services Unit. The on-call Duty Mapping Officer (DMO) provides out of hours support under State Operations Centre arrangements and can be contacted as per DFES Weekly State Duty Roster.
- **Co-opted members for HEAT.** Representatives from other agencies or departments may be co- opted to serve on the HEAT, e.g. Main Roads WA. Depending on the situation other specialist advisors such as local Shire or industry representatives may also be co-opted as determined by the Incident Controller and the HEAT.

HEAT Deployment

Upon advice from the designated DFES Officer, HEAT will either proceed to the HEAT meeting room at the Emergency Services Complex, Cockburn Central, or on scene according to agreed response protocols and needs of the incident or attend a video conference.

Appendix E: HAZMAT Coordinating Committee (HCC)

Established by Cabinet 8 May 1989. It reports to the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC).

Role

To provide advice and support to the SEMC, Government agencies, industry, commerce and the community to ensure an efficient emergency management capability for hazardous materials emergencies, in the State of Western Australia.

HCC Terms of reference

a. Assist the HMA to develop, maintain, monitor and test State Hazard Plan – HAZMAT.

b. Keep SEMC informed about the State's emergency management capability as it pertains to HAZMAT.

c. Review incidents to make recommendations in respect to the prevention of, preparedness for, response to and recovery from HAZMAT emergencies.

d. Provide a multi-agency forum for:

   i. the resolution of issues associated with HAZMAT emergency management arrangements

   ii. to assist in the development of HAZMAT policy for SEMC.

e. To raise awareness and provide advice to agencies and the broader community about emergency management arrangements with respect to HAZMAT.

Composition

- Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES), Special Operations (Chair)
- Australian Association of Port and Marine Authorities
- Chamber of Commerce and Industry of WA
- ChemCentre
- Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS). One (1) representative from Dangerous Goods and Critical Risks Directorate and one (1) from Worksafe
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER)
- Department of Health, Environmental Health Directorate and Disaster Preparedness and Management Unit (DMPU)
- Department of Transport, Marine Safety Branch
- DFES, Operations Capability (including Committee Secretariat)
- Water Corporation
- WA Police Force
- Western Australian Local Government Association
- Arc Infrastructure (Rail).

Meetings

The HCC shall meet biannually, or as required.

For CBR related agenda items, the committee composition may from time to time invite representation from:

- Australian Defence Force (ADF)
- Australian Federal Police (AFP)
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD)
- St John Ambulance Australia
- The Western Australian Centre for Pathology and Medical Research (PathWest).

