



# Emergency Relief and Support

## LEMC REPORT FOR DISTRIBUTION

4<sup>TH</sup> Quarter 2024 – 2025

### Regional Emergency Relief and Support contact

Activation of Emergency Relief and Support (ERS) services is via  
Communities Emergency Operations Coordinator (EOC)

[Redacted]

Regional Officer:

[Redacted]

Regional Coordinator:

[Redacted]

Regional Manager:

[Redacted]

### Regional Specific Update

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### ERS Preparedness

- As we transition between the high and lower threat season, ERS continues to monitor and prepare for event activation.
- In addition, ERS will utilise this period to improve preparedness including:
  - Collating and analysing the lessons learnt from recent activations and developing procedures to streamline our practises.
  - Identifying opportunities for locations of pre-positioning of ERS equipment trailers to support an efficient and timely deployment and response capability.
  - Continued mapping across the state for local support services and partners that can support the provision of the ERS functional domains
  - Provide ERS Evacuation Centre training with local government and Communities staff, across the regions.
  - Finalise the endorsement of the refined Local Emergency Response and Support Plan (LERSP) in each of the LEMCs. The LERSP details the operational management and coordination of ERS under the Western Australian (WA) Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMAs).
  - Developing Exercising to test the LERSP across local government areas
  - Supporting local government LEMA exercising and providing feedback to LEMA reviews.
  - Continuing annual evacuation centre audits for each of the 380 evacuation centres in the state.

## Response

### Activations January 2025 – April 10, 2025

- Carter Road Bushfire - Northam | January
- Green Range Bushfire - Albany | January
- Donnybrook Bushfire - Capel | January
- Myrup Bushfire - Esperance | January
- Karrakup Bushfire Complex - Serpentine Jarrahdale | January
- Marble Bar Storm | January
- Northam Bushfire - Northam and Bruce Rock | January
- Arthur River Bushfire Complex | January
- Dalyup Bushfire – Esperance | February
- Tropical Cyclone Zelia – Pilbara | February
- Dunsborough Bushfire – Busselton | February
- Bindoon Bushfire – Chittering | February
- Perth Hills Storm | February
- Chesapeake Bushfire – Manjimup | March
- Ledge Point Bushfire – Lancelin | March
- Nilgen Bushfire – Lancelin | March

In addition, ERS enacted alert phase preparedness and planning to support pre-positioning of staff and resources for:

- Tropical Cyclone Sean – Pilbara | January
- Shothole Canyon Bushfire – Exmouth | March
- TL 28U Kimberley | March
- Jurien Bay Bushfire | April

## Recovery

### Social Recovery Reference Group

- The Emergency Relief and Support Directorate is a key member of the National Social Recovery Reference Group. This group has been established to guide and support the review process of the National Principles for Disaster Recovery to ensure they remain relevant, effective, and responsive to contemporary challenges, emerging trends, and diverse community needs in disaster recovery contexts.
- These principles are designed to serve as a guide to best practices in recovery efforts across the nation, ensuring a consistent and scalable approach to disaster recovery.

### Marble Bar Recovery Program

- Communities' remains focused on supporting impacted persons of both the Marble Bar Storm and Cyclone Zelia with financial assistance to replace lost household goods and personal wellbeing support.

## Recovery

### Kimberley Floods Recovery Program

ERS continues to engage with stakeholders, impacted community members and local Aboriginal organisations and community leaders to address recovery concerns and provide support regarding the return to home journey process.

- ERS continue to support impacted community members with practical supports to move home:
  - Supporting with replacement of essential household items under financial assistance measures, with over \$740k provided to date.
  - Referrals to wrap around personal, practical, psychosocial and wellbeing services.
  - Engaging across staff from Recovery Program agencies and Local Government to ensure consistent messaging for impacted community members and referral pathways for support services.
  - Communicating with impacted residents and chairpersons of communities.

Since the Return to Home Journey began in September 2024, ERS have facilitated and supported moving 37 families into their long-term homes and/or other residences, with a total of 26 Temporary Accommodation Units (TAUs) vacated to date.

### Bunbury Storms Recovery Program

- The DFRAWA Recovery Support program for the 2024 Bunbury Storms will officially close on 30 June 2025. During this time, Communities' will continue to deliver financial assistance to support impacted persons with the replacement of essential household items damaged during the storms and with financial assistance for essential building repairs to impacted residential properties.
- Communities' will also continue to support ongoing referrals for personal and wellbeing support services including psychological support and Financial Counselling.
- To acknowledge one year since the Bunbury storms, a Bunbury Community Recovery and Resilience Connection Day was held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2025 run by the Lions Club and supported by Communities, DFES, Salvation Army, Red Cross, Anglicare Financial Counselling Bunbury and various local and support groups.