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COMMUNIQUÉ

Australia-New Zealand Emergency Management Committee Meeting

27 August 2019

A meeting of the Australia-New Zealand Emergency Management Committee (ANZEMC) was held on 27 February 2019 in Melbourne, Victoria. Representatives were present from all Australian jurisdictions, New Zealand and the Australian Local Government Association.

SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES

[The Ministerial Council for Police and Emergency Management \(MCPEM\) meeting held on 28 June 2019](#)

The Australia-New Zealand Emergency Management Committee (ANZEMC) noted the outcomes of the Ministerial Council for Police and Emergency Management (MCPEM) meeting that was held on 28 June 2019 in Adelaide, South Australia. The Ministerial Council endorsed a number of initiatives in recognition of the ongoing challenge Australia and New Zealand face with the increasing frequency and intensity of disasters. The ANZEMC discussed the next steps in progressing these initiatives.

[Blood Testing of Firefighters for Per- and Poly fluoroalkyl Substances \(ACT\)](#)

The ANZEMC members noted the update on proposed research activities by the Australasian Fire And Emergency Services Authorities Council (AFAC) and the Monash University on the extent of exposure to Per- and Poly fluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) among firefighters, especially those at airports.

[Implementing the National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework \(Cth\)](#)

The ANZEMC agreed to commence driving immediate national implementation of the National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework through governance and accountability arrangements tailored to deliver meaningful risk reduction outcomes across governments and the economy.

[Update on Public Safety Mobile Broadband \(Cth\)](#)

The ANZEMC noted the continued progress towards a national Public Safety Mobile Broadband (PSMB) capability that supports Australia's first responders to better protect the community, and that meets the needs of jurisdictions and their public safety agencies.

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[Australasian Arrangement for Interstate Assistance \(AIA\) – 2019 Version \(Cth\)](#)

The ANZEMC endorsed the Guiding Principles outlined in the Australasian Arrangement for Interstate Assistance (AIA) 2019. ANZEMC members agreed to the Guiding Principles of the AIA being presented to the Ministerial Council for Police and Emergency Management (MCPEM) for endorsement.

[Australian Fire Danger Rating System \(NSW\)](#)

The ANZEMC endorsed revised the Terms of Reference for the Program Board to reflect the new objectives as outlined in the approved Phase 3 Program Management Plan, and noted the update to the program name – from National Fire Danger Rating System to Australian Fire Danger Rating System. ANZEMC also noted the findings of the extensive national social research project into fire danger ratings, and the planned national consultation forums to develop the new Fire Danger Rating Framework.

[Update on Triple Zero outage recommendations, upgrades to Triple Zero service and ACMA review of the Telecommunications \(Emergency Call Service\) Determination 2009 \(Cth\)](#)

The ANZEMC noted that the Department of Communications and the Arts (DoCA) is continuing to work with stakeholders to track and implement the eleven recommendations of its Investigation Report into the Triple Zero Service Disruptions of 4 & 26 May 2018, with five recommendations fully implemented. DoCA is working with Telstra to implement a new Internet Protocol-based platform for the Triple Zero Emergency Call Service, with the rollout in its final stages. DoCA and Telstra are also progressing the implementation of the Advanced Mobile Location (AML) solution to automatically provide location coordinates for mobile callers to Triple Zero in Australia.

[High Risk and Hazardous Industrial Waste and Presentation \(Vic.\)](#)

Dr. Cathy Wilkinson, Chief Executive Officer, Environment Protection Authority Victoria gave a presentation to the ANZEMC outlining the cross-agency response to waste crime to address risks from high risk and hazardous industrial waste sites in Victoria following several major incidents at licensed and illegal waste sites.

Victoria's response has included establishing cross-agency prevention and response framework, and a range of operational taskforces and inspection programs to pro-actively identify and inspect high-risk sites and take compliance actions to regulate the storage and disposal of illegal and hazardous waste.

[2030: A Strategy for the Emergency Management Sector in Victoria \(Vic.\)](#)

Australia-New Zealand Emergency Management Committee noted that Victoria has commenced development of the '2030: A Strategy for the Emergency Management Sector in Victoria' (the 2030 Strategy). The 2030 Strategy will provide a vision for the Victorian emergency management sector in 2030, based on a wide-ranging analysis of the drivers of change, future risk scenarios and future community needs and expectations of the emergency management sector.

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Victorian Family Violence Framework in Emergencies (Vic.)

An update on the Victoria's Family Violence Framework for Emergency Management (the Framework) was provided to the ANZEMC. The Framework aims to support planning and response to family violence during emergencies by outlining:

- Existing family violence strategy and policy
- Opportunities for partnership between the family violence sector and the emergency management sector ('suggested actions')
- Training and resources to support emergency management workforce capability development.

The Framework is available on the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services' website <https://providers.dhhs.vic.gov.au/emergency-management>

ANZEMC Sub-committees and Working Group Update – Community Outcomes and Recovery Sub-committee (CORS) (QLD)

The ANZEMC was provided with an update on the status of the Community Outcomes and Recovery Sub-committee, its work plan projects and other activities.

National Flood Warning Infrastructure Working Group Final Paper Recommendations (National Framework and Standard) (Cth)

The ANZEMC Committee endorsed the National Framework for Flood Warning Infrastructure and the Flood Warning Infrastructure Standard. The Framework provides guidance for future flood warning infrastructure planning and investment, based on jurisdictional analyses of their flood warning infrastructure. The Standard presents non-mandatory, industry-recommended performance requirements for the design, development and monitoring of fit-for-purpose flood warning infrastructure. These products will guide future flood warning infrastructure investments in a consolidated, integrated and cost-efficient manner, to enhance flood warnings to the community.

Time-limited Working Groups Update (Cth)

The Australia-New Zealand Emergency Management Committee noted the updates provided by the National Public Safety Communications Capability Strategy, Register.Find.Reunite, Sendai Framework and the National Heatwave Time-limited Working Groups.

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