

## Industry Briefing National Public Safety Mobile Broadband Program National Emergency Management Agency

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### Industry Briefing National Public Safety Mobile Broadband Program Agenda

ltem		Lead	Time Allocated	
1.	Welcome	Joe Buffone Deputy Coordinator-General, Emergency Management Response Group	5 minutes	
	National PSMB Program including:			
	- Overview and Approach		20 minutes	
2.	- Current State	Bradley Creevey		
	- Pathway to Delivering a National Capability	Assistant Coordinator General, PSMB		
	<ul> <li>Industry Engagement Plan</li> </ul>	Taskforce		
4.	Questions		30 minutes	
5.	Close		5 minutes	



## **The Current State**

Australian Public Safety Agencies (PSAs) are largely reliant on land mobile radio (LMR) networks.

No national single standard for radio equipment or unified radio network exists.

- Limited data services
- Inadequate Availability
- Lack of Priority
- Insufficient Coverage
- Not enabled for cross-border or cross-organisational communications
- Do not meet mission-critical standards

During the 2019-20 bushfire season, over 7,305 interstate and international personnel were deployed to support other jurisdictions. With no national single standard for radio equipment or unified radio network, PSAs were unable to communicate with one another - 2020 Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements.



# **A PSMB Capability for Australia**



- Improved communications across the different services and geographic boundaries.
- Data-rich, reliable and modern communications technologies.
  - Critical applications maps, weather, location information etc.
  - Situation media video and images from vehicles, bodycams, drones and other sources.
  - Other data duress signals, floorplans, weapons permits, health records etc.

Ensuring first responders have access to reliable communications services during emergencies is critical to improving safety outcomes of PSA personnel and the Australian Public and mitigating damage to property.



### Public Safety Mobile Broadband

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#### STRATEGIC TECHNOLOGICAL CAPABILITY

Enabling the right help, at the right time, in the right place.

#### **11 National Objectives** Agreed through COAG in 2018

- 1. Delivered through national cooperation and tailored to meet each jurisdiction's needs and circumstances.
- 2. Support services and applications that PSAs need to use.
- 3. Coverage where PSAs need it.
- 4. Ensure that those communications which matter most will get through first.
- 5. Have the capacity to manage the volume of communications required and to expand as needed.
- 6. Be available when PSAs need it.
- 7. Be secure.
- 8. Enable interoperable public safety communications.
- 9. Be accessible on any fit-for-purpose device.
- 10. Complement and, where appropriate, be integrated in existing public safety communications systems.
- 11. Based on open standards to ensure the technology can evolve and is more cost effective and efficient.

#### **Additional National Objectives** PSMB Strategic Review – *Rec. 3*

- 1. Transparency so that PSAs have visibility of the planned and operational status of a Mobile Network Operator's network.
- 2. Affordability so that any investments in a PSMB capability represent value for money, and service costs remain affordable for PSAs.

Commercial spectrum with pre-emption, prioritisation and quality of service

Early adoption of new features as they are standardised and commercialised

#### Dedicated core

Support for interworking (i.e connect, communicate and exchange data) with legacy systems e.g. Land Mobile Radio (LMR)





# **National PSMB Capability - Benefits**

#### Economies of Scale

An approach to market to deliver a National PSMB Capability allows the Commonwealth to leverage purchasing power and economies of scale that delivers better quality of service, lower costs and technology lifecycle to all jurisdictions.



Aggregation and integration of multiple networks which increases coverage and resilience

Allowing PSMB users to roam between multiple networks maximises coverage and increases resilience by allowing users to fall-back to other networks when outages are encountered on any single network.

### **Prioritised Public Safety Agency traffic**

PSMB data is prioritised over commercial usage which lessens the impact of network congestion.



#### Interoperability between, agencies, states and networks

PSAs can better communicate with each other, assist other jurisdictions and communicate with LMR users.



#### Increased transparency of communications status

PSAs have a live view of the status of broadband connectivity across the state and hazards that may compromise the network.



#### Additional control over the security of PSA data

Further control over the security of PSA data is provided by separating PSMB and commercial core infrastructure.

\*All above subject to requirements gathering, solution design, commercial negotiations, implementation of legislative and/or regulatory measures



## Independent PSMB Strategic Review

- Conducted February to October 2022.
- Involved extensive, targeted consultation.
- Highlighted the complexity of implementing a PSMB capability.
- Provided a pathway for Australia.
- Recommended the Australian Government:
  - Take a leadership role in driving the delivery of a national PSMB capability.
  - Lead negotiations of an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) with state and territory governments.

### **Australian Government Response**

- > Agreed, or agreed in principle, to all 12 recommendations.
- Committed \$10.1 million to establish and fund the operations of a PSMB Taskforce over 2023-24 and 2024-25 financial years.

The Final Report of the 2022 PSMB Strategic Review and the Australian Government's Response are available at https://nema.gov.au/Public-Safety-Mobile-Broadband





### PUBLIC SAFETY MOBILE BROADBAND TASKFORCE



**Time-limited:** 2023-24 and 2024-25

**Commenced Operations August 2023** 

Responsible for taking forward the recommendations of the 2022 PSMB Strategic Review:

To create the framework that drives the delivery of the PSMB to Public Safety Agencies nationally.

Speciality skills and expertise Led by National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

### Supported by:

- Cth agencies inc. Dept. Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications & the Arts (DITRDCA)
- State and territory stakeholders



## Australia's PSMB Timeline

	2009		2015	<b>→</b>	2018		2020		2021	<b>→</b>	2022	→	2023
•	PSMB concept born out of major bushfires in Victoria. Council of Australian Governments (COAG) endorse National Framework to Improve Government Radio Communications Interoperability.	•	Productivity Commission delivers a 'first principles' analysis of the best way to deliver an interoperable PSMB capability in Australia.		COAG agrees to implement a Strategic Roadmap that sets out a plan to design, implement and operate a national PSMB. Roadmap includes endorsement of 11 National Objectives to be incorporated into a PSMB capability.	•	Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements – Recommends that Aust., state and territory gov/ts expedite delivery of a PSMB (Rec. 6.4).	•	National Proof of Concept (PoC) Trial commences.	•	Aust. Gov/t commissions independent PSMB Strategic Review. PSMB Strategic Review conducted. National PoC completed.	•	Aust. Gov/t responds to recommendations of PSMB Strategic Review Aust. Gov/t commits \$10.1m to establish PSMB Taskforce. PSMB Taskforce established to take forward recommendations of PSMB Strategic Review.



### **National PSMB Implementation Pathway**

#### Note: Implementation Timeframes are Indicative and will be informed by the Market Approach





# **Industry Engagement**

- December 2023
  - Industry briefing
- January February 2024
  - Industry invited to engage with the PSMB Taskforce individually to provide information on their current and potential service and technical offerings.
- > April July 2024
  - Industry Briefing(s) conducted as part of Approach to Market Request for Information
- ➢ July September 2025
  - Industry Briefing(s) conducted as part of Approach to Market Request for Tender



Management Agency

Public Safety Mobile Broadband



## **Questions?**