

# CCSP26

## Bush Fire Volunteer Services Policy



September 2018

**This policy was adopted by Council to set governing principles in place that align the strategic direction of the organisation through all five key focus areas of the Community Strategic Plan 2036.**

### Objectives

To ensure the provision of an effective volunteer bush fire firefighting service within the Shire of Augusta Margaret River

### Strategy

In supporting effective and timely delivery of this objective, the Shire will:

- Establish and maintain a bush fire organisation in accordance with Part IV of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* (as amended)
- Manage the risk for residents of the Augusta Margaret River Shire from bush fires and structural fires in rural areas, where they are not under the jurisdiction of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)
- Provide DFES endorsed training to its Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade members
- Provide appropriate Personal Protective Clothing / Equipment to its trained Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade members
- Provide adequate insurance cover for its Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade members
- Provide and maintain to industry standards Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade buildings / infrastructure and a response vehicle fleet in line with Emergency Services Levy provision
- Provide a mobile phone and annual allowance to cover nominal travel for the Chief and Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officers to offset personal costs associated with fulfilling their official roles
- Involve nominated Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade representatives in the development of fire risk planning initiatives including Shire Emergency Management Arrangements, Brigade level plans and the Bush Fire Risk Management Planning (BRMP) process
- Support recruitment campaigns for Shire Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades where required
- Contribute to the development and implementation of community preparedness and prevention activities
- Administer the Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) in partnership with the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, or nominated Deputy, and use as a forum to develop capacity of Brigades and resolve issues

BUSH FIRE VOLUNTEER SERVICES POLICY

- Administer the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) and invite participation from Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (or nominated proxy) to assist emergency management planning, coordination and delivery, with a focus on bush fire services

Besides dealing with fires, the Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades will be available to assist at other emergencies, but only when reasonably possible, without any obligation to do so and not where another organisation has that task as its primary duty and does not need the brigades' assistance.

## Application

Responsibility for the implementation of this Policy is delegated to the Shire's Community Emergency Services Manager. Responsibility for the coordination of firefighting activities is delegated to the Shire's Chief Bush Fire Control Officer.

The Policy is to be reviewed every three years.

Document and version control table		
<b>Strategic outcome</b>	Goals 1 -5	
<b>Responsible Directorate</b>	CEO	
<b>Authority of original issue</b>	Council	
<b>Date of original issue</b>	15 August 2015	
<b>Contact officer</b>	Community Emergency Services Manager	
<b>Date of next review</b>	July 2021	
<b>Document No.</b>	COR/11	
Version	Date issued	Brief description
1.0	15/08/2015	Initial Issue
2.0	19/09/2018	Full review