

Recommendation / Opportunity	Responsible agency	Government Response	Deliverables ahead of 2016/17 fire season	Work beyond 2016/17 fire season
<p>Recommendation 1: The State Government to explore options for streamlining the functions and the independence of the State Emergency Management Committee Secretariat and the Office of Bushfire Risk Management with a view to including an inspectorate function, and appointing a person who is dedicated to that role. The purpose is to provide assurance and reporting, and to inquire into, monitor and report transparently on emergency management standards, preparedness, capability, service delivery and investment performance outcomes. Within two years of the establishment of this arrangement the State Government to review and assess whether it is meeting the desired outcomes.</p>	State Government	<p>The Government supports this structural reform. The State Emergency Management Committee Secretariat and Office of Bushfire Risk Management will be reconstituted as the Office of Emergency Management (OEM), with a direct line of reporting to the Minister for Emergency Services.</p>	<p>SEMC Secretariat will be rebranded as the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) in recognition of its role in ensuring effective emergency management across the State. This would be accompanied by an internal restructure, to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a dedicated assurance structure within the OEM, headed by a Director, Assurance and tasked with developing an emergency management assurance framework; and • colocation of OBRM within the OEM. <p>A direct line of reporting be established (via section 74 of the <i>Public Sector Management Act (WA) 1994</i>) between the Executive Director of the OEM and the Minister for Emergency Services.</p>	<p>The OEM will replace DPC as the Chair of the Ferguson Report Working Group, and will take leadership of tracking ongoing implementation. This will enable the OEM to undertake an effective inspectorate function in relation to bushfire.</p>
<p>Recommendation 2: The Department of Parks and Wildlife to plan for the highest priority hazard reduction burning effort around settlements and critical assets in the South West and Perth Hills. The annual objective is to treat a total of 60,000 hectares of priority hazard reduction per annum, comprising 20,000 hectares per annum of Land Management Zone A and 40,000 hectares per year of Land Management Zone B.</p>	P&W	<p>The Government supports this recommendation and it is consistent with work currently underway.</p> <p>Whilst the calculation of the size of each land management zone has been amended since the Report, this does not impact upon the conduct of burns.</p>	<p>To date there has been little progress with the 2016/17 prescribed burning program due to rainfall events preventing fuel drying to the point that it would carry low intensity fire.</p> <p>As soon as conditions allow every available opportunity will be taken to maximise prescribed burning achievement on P&W managed lands, including in utilisation of the additional Royalties for Regions funding (\$20 million over four years allocated in 2015) available for works in the South West Region. As long as drying of fuels is gradual P&W anticipate a solid achievement prior to December in the northern forests, and right up to and beyond Christmas in the southern forests.</p> <p>Additional funding of \$15 million from Royalties for Regions has also been made available to the Department of Lands to treat bushfire risk on State owned land.</p>	<p>Work will continue to address bushfire risk across zones A and B.</p>
<p>Recommendation 3: The Department of Parks and Wildlife to continue emphasis on landscape hazard reduction burning with the annual objective of treating 140,000 hectares per annum in Land Management Zone C. In combination with Recommendation 2 (above) the strategic objective will be that a fuel age of less than six years will be maintained across 45% of the landscape on State Forest, National Parks and other Parks and Wildlife managed lands in the South West and Perth Hills. This will address the current backlog (created from under achievements of the recent two decades of burn programs) by the end of the 20-21 burning season (i.e within the next 5 years)</p>	P&W	<p>The Government supports this recommendation and it is consistent with work currently underway.</p> <p>Whilst the calculation of the size of each land management zone has been amended since the Report, this does not impact upon the conduct of burns.</p>	<p>As soon as conditions allow every available opportunity will be taken to maximise prescribed burning achievement on P&W managed lands, including in utilisation of the additional Royalties for Regions funding (\$20 million over four years allocated in 2015) available for works in the South West Region. As long as drying of fuels is gradual P&W anticipate a solid achievement prior to December in the northern forests, and right up to and beyond Christmas in the southern forests.</p> <p>Additional funding of \$15 million from Royalties for Regions has also been made available to the Department of Lands to treat bushfire risk on State owned land.</p>	<p>Work will continue to address bushfire risk across zone C</p>
<p>Recommendation 4: The Departments of Parks and Wildlife and Fire and Emergency Services to develop options for the expansion of the 'Bushfire Mitigation Grant Scheme' utilising both State and</p>	DFES	<p>The Government supports this recommendation in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season.</p>	<p>The Federal Minister for Emergency Services is currently considering applications for funding through the Bushfire Mitigation Grants Scheme.</p>	<p>All funded projects will be delivered after the 16/17 fire season.</p>

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Commonwealth Government funding to enable the implementation of hazard reduction works identified through the Bushfire Risk Management Planning process. This will target hazard reduction projects on land owned by private landholders in rural-urban interface areas, critical infrastructure protection, local government land, roadsides and land managed by utilities.				
Recommendation 5: The Department of Fire and Emergency Services, utilising the Office of Bushfire Risk Management, to develop a simplified and fast track hazard reduction burn (and other fuel mitigation techniques) planning and approval process to ensure the timely conduct of township and asset protection burns by Bush Fire Brigades and individual property owners. The process is to be agile and adaptable for the range of stakeholders which may participate in low risk, small scale, low complexity burn planning and approvals.	DFES (OBRM)	The Government supports this recommendation and work has been progressed as a priority ahead of the 2016/17 bushfire season.	There will be significant progress made by way of OBRM developing a “model” Prescribed Fire Plan template and establishing recommended criterion (for its use) which proponents could use to determine when this process is utilised if they choose to do so.	This work will be linked to the review of local government “Permits to Burn”, and practitioners will be encouraged to adopt to the model template.
Recommendation 6: The State Emergency Management Committee to adopt, across all hazards, the doctrine of: - the primacy of life; - the 'Strategic Control Priorities' (as documented by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services); and - community warnings that are timely, tailored and relevant. Agencies will reinforce amongst emergency management personnel the importance of the doctrine through briefings and intent statements.	SEMC Sec	The Government supports this recommendation and work has been progressed as a priority ahead of the 2016/17 bushfire season.	SEMC to issue a policy bulletin that will reflect the Strategic Control Priorities and indicate that ‘primacy of life’ is the foremost consideration in bushfire emergency response. Westplan Fire will be annotated accordingly. A communications plan will support the release of the Bulletin.	Working towards release of revised statement of doctrine in 2017. Relevant policies will be revised to take account of ‘primacy of life’ and the strategic control priorities in an ‘all hazards’ context.
Recommendation 7: The State Government to establish an arrangement to develop a ‘network’ of Western Australian State Government agency personnel who can be called upon for bushfire and emergency incident management capability within Western Australia. The arrangement will be led by the State Emergency Management Committee and modelled on systems used by the Department of Parks and Wildlife.	SEMC Sec	The Government supports this recommendation in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season	As agencies are focussed on prioritising work in relation to recommendation 8, this has not been progressed yet.	Project to be scoped following Government decision with respect to the Rural Fire Service.
Recommendation 8: The Departments of Parks and Wildlife and Fire and Emergency Services to adopt the policy that all bushfire Level 3 Incident Management Teams in the Perth Hills and the South West will be integrated and pre-formed from the start of the 2016/17 fire season with substantial involvement of both the Departments of Parks and Wildlife and Fire and Emergency Services personnel on all teams.	DFES & P&W	The Government supports this recommendation and work has been progressed as a priority ahead of the 2016/17 bushfire season.	For the 2016 / 17 Bushfire season there will be 5 x 70 person IMTs, including a Level 3 structure and extended support roles within DFES’ Regional/Metropolitan Operations Centres (ROC/MOC). These teams will have roughly equal representation from P&W and DFES, and positions for volunteers. DFES and P&W will continue to liaise with WALGA to agree and implement role allocations (9 identified positions) to Local Government volunteers and staff by 30 September 2016 with identified training requirements completed by 1 December 2016.	Established State Bushfire Level 3 pre formed team Working Group (DFES/P&W) to convene no later than 5 May 2017 to undertake a stakeholder review of the effectiveness, inclusive of volunteer integration of the PFT implementing lessons identified by 30 July 2017. Develop and implement a State Bushfire Level 3 PFT maintenance training schedule by 30 June 2017. Develop and implement a State Bushfire Level 3 PFT “shadow” policy for succession planning by 30 June 2017. Continue to develop common Doctrine for Incident Management.
Recommendation 9: The State Emergency Management Committee, in consultation with Western Australian Farmers Federation, the Association of Bush Fire Brigades, the Contractors Association of WA, and the Forest Industries Federation of WA, to establish systems for the voluntary registration of:	SEMC Sec	The Government supports this recommendation and work has been progressed as a priority ahead of the 2016/17 bushfire season.	Pilot to be developed for commencement during the 16/17 season that will test measures to improve the uptake of existing arrangements for the use of private assets at bushfires. Aspects of this recommendation are also addressed through responses to Recommendation 13	Consolidation and more extensive roll-out pending results of pilot.

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<p>- farmer firefighting units; - contractor firefighting resources; and - forestry industry brigades.</p> <p>The purpose of this arrangement is to facilitate the safe, efficient and effective recognition, organisation, deployment, management and coordination of farmer, contractor and forestry firefighter resources. The systems would include a process for enabling access through traffic management points during bushfires. Progress towards establishing these systems is to be reported by State Emergency Management Committee in its annual preparedness report.</p>			(identification cards) and Recommendation 14 (traffic management).	
<p>Recommendation 10: The Departments of Fire and Emergency Services and Parks and Wildlife to investigate and adopt an emergency services resource management system that will enable the registration, tasking, tracking, management and coordination of emergency management personnel, vehicles, plant and aircraft.</p>	DFES & P&W	The Government supports this recommendation and work has been progressed as a priority ahead of the 2016/17 bushfire season.	<p>P&W have been involved in assisting DFES through the procurement process for an Automated Vehicle Location system (AVL), including investigating options for an integrated resource management system.</p> <p>The 1st stage of the AVL project (over 500 vehicles and appliances) will be completed by Dec 2016.</p>	<p>AVL will be fitted in additional vehicles and appliances (approximately 200) following the 16/17 fire season to ensure sufficient coverage.</p> <p>The final phase of the AVL is yet to be finalised and may be submitted during the 2017/18 budget process.</p>
<p>Recommendation 11: The Department of Fire and Emergency Services to investigate and adopt a system that will allow the public to opt in, monitor and receive, through a 'push mechanism', bushfire and other emergency warnings, maps and information using a wide variety of devices including personal hand held smart devices.</p>	DFES	The Government supports this recommendation and work has been progressed as a priority ahead of the 2016/17 bushfire season.	<p>The critical messaging system will provide RSS feeds for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warnings (DFES and DPAW), • Incidents (from the DFES Communications Centre, which includes DFES, DPAW, Local Government incidents and private landowner burns), • Fire Danger Ratings • Total Fire Bans <p>The RSS feeds will be operational later this year and be available on a new Emergency WA website, to be promoted through the <i>Are You Ready</i> bushfire campaign. Whilst the system will produce the data required to deliver push notifications, the intent of Recommendation 11 also requires the development of an app which cannot be delivered this fire season and is a future project.</p> <p>DFES has committed \$2.8 million to ensure the critical messaging system is established by November 2016.</p> <p>DFES is augmenting its digital communications capability to reach more people in an emergency at a cost of \$1.0 million ahead of the 16/17 bushfire season.</p>	<p>The work developed ahead of the 16/17 bushfire season will be the mechanism by which a future DFES app would obtain the information to create 'push' notifications.</p> <p>The app is currently in the process of being scoped and planned, so that suitable funding can then be sought. The estimated timeframe for delivery is 18 to 24 months after funding approval.</p>
<p>Recommendation 12: The Department of Fire and Emergency Services to work with the Department of Planning and Local Governments to adopt a policy which enables Local Governments to identify, register and communicate, 'Places of Bushfire Last Resort' in settlements and town sites where the life risk from bushfire is very high or greater.</p>	DFES	The Government supports this recommendation in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season		<p>DFES will be considering recommendations which have arisen from work previously undertaken on this issue.</p> <p>DFES will consult with all relevant stakeholders as the project progresses.</p>
<p>Recommendation 13: The Department of Fire and Emergency Services to issue a photo identification card to DFES members, members of Bush Fire Brigades, volunteer emergency services, Incident Management Teams, forestry industry brigade members and Networked Government Emergency Agency members. DFES to also</p>	DFES	The Government supports this recommendation and work has been progressed as a priority ahead of the 2016/17 bushfire season.	<p>DFES will commence issuing ID cards to its volunteer workforce before the 2016/17 fire season. To meet this timeframe, ID card delivery will occur in two phases:</p> <p>Phase I is to be completed as a deliverable ahead of this bush fire season at a cost of \$0.2 million, and involves issuing cards to several hundred volunteers in high priority/high risk</p>	Issuing of ID cards to Incident Management Teams, forestry industry brigade members and Networked Government Emergency Agency members.

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consider temporary windscreen signage to identify vehicles carrying such personnel.			regions in the South West geographic area including: Great Southern, Lower South West, South West and Goldfields and the State wide operational response division. Phase II – Delivery of a sustainable and fully resourced arrangement for issuing cards across the remaining workforce, facilitated by a 3 rd party provider.	Traffic management and access protocols will be reviewed separately by DFES prior to and following fire season 16/17.
<p>Recommendation 14: The State Emergency Management Committee to review the policy for traffic management at emergency incidents so it reflects national 'best practice'. This includes the production and issuing of an aide-memoire to guide traffic management, emergency and incident management personnel.</p> <p>The policy should provide a practical balance between risk to life and the public value of enabling the timely restoration of livelihoods and the movement of critical resources, (including essential services, critical business and livestock welfare services), through traffic management points.</p> <p>The review will involve a range of stakeholders including the Departments of Fire and Emergency Services, Parks and Wildlife, Agriculture and Food WA, Main Roads WA, WA Police, WA Farmers Federation, WA Local Government Association, Forest Industries Association, and the Transport Industry and ensure that the views of the community are considered.</p>	SEMC Sec	The Government supports this recommendation and work has been progressed as a priority ahead of the 2016/17 bushfire season.	<p>Working group will develop aide-memoire by mid-November to assist Vehicle Control Point personnel to apply existing Traffic Management Policy, Guidelines and Restricted Access Permit system.</p> <p>In addition agencies will pursue, through the Working Group, measures to enable Traffic Management Policy, Guidelines and Restricted Access Permit system to be more widely understood and adopted in emergency management planning, community engagement and incident management.</p> <p>WA Farmers, Forest Industries Association and transport industry will be briefed on these developments prior to 16/17 fire season.</p>	Review of traffic management policy will be undertaken with participation of all relevant agencies and stakeholder interests identified by the Special Inquiry. Review will address issue of overall responsibility for traffic management in emergencies; the linkage of traffic management policy to evacuation policy and the management of farmer, forester and contractor fire-fighting resources and spontaneous volunteers. The review will also address resourcing and occupational safety and health issues surrounding the operation of Vehicle Control Points.
<p>Recommendation 15: The State Government to create a Rural Fire Service to enhance the capability for rural fire management and bushfire risk management at a State, regional and local level. The proposed Rural Fire Service will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be established as a separate entity from the Department of Fire and Emergency Services or, alternatively, be established as a sub-department of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services; • Have an independent budget; • Be able to employ staff • Have a leadership structure which to the greatest degree possible, is regionally based and runs the entity; • Be led by a Chief Officer who reports to the responsible Minister on policy and administrative matters; and to the Commissioner for Fire and Emergency Services during operational and emergency response; • Have responsibilities and powers relating to bushfire prevention, preparedness and response; and • Operate collaboratively with the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, the Department of Parks and Wildlife, Local Government and volunteer Bush Fire Brigades. <p>In creating the Rural Fire Service, the State Government to consider whether back office and corporate support services could be effectively provided by an existing Department, such as the Department of Fire and Emergency Services or the Department of Parks and Wildlife.</p>	Government	The Government supports the establishment of an independent Rural Fire Service.	The Government notes that the Rural Fire Service will be either a separate Department or a sub-Department of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services. Consultation will now occur with interested parties.	Appointment of leadership role and resolution of administrative, legislative and operational issues.

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<p>The State Government to review the creation of the Rural Fire Service two years after its establishment, to assess whether its structure and operations are achieving the intended outcome.</p>				
<p>Recommendation 16: The State Emergency Management Committee to establish a State Bushfire Coordinating Committee as a sub-committee of SEMC. The State Bushfire Coordinating Committee will be chaired by the Director of the Office of Bushfire Risk Management and will have the primary responsibility to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - develop a State Bushfire Management Policy and set a long term bushfire risk management objectives; - provide a forum for key bushfire risk management stakeholder agencies; - advice the SEMC on matters pertaining to bushfire, in particular, to report against the investment of, and achievement of the bushfire risk management objectives; - provide advice and support to the proposed Chief Officer of the Rural Fire Services on bushfire risk management matters; and - report to SEMC and to the community on bushfire risk management matters on at least an annual basis 	SEMC Sec	<p>The Government supports this recommendation and work has been progressed as a priority ahead of the 2016/17 bushfire season.</p>	<p>Draft terms of reference will be released following finalisation of the Government response to the Ferguson Report</p>	<p>State Bushfire Coordinating Committee will be established from the commencement of calendar year 2017. In the interim, matters referred to in Recommendation 16 will be managed by the Interagency Bushfire Management Committee.</p>
<p>Recommendation 17: The Department of the Premier and Cabinet to conduct an independent review of the current arrangement for the management and distribution of the Emergency Services Levy. The review will have the specific purpose of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeking input from key entities including the Departments of Treasury, Finance, Fire and Emergency Services, Lands, and Parks and Wildlife, WA Local Government Association, and the Office of Bushfire Risk Management. • Ensuring the arrangement has the flexibility and agility to deal with emerging bushfire risk priorities • Establishing a budget process that enables a shift in investment towards prevention, mitigation and building community resilience and capability. 	DPC	<p>The Government supports this recommendation and has developed a Terms of Reference for this review, to be undertaken by the Economic Regulation Authority.</p>	<p>A terms of reference for this Review is being developed, and it is intended that it will be undertaken by the Economic Regulation Authority.</p>	<p>The outcomes of this Review will be considered within the context of the establishment of a Rural Fire Service, in fulfilment of recommendation 15.</p>
<p>Opportunity 1: The Departments of Fire and Emergency Services and Parks and Wildlife (and, when established, the Rural Fire Service) to engage with the Bureau of Meteorology and the Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre to investigate the predication of cloud to ground lightning occurrences.</p>	DFES & P&W	<p>The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season</p>	<p>BoM and CSIRO have funding from the National Environmental Research Project (NERP) for a project investigating atmospheric conditions and drivers of variability associated with lightning ignition of bushfires in south-west WA. P&W will liaise and share data for the project. This project should develop momentum in the next 6 months. DFES will also be party to this research.</p>	<p>DFES and P&W will continue engage with the Bureau of Meteorology and the Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre to investigate the prediction of cloud to ground lightning occurrences.</p>
<p>Opportunity 2: The Departments of Fire and Emergency Services and Parks and Wildlife (and, when established, the Rural Fire Service) to engage with the Bureau of Meteorology and the Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre to investigate the causes of an effects of pyro-cumulus weather occurrences on bushfire behaviour.</p>	DFES & P&W	<p>The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season</p>	<p>P&W are working with BoM to develop an expanded case study of the fire weather associated with the three pyro-cumulus weather occurrences during the Waroona bushfire. P&W are working with BoM to develop an expanded case study of the fire weather associated with the three pyro-cumulus weather occurrences during the Waroona bushfire.</p>	

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<p>Opportunity 3: The Department of Parks and Wildlife and the Forest Products Commission to explore policy options for mechanical thinning of forest, including mining rehabilitation forest, for the purpose of bushfire mitigation.</p>	P&W	The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season	A mechanical fuel reduction trial will be taking place in WA under a Commonwealth funded initiative facilitated by the Department of Primary Industry NSW. The trial will be in Palmer forest block north west of Collie and will cover an area of 120 hectares. The trials will be a time in motion study to assess the economics and efficiency of mechanical operations.	
<p>Opportunity 4: The Department of Fire and Emergency Services, in collaboration with the Departments of Planning, Parks and Wildlife, Environment Regulation and Water, to lead consideration of developing guidance to landholders with respect to bushfire 'fuse breaks' along lineal fuels such as roadsides and irrigation drainage channels.</p>	DFES & P&W	The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season	This could be discussed at the Roadside Conservation Committee.	The Bushfires Amendment Bill 2016 currently being considered by Parliament proposed to amend the <i>Bush Fires Act 1954</i> to enable the FES Commissioner to publish standards regarding bushfire risk treatments. Should the Bill be passed, consideration will be given to utilising these provisions to achieve the intent of this opportunity.
<p>Opportunity 5: The Department of Fire and Emergency Services and Parks and Wildlife (and, when established the Rural Fire Service) to investigate options for improving aerial and satellite based bushfire intelligence gathering. In particular, to investigate the provision of Infra-Red Linescan capability.</p>	DFES & P&W	The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season	Agencies continue to explore improved technological capability generally, however this specific area will be a focus following the 2016/17 bushfire season.	By September 2017 DFES will complete a project to develop the functional specifications and use requirements for a future Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) contract. The service will commence operation in 2019.
<p>Opportunity 6: The Departments of Fire and Emergency Services and Parks and Wildlife, in conjunction with the Australasian Fire & Emergency Service Authorities Council, to explore the development of a standardised approach and content for an 'initial (4 hour)' Incident Action Plan.</p>	DFES & P&W	The Government supports this opportunity and work has been progressed as a priority ahead of the 2016/17 bushfire season.	<p>DFES began a review of the current suite of Incident Action Plans (IAP) in April 2016 and consultation undertaken with P&W and volunteers. Final versions were endorsed by both P&W and DFES on 26 August 2016 which include new IAPs.</p> <p>The key changes from previous IAP's are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intent to remove 1 and 4 hr timeframes and provide IC with discretion on IAP development pending operational tempo • Lite version for use during escalation/de-escalation • IAP is for use of IMT downward only <p>The IAP's will be implemented through formal launching by Agency Circular and as agenda items at the Level 3 Incident Controller Pre-season Workshops and training days.</p>	<p>DFES and P&W will undertake a review of the IAP documents by 5 May 2017 and implement lessons identified by 30 June 2017.</p> <p>DFES will embed the IAP documentation into the WebEOC platform for operational use prior to 30 September 2017.</p>
<p>Opportunity 7: The Department of Fire and Emergency Services and Parks and Wildlife to assess the merits and disadvantages of Incident Controller and Incident Management Team work cycle extending over a 24 hour period (but still allowing for individual rest times in line with fatigue policy).</p>	DFES & P&W	The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season	This will be considered further in the context of the pre-formed teams in fulfilment of recommendation 8	<p>There is a shared view that this Opportunity should be deferred to the 2017/18 southern bushfire season.</p> <p>In consultation with P&W it was determined that the ability to develop this capability and manage it with the current number of Incident Controllers will require further work and cannot be achieved before the 2016/17 bushfire season.</p>
<p>Opportunity 8: The Department of Fire and Emergency Services to review the policy of dispatching task force resources from Perth metropolitan and regional urban locations to bushfires to ensure that only vehicles that are fit for purpose and appropriate to the task are deployed.</p>	DFES	The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season	The DFES Future Fleet project will consider the performance requirements of urban fleet and future functional specifications will reflect those considerations.	The Future Fleet project is a 3 year project which will initially involve prototyping and trials resulting in final fleet determinations. It is anticipated that final contracts will be awarded in 2019.

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<p>Opportunity 9: The State Emergency Management Committee to develop policy guidance for local governments regarding the installation of bushfire and emergency community warning sirens in 'at risk' communities.</p>	SEMC Sec	<p>The Government supports this opportunity and work has been progressed as a priority ahead of the 2016/17 bushfire season.</p>	<p>A draft policy, based on the Victorian Community Alert Sirens Policy and Guidelines adapted for local conditions and existing infrastructure, will be available for consultation with local government and emergency management agencies from mid-October 2016. As part of the consultation process the opportunity for a trial program at one or more locations with existing siren facilities in the South West or Great Southern regions will be identified.</p>	<p>Policy guidance will be available for local governments at the conclusion of the policy consultation and trial period following the 16/17 season.</p>
<p>Opportunity 10: The Department of Fire and Emergency Services to lead, in collaboration with the Department of Planning and the Building Commission, the development of a policy and guidance to landholders on a range of bushfire shelter options, including household bushfire refuges and community bushfire refuges.</p>	DFES	<p>The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season</p>		<p>DFES will engage and work with the key stakeholders identified and WALGA to consider the intent and performance metrics of this opportunity, and investigate safety standards for bushfire shelter options to provide a temporary place of refuge and the associated risks.</p>
<p>Opportunity 11: The Departments of Fire and Emergency Services, Planning, and Environment Regulation to consider policy options with respect to the clearing of vegetation by landholders within a specified distance of an asset or dwelling, for the purposes of bushfire protection.</p>	DFES	<p>The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season</p>	<p>DFES provides advice through information notes regarding the maintenance of Building Protection Zones, Hazard Separation Zones, landscaping and winter burning to reduce the potential spread and intensity of bushfires near assets.</p>	<p>The <i>Bushfires Amendment Bill 2016</i> currently being considered by Parliament proposed to amend the <i>Bush Fires Act 1954</i> to enable the FES Commissioner to publish standards regarding bushfire risk treatments. Should the Bill be passed, consideration will be given to utilising these provisions to achieve the intent of this opportunity.</p>
<p>Opportunity 12: The Department of Fire and Emergency Services to engage with the WA Local Government Association to explore opportunities for Local Government personnel to be included in the make-up of Rapid Impact Assessment Teams.</p>	DFES	<p>The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season</p>		<p>DFES and WALGA will cooperate to establish arrangements for the incorporation of Local Government and other parties with recovery responsibilities in RDA arrangements and teams.</p>
<p>Opportunity 13: The State Emergency Management Committee to develop an aide-memoire for Incident Controllers to guide the initial recovery considerations during an incident. The aide-memoire to include: triggers for the initiation of rapid impact assessment and the escalation of the recovery function; and immediate and likely future community health, welfare and safety considerations. These triggers will inform the Incident Controllers when considering the discretionary appointment of 'Deputy Incident Controller, Recovery' during an incident that impacts on the community. The role of the 'Deputy Incident Controller, Recovery' would be (with the Incident Controller) to consider the initiation of the recovery process and to manage the transition from incident response to the recovery phase.</p>	SEMC Sec	<p>The Government supports this opportunity and work has been progressed as a priority ahead of the 2016/17 bushfire season.</p>	<p>SEMC Secretariat-convened working group (DFES, WA Police, DAFWA, Parks and Wildlife, CPFS, Department of Transport, Public Utilities Office, Department of Finance, Department of Health and local government representatives) will develop an aide memoire that covers the nominated matters by mid November 2016.</p>	<p>Aide memoire will be supplemented by the outputs of current projects conducted under SEMC leadership including in relation to comprehensive impact assessment; recovery waste management; recovery-focused public communication arrangements; management of public donations.</p>
<p>Opportunity 14: The Department of Fire and Emergency Services training for Fire and Rescue career staff (at LFF and S/O training courses) to include enhanced training in natural hazard incident management; hazard reduction burning; rural and forest fire behaviour and the Department of Parks and Wildlife use of fire as a management tool.</p>	DFES	<p>The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season</p>		<p>DFES will seek opportunities to extend the various Pathway courses for staff to allow for the improved incorporation of bushfire incident management; hazard reduction burning; rural and forest fire behaviour and the Department of Parks and Wildlife use of fire as a management tool.</p>
<p>Opportunity 15: The Departments of Fire and Emergency Services and Parks and Wildlife (and, when established, the Rural Fire Service) to agree on minimum targets for volunteer participation as Sector Commanders, and in Incident Management Team positions and develop strategies to meet those targets.</p>	DFES & P&W	<p>The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season</p>	<p>Nine positions for local government and volunteer firefighters have been proposed in the joint agency PFTs in the first instance for the 2016/17 southern bushfire season. This 'mix' can be adjusted [perhaps during and] after the initial season as required.</p>	

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<p>Opportunity 16: The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (and, when established, the Rural Fire Service) and the Volunteer Associations to develop fatigue management guidelines for emergency service volunteers.</p>	DFES	The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season		The implementation of a Fatigue Management Policy forms part of the <i>Department of Fire and Emergency Services Strategic Plan 2012-2024</i> (Strategy 4.3). The deliverables of the Fatigue Management Policy Implementation project will affect all DFES employees and volunteer personnel especially those in operational roles including IMTs. Fatigue management guidelines in addition to an education package are being developed as part of this project.
<p>Opportunity 17: The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (and, when established, the Rural Fire Service) to measure and report annually on the volunteer fire and emergency service worker contribution.</p>	DFES	The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season	<p>DFES has a system that can implement the intent of this opportunity.</p> <p>A reporting system known as IRS is currently in place for volunteer emergency service groups to report incidents that they attend. In order to accurately measure and report annually on the volunteer fire and emergency service worker contribution, due diligence in reporting incidents to DFES would be relied upon.</p>	DFES currently reports all reported volunteer emergency service activity in the Annual Report. All services are represented in the figures published, no single service is singled out.
<p>Opportunity 18: The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (and, when established, the Rural Fire Service) in consultation with the Association of Bush Fire Brigade Volunteers, to review the policy for disposal of 'retired' firefighter vehicles to first make disposed vehicles available to landowners who are sponsored by the local Brigade. Such vehicles to be subject to a limited decommissioning process.</p>	DFES	The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season		This opportunity will be the subject of further investigation. 'Retired' vehicles are often redeployed or used to supplement the high fire season fleet. DFES is also limited by the State Supply Policy in relation to methods of disposal which states a public authority must dispose of goods in a manner that is ethical, equitable, efficient, and where practical maximises a value outcome for government.
<p>Opportunity 19: The Department of Parks and Wildlife, in consultation with their workforce and the Community and Public Sector Union (CPSU) and the Australian Workers Union (AWU), to carry out a workforce workload analysis of its fire program (covered by both the CPSU and the AWU workforce). The analysis to have a particular emphasis on the management of workload and fatigue in employees involved in the fire program.</p>	P&W	The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season	The Department of Parks and Wildlife will commence discussions with the Australian Workers' Union in September following the compilation of workforce participation data for the 2015/16 southern bushfire season.	
<p>Opportunity 20: The Department of Fire and Emergency Services to investigate, with the United Firefighters Union, an 'emergency roster' arrangement that enables the temporary adoption of extended firefighter shift arrangements to enable more career firefighters to be made available for duty during significant emergencies.</p>	DFES	The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season		DFES will consult with the UFU to review current arrangements to determine whether any improvements can be made. DFES has provision for Call Back of staff, have a surge staffing plan, and a crisis plan drafted for extended and significant absences. DFES will continue to explore more use of off-duty staff
<p>Opportunity 21: The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (and, when established, the Rural Fire Service) to implement (and act on) a volunteer emergency service worker consultation framework to promote effective and meaningful ongoing consultation with fire and emergency services volunteers on matters that affect volunteer systems of work, equipment and health, welfare and safety.</p>	DFES	The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season	The DFES governance arrangements for project management have been amended to require project proponent to specifically consider and address what impact the proposal will have on volunteers and volunteerism. These measures are then visible to the department's executive. In the short term DFES expects this will lead to a	

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			greater level of visibility and understanding of the variety of channels through which consultation occurs.	
<p>Opportunity 22: The Departments of Fire and Emergency Services and Parks and Wildlife (and, when established, the Rural Fire Service) in consultation with relevant stakeholders including the Public Sector Commission and the Volunteer Associations, to conduct (and act on) an annual culture survey amongst paid and career staff and volunteer emergency service workers.</p>	DFES & P&W	The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season	<p>In August 2015 DFES invited staff, volunteers and stakeholders to participate in a survey to help the department understand the perceptions of DFES. This survey provided a baseline for the Volunteer Sustainability strategy and future survey comparison.</p> <p>Anticipated that this recommendation will not be considered within P&W until the future institutional arrangements for rural fire management in WA are determined and implemented.</p>	
<p>Opportunity 23: When established, the Rural Fire Service, in conjunction with the Departments of Parks and Wildlife and Fire and Emergency Services, to establish a Western Australian Centre for Excellence in Rural and Forest Fire Management. The Centre to include a networked capability for research, planned burning, lessons learned and facilitating training for rural firefighters, especially for members of volunteer Brigades.</p>	Government	The Government supports this opportunity in principle, and work will continue beyond the 2016/17 bushfire season		DFES will review its training of volunteers in anticipation of an opportunity to participate in a centre of excellence in rural and forest fire management.