

Brooke Davidson

From: Stuart Hobley
Sent: Tuesday, 9 December 2025 4:03 PM
To: Brooke Davidson
Subject: Fw: Recap: Emergency Management Meeting - Cunderdin - Wheatbelt Roadshow (Dec 2025)

From: ROBINSON Shelby <Shelby.Robinson@dfes.wa.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 5 December 2025 4:19 PM
To: Stuart Hobley <stuart.hobley@cunderdin.wa.gov.au>; Cr Alison Harris <craharris@cunderdin.wa.gov.au>; Cr Anthony Smith <crasmith@cunderdin.wa.gov.au>; IDLAND John <John.Idland@dfes.wa.gov.au>
Cc: CIVIL Garth <Garth.Civil@dfes.wa.gov.au>; ROBINSON Shelby <Shelby.Robinson@dfes.wa.gov.au>
Subject: Recap: Emergency Management Meeting - Cunderdin - Wheatbelt Roadshow (Dec 2025)

Hi All,

Many thanks for your time today. One of my favourite parts of my job is these types of local specific strategic conversations so I appreciate you meeting with me.

Some points I heard in today's discussion:

- **What is your understanding of emergency risks within your LGA? When did Council last review these risks?**
 - Road Crash incidents on the GEH
 - Chlorination impacts given the main WaterCorp treatment plant is in town, equally impacts to the waterline are a risk to LGA.
 - Airfield & railway incidents.
 - Fire, storm and flood are also common risks.
 - Power is generally okay because on a main line, water is good generally and telecoms is fine in town but very limited elsewhere, especially in the South.
 - Council are generally not involved in EM risk unless they are on the LEMC or BFAC.
 - Recently elected Council aren't as operationally involved but could be interested in more administrative information.
 - Biggest impact to communities is around road access. Many non-local's who commute through town, when there is impact to roads then back roads which may not be fit for purpose are taken by people unequipped for the conditions. Truck build up is another big issue when dealing with road impacts. Relationships with MRWA & WAPF are good in the regard of needing to close the Hwy, however planning considerations would be beneficial for the stopping of trucks at suitable locations etc
- **How familiar are you with your LEMA? Outside of updating it as necessary, how often do you use/read it?**
 - It's used during exercises but rarely outside of that.
 - The arrangements would benefit from having 'a few plan B's'
- **Do you understand your own role in an emergency based on your position? Are you confident in that role? What supports would you need to feel confident in that role?**
 - Good confidence within the LGA leadership group. Reflected that active incidents are the best examples, practical ways to test skills rather than theory or discussion (evacuation centre set up for Tammin bushfire recently). Discussed that if were to do discussion exercises, then exercises that eliminate people and lead to a changed tactic are always more beneficial.
 - Council are active in the sense they turn up and ask 'what can we do', but don't necessarily understand role prior to an active incident.
 - Communication to council could be improved – utilisation of the Council WhatsApp group to alert when major incidents and actions are being taken place (for example, evacuation centre stood up).
- **When was the last time staff and elected members were involved in an exercise or an EM refresher?**

- June LEMC with an exercise. Only CEO, Deputy CEO and CESM involved in LEMC.
- Could be appetite for staff refreshers if 30 minutes and short & sharp, not a full day.
- **If you had a blank sheet and no constraints, what would you do with your LEMC?**
 - The way it's facilitated at the moment works – 2 meetings and an exercise (3 meetings technically)
 - Combination of people at the meeting is working well at the moment, however meeting attendees contribute response focused details rather than prevention/preparedness and business continuity discussions.
 - The networking element of LEMCs is incredibly beneficial
 - Have had some issues with hospital staff attending LEMC.
- **Does the LGA have a business continuity plan?**
 - Yes and it includes EM focuses & risks. The IT component of it is most exercised and most crucial.

Key primary point of contact over the Christmas and New Year period:

- John (CESM) has short periods of unavailability during Christmas and new years.
- Best contact is the emergency on call phone number – **could you please confirm this number.**
- Stuart (CEO) is not available over the Christmas festive period.

Finally, you met Garth, DFES Superintendent Goldfields-Midlands at today's meeting. Garth can be contacted on 0475 624 585 or garth.civil@dfes.wa.gov.au. For any urgent or emergency circumstances, please always contact our Regional Duty Coordinator (staffed 24/7 year round) on 1800 966 077.

I look forward to catching up with you all in the new year. Have a safe and happy break 😊

**Kind Regards,
Shelby Robinson**

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