

## Meeting 101 – 2 June 2016

# COMMUNIQUÉ

The State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) held its first meeting of the year on Thursday 2 June 2016 in Sydney.

Members thanked the former Chair, Mr Philip Koperberg for his significant contribution during his tenure as Chair over the last five years.

### **Strategic Review of Emergency Operations Centres**

Superintendent Ben Millington of the NSW Rural Fire Service provided a presentation on the Strategic Review of Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs). The Board endorsed the *SEMC Strategic Review of Emergency Operations Centres Report* following the review, which was conducted over the last 12 months. The report contains 29 recommendations for consideration across areas including governance, contemporary EOC requirements, funding and quality assurance. The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) will prepare a draft implementation plan for consideration at the next SEMC meeting in September 2016.

### **State Mass Care Guideline (Sydney Olympic Park)**

The Board agreed to endorse the State Mass Care Guideline (Sydney Olympic Park). There is a significant level of support for the guideline demonstrated by the signing of memoranda of understanding between OEM and individual venues. The arrangements outlined in the guideline will significantly enhance the support provided to affected communities and demonstrates the excellent working relationship between the NSW Government and the private sector.

### **Draft Hawkesbury-Nepean Recovery Strategy**

The Board endorsed the draft *Hawkesbury-Nepean Flood Recovery Strategy* as part of the *Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley Flood Management Strategy*. A funding submission has been made by OEM under the Natural Disaster Resilience Program (NDRP) to progress work on Enhanced Recovery Arrangements for Catastrophic Disasters.

### **Local Council Mergers**

In May 2016 the NSW Government announced the mergers of 19 Councils across the Sydney Metropolitan area and NSW. The Board noted the work underway to transition emergency management arrangements to the new network of Councils in NSW. Updates on the transition will continue to be provided to the SEMC.

### **Emergency Management Projects**

#### *Get Ready All Hazards Disaster Preparedness Initiative*

The new 'Get Ready' logo was approved and circulated to members prior to the meeting.

*NSW Get Ready Community Award 2016*

Applications are open for the NSW Get Ready Community Awards for 2016.

**Natural Disaster Funding**

On 1 May 2015, the Commonwealth Government tabled the Productivity Commission's Inquiry Report: *Natural Disaster Funding Arrangements*, and a report on current National Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) conducted by the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO). In response to these reports, the Commonwealth would like to move to an "upfront model" where the Commonwealth would provide recovery funding to States for the reconstruction of essential public assets based on upfront damage assessments and pre-determined reconstruction costs. The NSW Government will need details on how the new funding model will work, before an in-principle agreement can be given to conducting a trial of the proposed model.

*The next State Emergency Management Committee is scheduled for 8 September 2016.*

**ENDS**