



# Department of Communities

## Emergency Relief and Support

### LEMC Report Great Southern – 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2024-2025

#### Regional Relief and Support Officer – Great Southern

1. Evacuation Centre Training is being delivered to Local Governments. The training focuses on practical aspects of operating an evacuation centre. Our preference is to deliver the training to Local Government in the evacuation facility. Training was delivered to Shire of Plantagenet staff at Mt Barker Recreation Centre on 16 October 2024.
2. Department of Communities (Communities) is conducting audits (2 yearly) of the State's nominated evacuation centres.
3. Communities has been training an internal 'surge' workforce made up of staff from Katanning and Albany Offices. These staff will be deployed in an emergency to run evacuation centres throughout the Great Southern. Training was recently facilitated at the Katanning Leisure Centre and Albany Leisure and Aquatic Centre in partnership with the Shire of Katanning and City of Albany.
4. A State Early Response Team is also available to be deployed from Perth.
5. Resources have been strategically located to support the region. ERS trailers are located at Albany and Katanning. They contain resources to accommodate between 80-100 people. There are additional trailers at Ravensthorpe and Walpole. These trailers can be deployed to support adjacent local governments.
6. Local Emergency Relief and Support Plans (LERSP) are Communities owned documents. Contacts are being transferred to a GIS database and a new LERSP template has been developed.
7. Emergency Food – the Rapid Relief Teams established by the Brethren have two Great Southern Teams based in Gnowangerup and Albany. They are a registered Charity and have self-sufficient catering service they can deploy at short notice. Pardelup Prison has also advised they can provide emergency food within the Shire of Plantagenet.
8. Communities Emergency Relief and Support Regional Coordinators have Pre-Season Training in Perth 11-15 November.
9. STAND (Strengthening Regional Telecommunications Against Disaster). STAND sites are a NBN satellite service with hardware to provide community wifi. Provided there is power to the equipment, these STAND facilities should be in constant operation allowing people to connect to free wifi for basic functions in an emergency. Some sites have had power disconnected. NBN is asking that these be checked.

**REMINDER:** In an emergency, please contact the Emergency Relief and Support On-Call number: **0418 943 835**