

## Capability Command Bulletin: December 2017

This bulletin provides a monthly update on documentation and activity for operational personnel. Managers are encouraged to use this bulletin as a tool to communicate information as relevant.

### New Doctrine!

[SOP 3.2.10 - Incident Catering](#)

[SOP 3.5.2 - Diesel Particulate Diffuser](#)

[SAP 1.3.C - Provision of Non-Standard PPE](#)

[OPS-STN-CHK-TYRES](#)

### Doctrine Updates!

[Directive 4.3 - Repair and Recovery](#)

✓ Updated to include guidance for tyre pressure checks and re-inflation.

[SOP 3.5.10 - Crew Safety at Bushfires](#)

✓ Includes diesel particulate regeneration.

[SOP 3.5.11 - Entrapment at Bushfire](#)

✓ Includes crew protection systems.

[SOP 3.5.13 - Operating in UXO Sites](#)

✓ See document history for details.

[SOP 3.17.3 - Use of B Class Foam](#)

✓ New safe handling guidance.

[SAP 3.1.K - Incident Documentation](#)

✓ New Information Resources guidelines.

[Incident Action Plans](#)

✓ Now includes State Strategic Priorities.

[Field Guide 3.5 - Bushfire Burn Over](#)

✓ Updated to reflect AVL activation process.

[OPS-STN-CHK-EQPT - Crew Protection Equipment Check](#)

✓ Updated to include AVL test procedure.

### General Circulars

- [135 Public Sector Renewal Update 3](#)
- [136 Mail Management](#)
- [137 2017/2018 Wet Season Campaign](#)
- [138 Emergency Call Centre Recruiting](#)
- [139 Legacy Foam Strategy Update](#)
- [140 Use of Government Resources](#)
- [141 Volunteer Fuel Card Scheme](#)
- [142 Dealing With Change Workshop](#)
- [143 Wellness Family Support Services](#)
- [144 Christmas Message 2017](#)
- [145 Ford Ranger Safety Recall](#)

### Operational Circulars

- [102 T-Cards To Be Completed](#)
- [103 Summer Enhanced Mobilising](#)
- [104 Dolphin Torches on CFRS Appliances](#)
- [105 Prepositioned Strike Team Appliances](#)
- [106 Section 14 Revised](#)
- [107 2.4 Tanker Front Tyre Trial](#)
- [108 SDR Changes to High Threat](#)
- [109 ICT Metro Fire Station Visits](#)
- [110 CFRS Mobile Phone Charging](#)
- [111 Installed Firefighting System Pressure](#)
- [112 Operating Within UXO Sites](#)
- [113 New SMS Turnout Notifications](#)
- [114 Cleveland Hose Lay Approved](#)
- [115 Diesel Particulate Diffusers \(DPD\)](#)
- [116 New Ear Plug Options](#)
- [117 IM Toolbox Moved to New Intranet](#)
- [118 Bushfires on Organic/Acid Sulphate](#)
- [119 Replacement Harness for SES](#)
- [120 WebEOC Updates](#)
- [121 Non-Compliant Radio Equipment](#)

### Safety Circulars

- [18 400MHz Project Pilbara Transition](#)

Doctrine appreciates feedback and encourages all members to utilise the [Suggestions Tab](#) to access a feedback form.

For more information please contact [doctrine@dfes.wa.gov.au](mailto:doctrine@dfes.wa.gov.au)

## Bushfire Investigator Course – Mundaring

Earlier this year the Fire Investigation and Analysis Unit (FIAU) ran a 5 day Bushfire Investigator Workshop for 16 nominees from the Department of Commerce, Office of EnergySafety, Parks and Wildlife, West Australian Police Arson Squad and DFES. The curriculum was based on a similar course delivered by NSW Rural Fire last year at Mundaring. Course material was modified to reflect the WA scenario and procedural protocols between our local emergency responders. The inclusion of two nominees from Energy Safety was a first and indicative of the increasing cooperation between agencies and recognition of the potential for power lines to be a causal factor for bushfire ignition.

The course was not only a multi-agency event for the students, the instructors came from the three investigative agencies and were selected 12 months in advance. Instructors were required to sit the DFES Trainer Assessor course which was delivered at the FIAU office in the lead up to October.

The course was run over five days with each day being based on presentations and theory in morning session and the afternoon sessions being examination of fire indicators and behaviour from recently burnt plots. A wide range of fire ignition scenarios were developed then presented to the students to investigate practically. The location for the burns was facilitated by the Mundaring Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service who also provided the classroom training venue.

A big thankyou is due to the Mundaring VFRS and the instructors on the course. Students had a thoroughly enjoyable week. We look forward to running the course next year.





## Association of Hydraulics Services Consultants Australia (WA Chapter) Inc. Presentation Night

BEB staff, A/Superintendent T Stevenson, A/Manager Plans Assessment Gary Nelson and DFES Senior Fire Engineer Gavin Maund attended the Association of Hydraulics Services Consultants Australia (WA Chapter) Inc. Annual Authorities Evening to deliver a presentation on high rise fire safety systems.

### Grenfell Fire (London):

Robust discussion ensued on the use of non compliant building materials, resident familiarity with fire safety systems within escape stairwells, and correctly installed fire systems for operational firefighter use.

A video was shown on high rise apartments within London showing previous construction design. Each individual unit should be designed to enable tenants to remain safely within it, commonly referred to as “*stay put*”, whilst firefighters enter the building and extinguish the fire before it can spread.

‘Stay Put’ was the policy adopted for the Grenfell Tower. However with non compliant cladding installed to the façade of the building, coupled with a lack of internal fire system maintenance over a number of years, the fire engulfed the building. It was clearly demonstrated that high rise fire safety systems must be designed and installed to minimum building regulations at the least, and maintained throughout the life of the building, including hydraulic components.

### Maintenance:

As a continuation of the Grenfell presentation DFES highlighted the need for external stakeholders to ensure that maintenance was being undertaken in accordance with Australian Standard 1851.

A number of non-compliant issues from within WA were shown including obstructions to fire hydrant boosters, firefighting cupboards full of building storage materials, and a mid level rise building complex within the Pilbara area where numerous issues were identified.

In addition to the negatives indicated above, it was highlighted that the Strata Management Company for the Pilbara complex were able to rectify the problems within one week of DFES bringing it to their attention, a win for all.



# Guidelines for Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas

Updates  
Coming



DFES and the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) have been working on a staged review of the *Guidelines for Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas* (Guidelines) for the past year and ongoing improvements have been made to support the implementation of *State Planning Policy 3.7 Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas* (SPP3.7).

A series of information sessions have been held in Albany, Bunbury and Perth throughout November to communicate the areas of focus for the next stage of the review. These sessions were attended by Local Government, bushfire consultants and industry representatives to discuss progress of the review and current developments.

The main items discussed were:

- The roll out of standardised Bushfire Management Plan (BMP) templates for various types of planning proposals to ensure consistency and aid assessment by decision makers. These templates were released in December for a trial period of six months and are expected to be finalised following feedback.
- The inclusion of implementation tables and checklists within a BMP to streamline the compliance certification and clearance of subdivision conditions. It is anticipated that the works implemented within a BMP will be certified by bushfire consultants through site visits and submitted to the Local Government for clearance.
- Consideration for how tourism land uses can be better facilitated within the scope of SPP3.7 and the Guidelines. DPLH will be releasing a position statement in relation to bushfire risk management and contingency planning for tourism land uses for consultation early next year.
- Guidance on the application of SPP3.7 policy measure 6.7 in relation to proposals in BAL-40/BAL-FZ. DPLH will also be releasing a position statement on this issue early next year.

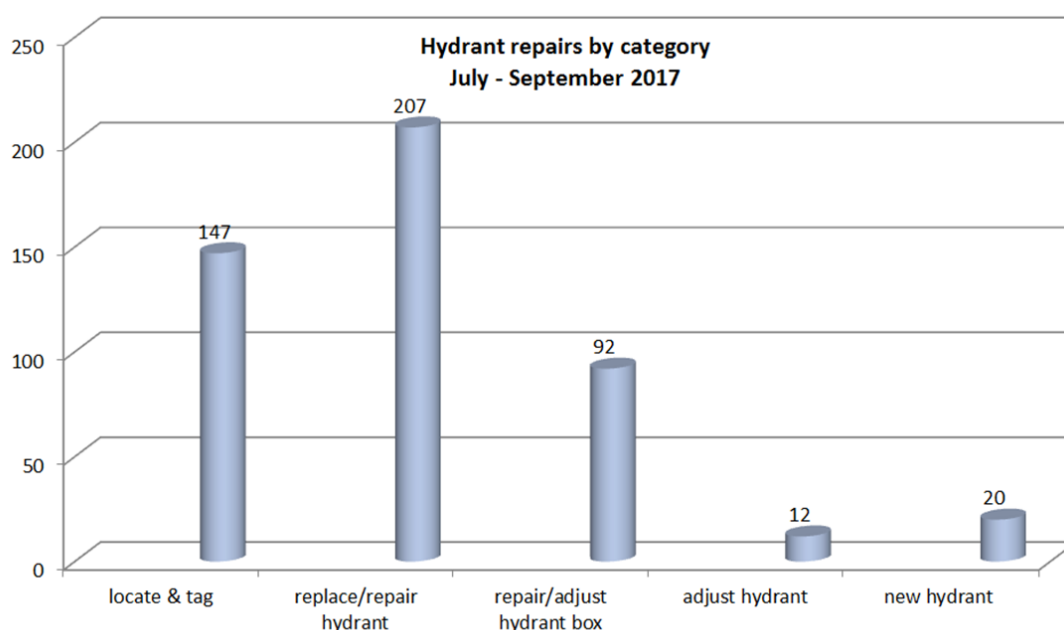
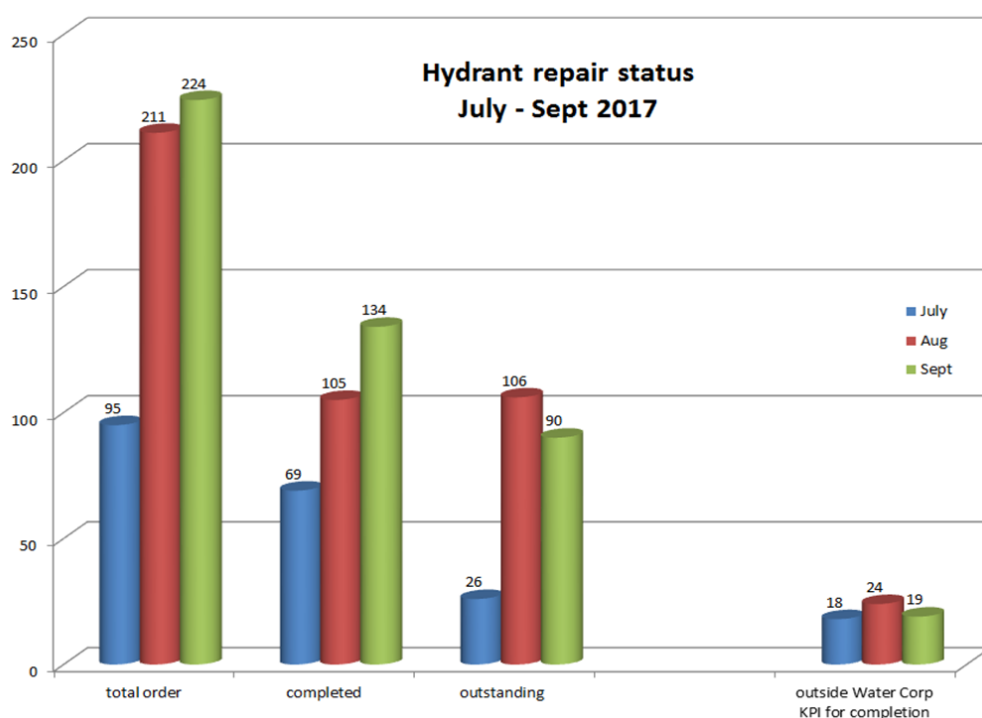
Further, a number of strategies are being developed to improve inter-departmental relationships and collaboration between DPLH and DFES, and to strengthen the consistent application of the bushfire planning framework. One such strategy recently implemented involves DFES Land Use Planning Officer Doug Van Bavel working one day a week from the DPLH office in Bunbury, while DPLH Principal Planning Officer Jackie Holm is working with DFES Advisory Services based in West Leederville two days a week.

# Fire Hydrant Repair Clearance Status

An estimated 74,878 fire hydrants are installed on Water Corporation mains throughout Western Australia. DFES and volunteer fire crews service these on a regular basis and report faults detected during servicing. With proclamation of the *Water Services Act, 2012* (November 2013) fire hydrant ownership was transferred from DFES to the Water Corporation and minor water utilities. As a consequence, the request for hydrant repairs and the hydrant repair process have been streamlined considerably to enable ease of monitoring the timeliness of repairs. This, in conjunction with the MOU between DFES and Water Corporation which prescribes KPI's for hydrant repair time, has ensured that defective hydrants are promptly rectified. DFES raised 2,086 work requests for defective hydrants in 2016 (not including leaking fire hydrants, whereby 1,428 work orders were raised in 2016).

The chart to the right provides an overview of Water Corporation hydrant repairs for the whole of Western Australia from July to September 2017.

The chart below provides an overview of the most common faults reported, excluding leaks, which are reported separately.





## Institute of Fire Engineers Annual Conference

The Institute of Fire Engineers Australia held their annual conference at Crown Perth on the 4-6 October 2017. This year's theme was 'Preparing for all Hazards'.

Acting Senior Fire Engineer, Gavin Maund provided an informative presentation on '*The forgotten costs of fire engineering on vulnerable people and fire brigade operations.*' Currently in Australia, at the time of concept and design, stakeholders responsible for building design and fire safety will include architects, building surveyors, building developers, fire engineers and the relevant permit issuing authority. If the challenges of life safety are not properly addressed at the design stage, it will be at the time of building occupancy that those challenges will be transferred to the building occupants and indirectly, the fire brigade and the wider community.

In his presentation, Gavin highlighted the fact that the social costs of building fire safety design are being forgotten. i.e. the costs incurred to the individual and more broadly by the community, including the fire brigade, due to poor fire safety design and/or construction methods exposed at the time of a fire incident.

Despite the theoretical attractiveness of performance standards, and their implementation in countries around the world, the value of any performance-based regulation depends upon what it ultimately delivers. Whilst there may be nothing wrong with this type of approach, it does create the possibility that alternate ways of meeting performance standards may be offered which satisfy industry goals, but not the goals of either the fire brigade or community.

During the presentation it was highlighted that the current performance-based regulatory system requires leadership and wider communication to ensure an effective performance-based vision for the Australian urban environment. Adequate consultation and inclusion of the 'occupant' or 'responsible person' as a critical stakeholder is required to reduce unnecessary costs, both psychological and financial, being transferred to this stakeholder; forgotten costs that also affect responding fire brigades.

