



A message from the Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner

We are in the midst of a very challenging situation with Coronavirus (COVID-19) fundamentally changing the way we work and live. This is also impacting the way you carry out your role as an emergency services volunteer. I am reaching out to reassure you that DFES will keep you informed of this rapidly changing situation and what it means for emergency services, to ensure you have the support and information you need to stay safe and continue to protect your communities.

I am working alongside the Minister for Emergency Services, the WA Police Commissioner and other State Government agencies to respond to the evolving COVID-19 situation. Within DFES, a COVID-19 Incident Response Team is implementing strategies to ensure DFES staff and volunteers' safety and wellbeing remains the top priority, while ensuring we can continue to deliver vital frontline services to the WA community.

As this situation evolves, it's crucial that you stay up to date with information as it comes to hand. The dedicated COVID-19 Information page on the [Volunteer Hub](#) is your primary source of information. This page contains the latest information on how DFES is responding to the changing COVID-19 situation and the impact it has on you as an emergency services volunteer.

On this page you will find the latest information, interim procedures, FAQs and other resources to help you perform your role safely. Information will be updated frequently, so I urge you to check the Volunteer Hub on a regular basis. I will also be providing regular video updates – you can watch my latest update [here](#).

I would like to reiterate that your wellbeing is our top priority so please seek support if you need it, and check in with family members, friends and colleagues. I

understand that reduced interaction with your fellow volunteers may make this time even more difficult for some. If you feel that you would benefit from support, I urge you to look into the support services available to you and your family. These are listed on the [COVID-19 Information page](#) on the Volunteer Hub.

There is an overwhelming amount of information about COVID-19 being shared across the world, and I ask that you ensure you are getting information from reliable sources. Stay informed by regularly checking the official information provided on the Volunteer Hub, the State Government's wa.gov.au website and [WA Health](#).

I am incredibly proud of the professionalism, cooperation and collaboration shown by you, our emergency services volunteers, in these difficult times. Your communities look to you for leadership and I thank you for stepping up to the challenge. Please look after yourself, and reach out if you need support. We're all stronger when we work together.



Thank you as always for your commitment to emergency services volunteering in WA.

Darren Klemm AFSM
Commissioner

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