



SAFETY CIRCULAR 02/2020

File: D13809

March 2020

Emergency Care and Ambulance Attendance for Injured or Unwell Personnel

Key Message

Where a serious injury or medical situation exists, either on station/unit/office or at an operational incident, DFES personnel are requested to call an ambulance to transport the injured or unwell person to hospital, wherever this resource is available to respond in a reasonable timeframe.

What has happened?

Recently, there have been occasions where operational crews, both on station and at operational incidents, have sustained serious injuries or have reported feeling severely unwell requiring advanced medical care and the decision was made to transport the injured/unwell person to hospital in an operational appliance or by private vehicle.

What does this mean for me?

DFES has a duty of care to both employees and volunteers, therefore in situations where a serious injury or medical emergency situation arises during working hours or at operational incidents, an ambulance is to be called to provide advanced emergency care and transport the injured/unwell person to hospital. In such circumstances, first aid and initial emergency care is to be provided by DFES personnel until the injured/unwell person is in the care of an attending ambulance crew.

The Health and Safety of our employees and volunteers is paramount and so ensuring that they obtain the best possible emergency care by an ambulance crew is the priority.

Transporting injured or unwell persons to hospital in a private vehicle or operational appliance, especially with lights and sirens operating, presents a significant risk to both the injured person and other road users and is to be avoided unless exceptional and justifiable circumstances exist.

CRAIG WATERS
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OPERATIONS

Target Audience: All operational personnel and managers.				
A	B	C	D	Vol
O.I.C. is to communicate content to all relevant personnel under their command, discuss implications, and sign appropriate box above. Once completed Circulars shall be filed on station and forwarded to Information Resources at the end of each financial year.				
SC-02-20	Issue Date:	Valid Until:	Contact:	Health and Safety Services
Page 1 of 1	Mar 2020	Mar 2021	Matthew.Watson@dfes.wa.gov.au	