



### DFES General Circular No: 63/2024 File: D26824

20 May 2024

# New Emergency WA now live ahead of Australian Warning System launch

The Next Gen Warnings Project has reached a major milestone today with the launch of a new-look <u>Emergency WA</u>, the first in a series of planned enhancements to deliver a world class warnings system in Western Australia.

The new website is powered by a brand-new, innovative warning creation module and is faster, more responsive and paves the way for the next stage of next generation warnings through the implementation of the Australian Warning System on 15 July 2024.

## **Emergency WA upgrade**

From today, visitors to WA's trusted source for emergency information will find the same features and capability but with an enhanced user experience, including:

• New map layers

The layers icon enables users to select different map layers including Local Government boundaries, pastoral areas and DFES regions as well as the Bureau of Meteorology weather warning layers that have been a key feature since 2021.

New Hazardous Materials icon
 A new Hazardous Materials icon better reflects the range of
 hazardous materials incidents that DFES attends. Thanks to
 community and operational feedback, the internationally
 recognised symbol for miscellaneous HAZMAT is now used.



- Improved Fire Danger Rating access A more responsive Fire Danger Rating icon with easier access to the four-day display.
- New 'natural hazards' list Natural hazard weather events will feature in their own section on the Emergency WA homepage incident list under 'natural hazards.'

This much-anticipated upgrade to the new platform is the first since Emergency WA was launched in 2016.



Government of Western Australia Department of Fire & Emergency Services



Exciting new developments planned for Emergency WA in 2024 and beyond include the launch of a new app, enabling users to receive emergency information tailored to their location, the ability to set watch zones, integration with in-home and wearable smart devices and translated warnings.

# Australian Warning System coming in July

From Monday 15 July, DFES will adopt the AWS for cyclone, flood and storm warnings, using the nationally consistent colours and icons that were introduced for bushfire in 2021.

Action statements will also be introduced across all four hazards, giving clear advice to communities on what they need to do to stay safe during emergencies.

AWS is a consistent and easy to understand warning system that will help communities stay safe during an emergency, no matter where they are in Australia. Find out more about the AWS on the <u>Intranet</u> and <u>Volunteer Hub</u>.

DFES staff, emergency services volunteers and external stakeholders will receive AWS training through online modules and face-to-face sessions. Read General Circular 60/2024 for further details.

For the latest information visit the Project Pages on the <u>Intranet</u> and <u>Volunteer Hub</u> or contact the Public Information Branch at <u>statepublicinfo@dfes.wa.gov.au</u>.

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