



SEMC
STATE EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Hostile Act

STATE HAZARD PLAN

RESPONSIBLE AGENCY

Western Australia Police Force

APPROVED BY

State Emergency Management
Committee

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Amendments Table

Date	Details	Amended by
August 2021	Initial plan for hazard of Hostile Act prescribed on 27 March 2020. Plan approved by SEMC (resolution number 63/2021).	PD87406/WA Police Force
December 2022	Version 1.01 - Amendments approved by SEMC Executive Officer (Resolution Number 17/2021). Statement of fact changes and updated hyperlinks to new SEMC website as per amendments table December 2022 .	SEMC Business Unit
October 2023	Version 1.02 - Consequential amendments approved by SEMC to reflect change in terminology from 'welfare' to 'emergency relief and support' and related terms (resolution number 77/2023) and statement of fact and accessibility amendments approved by the SEMC Executive Officer (resolution number 17/2021) outlined in State EM documents amendments table October 2023 .	SEMC Business Unit

The SEMC acknowledges the Aboriginal peoples throughout the state of Western Australia as the Traditional Custodians of the lands where we live, work and volunteer. We recognise Aboriginal peoples' continued connection to land, waters and community, and pay our respects to Elders both past and present.

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All of the State emergency management legislation and documents can be accessed via the [State Emergency Management Framework](#) page of the [State Emergency Management Committee website](#).

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1

Introduction

The State Hazard Plan for Hostile Act Emergencies (the Plan) provides an overview of arrangements for the management of hostile act emergencies in Western Australia (WA) and contains information on hostile act prevention, preparedness, response and initial recovery.

The Plan refers to a range of existing plans and documents relating to hostile acts but does not duplicate the information contained in these, instead providing directions to websites or other sources where further information can be obtained if required.

The Commissioner of Police is the Hazard Management Agency (HMA) for hostile act under the *Emergency Management Act 2005*, in accordance with regulation 16(h) of the *Emergency Management Regulations 2006*.

1.1 Scope

This Plan covers emergency management arrangements for hostile act emergencies within the geographic boundaries of WA, which includes State waters. It describes risk reduction strategies, preparedness for, response to, and initiation of recovery arrangements following the impact of a hostile act emergency.

Whilst relevant for the investigation of criminal acts and prosecution of criminal offences, including hostile acts, the application of the substantive criminal law of a state to the adjacent area within the territorial seas (i.e. within 12nm) under the *Crimes at Sea Act 2000* (Cth), does not impact on the application of the *Emergency Management Act 2005* provisions.

1.2 Hazard Definition

Hostile act is prescribed as a hazard in regulation 14A of the *Emergency Management Regulations 2006* as set out below:

(1)(a) an event or situation to which sub regulation (2), (3) or (4) applies; or

(1)(b) an event or situation that is, or is reasonably suspected to be any of the following -

- i. one or more persons being held hostage;
- ii. a kidnapping;
- iii. a siege;
- iv. the hijacking of a vehicle or aircraft;

or

(1)(c) An event or situation involving the escape of a person from lawful custody that is capable of causing or resulting in loss of life, prejudice to the safety, or harm to the health, of persons.

(2) An event or situation in which:

- (a) an explosive substance or hazardous substance is used to cause -
 - i. loss of life, prejudice to the safety of, or harm to the health, of persons or animals; or
 - ii. unlawful destruction of, or damage to, property or any part of the environment;

or

- (b) a threat is made that causes a person to have a reasonable suspicion that an explosive substance or hazardous substance is being or will be used as referred to in paragraph (a); or
- (c) it is reasonably suspected that an explosive substance or hazardous substance is being or will be used as referred to in paragraph (a).

(3) An event or situation in which -

- (a) a person is, or is reasonably suspected to be, in possession of any firearm or weapon; and
- (b) any of the following applies -

1.0 | INTRODUCTION

- i. the firearm or weapon is used to cause loss of life, prejudice to the safety, or harm to the health of persons;
- ii. a threat is made that causes a person to have a reasonable suspicion that the firearm or weapon is being or will be used as referred to in subparagraph (i);
- iii. it is reasonably suspected that the firearm or weapon is being or will be used as referred to in subparagraph (i).

(4) An event or situation in which -

- (a) a person uses a vehicle or aircraft intentionally to cause
 - i. loss of life, prejudice to the safety, or harm to the health of persons or animals; or
 - ii. unlawful destruction of, or damage to, property or any part of the environment;

or

- (b) a threat is made that causes a person to have a reasonable suspicion that a vehicle or aircraft is being or will be used as referred to in paragraph (a); or
- (c) it is reasonably suspected that a vehicle or aircraft is being or will be used as referred to in paragraph (a).

Note: for an event or situation above to be a hostile act emergency, it also needs to meet the definition of emergency under the *Emergency Management Act 2005*, i.e. the occurrence or imminent occurrence of the hazard which is of such a nature or magnitude that it requires a significant and coordinated response. Where this threshold is not met, the incident will be managed by the WA Police Force as business as usual.

1.2.1 Special Considerations

Prevention and preparedness strategies need to give special consideration to crowded places, iconic venues, public transport, critical infrastructure and other vital assets as these have been the targets of hostile acts in Australia and overseas.

It may not be immediately known an emergency is the result of a hostile act in certain circumstances. For example, a hazardous or explosive substance may occur without any reason to suspect it has been “used to cause loss of life, prejudice to the safety of, or harm to the health of persons or animals or the unlawful destruction of, or damage to, property or any part of the environment”. Similarly, a vehicle may cause loss of life, prejudice to the safety of, or harm to the health of persons or animals or the unlawful destruction of, or damage to, property or any part of the environment, without immediate suspicion it is a deliberate act.

In such circumstances, an emergency shall be dealt with by the activation of the response arrangements under the relevant State Hazard Plan for the apparent hazard, with the WA Police Force supporting that HMA as appropriate, assuming control for a hostile act should this subsequently be identified.

The WA Police Force arrangements for a hostile act emergency response may mirror counter terrorism arrangements in response to such an incident without the determination of a terrorist act (see State Hazard Plan Terrorist Act).

1.3 Organisational Roles and Responsibilities

The Commissioner of Police is the HMA for Hostile Act.

The development and review of this Plan is undertaken by the Commissioner of Police as the designated HMA.

Information regarding the response roles and responsibilities of relevant agencies under this Plan are detailed in Appendix C.

It is recommended each agency with a role or responsibility under this Plan has appropriate operational procedures detailing that agency's response arrangements in accordance with this Plan. These would be in addition and complementary to the agency's operational procedures that enable them to carry out their roles and responsibilities under the State Emergency Management Plan.

1.4 Related Documents and Legislation

This Plan is to be read in conjunction with the State Emergency Management Framework, including the *Emergency Management Act 2005*, *Emergency Management Regulations 2006*, State Emergency Management Policy, plans and procedures.

In addition, this Plan is to be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- State Hazard Plan Terrorist Act
- Interpol Disaster Victim Identification Guide 2018
- Intergovernmental Agreement on Australia's Counter Terrorism Arrangements
- National Counter Terrorism Plan (NCTP).

Legislation and codes relevant to this plan include but are not limited to:

- *Criminal Code Act Compilation Act 1913*
- *Criminal Code Act 1995 (Cth)*
- *Criminal Investigations Act 2006*
- *Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004*
- *Dangerous Goods Safety (Road and Rail Transport of non-explosives) Regulations 2007*

- *Defence Act 1903 (Cth)*
- *Environmental Protection Act 1986*
- *Fire Brigades Act 1942*
- *Public Health Act 2016*
- *Radiation Safety Act 1975*
- *Terrorism (Extraordinary Powers) Act 2005*
- *Terrorism (Preventative Detention) Act 2006*
- *Weapons Act 1999.*

1.5 Activities Informing the Assurance Process

The HMA ensures aspects of operational performance are reviewed and a consistent and structured approach is applied to all aspects of operational performance. This includes the implementation and evaluation of the outcomes (lessons identified, findings, recommendations, etc.) of such reviews.

Post Operation Reports shall be provided to State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) in accordance with State Emergency Management Policy section 5.11 and State Emergency Management Plan section 5.7.

Aspects of emergency planning which are legislated are incorporated in the WA Police Force's Good Governance audit, e.g. maintenance of state and local hazard plans, with policy statements in the Police Manual governing response arrangements for the WA Police Force also subject to regular review.

The SEMC oversees compliance of plans within the State emergency management arrangements, e.g. State Hazard Plan reviews and exercises.

At the completion of response, each participating agency/group involved,

may be requested to provide a written report to the Police Commander. Hostile act emergencies which involve a significant coordination of resources, e.g. where a full incident management structure has been established, significant multi-agency resources used and/or multiple districts involved, may require a formal debrief, held within a few weeks of the incident, including representation from all agencies/groups involved.

The provision of this documentation and its retention is in accordance with appropriate legislation for the circumstances of the incident (*Coroners Act 1996, Evidence Act 1906, State Records Act 2000*).



2

Prevention And Mitigation

2.1 Responsibility for Prevention and/or Mitigation

As the HMA, the Commissioner of Police is responsible for undertaking prevention and/or mitigation activities in relation to the hostile act hazard. The following are provided as examples of such activities.

2.2 Prevention and/or Mitigation Strategies

Crime Prevention Strategies

The WA Police Force internet site includes information on crime prevention, including Making it Tougher for Crooks (tips for personal safety and reducing the risk of crime) and Crime Stoppers (enabling anonymous reporting of criminal activity and suspicious behaviour).

Possession and ownership of firearms is strictly regulated in WA. Persons wishing to possess or use a firearm in WA are governed by the *Firearms Act 1973* and the *Firearms Regulations 1974*. The WA Police Force is responsible for a number of regulatory activities, including:

- assessment/renewal and revocation of Firearms Licences
- approval of temporary and interstate permits
- Management and maintenance of licensing records within the Firearm Registry System
- regulation of commercial organisations involved in the sale, manufacture and repair of firearms and ammunition
- assessment of the importation and exportation of firearms and other weapons.

Industry Protocols

Aviation and maritime security protocols for trade and travel, include staff

training, security identification schemes, and enhanced screening technology for people and cargo (including mail). There is also regulation of these industries through the *Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Act 2003 (Cth)* and the Department of Home Affairs (Aviation and Maritime Security Division).

Critical infrastructure owners (e.g. gas, electricity, water and ports sectors) are responsible for the security of their assets, including mitigation, as outlined in the *Security of Critical Infrastructure Act 2018*.

Activities of private security providers within WA are governed by the *Security and Related Activities (Control) Act 1996* and the *Security and Related Activities (Control) Regulations 1997*.

The WA Police Force also has a role in the regulation and management of the security industry and is responsible for:

- issuing security licences and registrations
- renewal of security licences and registrations
- monitoring of security licences and registration holders.

This includes strategies for critical infrastructure protection, intelligence and aviation security arrangements.

Community Engagement

The WA Police Force works with partnerships to identify, coordinate and strengthen crime-prevention strategies through public awareness campaigns, policy action and community consultation to implement sustainable community crime-prevention solutions. This includes:

- alcohol and drug related crime
- volume crime
- family and domestic violence

- disorderly/antisocial behaviour
- unlawful behaviour committed for political or religious reasons
- increasing the scope and effectiveness of partnerships
- emerging crime as identified in communities.

Neighbourhood Watch is a long-standing community-based program aimed at encouraging neighbours to work together to reduce crime and make their communities safer.

Security Protocols

Formulated primarily as counter terrorism strategies, through WA's membership of the Australia New Zealand Counter-Terrorism Committee (ANZCTC), the WA Police Force internet site also provides details of specific arrangements for:

- Crowded Places
- Escape. Hide. Tell
- Hazardous Materials
- Security Posters
- National Security Links.

<https://www.police.wa.gov.au/Your-Safety/Counter-terrorism>

In addition, WA has established a specialist capability (mental health practitioners and police) to assess and manage fixated individuals who have an obsessional preoccupation with a person or a perceived grievance.

WA based countering violent extremism intervention processes encompass awareness training and referral pathways in key public sector agencies (e.g. education, communities and corrections) and broader engagement as identified.

In addition, Commonwealth led strategies to prevent and/or counter the radicalisation of people towards violent extremism include prevention and intervention strategies for schools, prisons and online, and with medical professionals and the community for people vulnerable to radicalisation due to the mental health issues.



3

Preparedness

3.1 Responsibility for Preparedness

As the HMA, the Commissioner of Police is responsible for the development of plans and arrangements to manage emergencies in relation to the hostile act hazard.

3.2 Capability Baseline

The hazard definition for hostile act incorporates a number of contexts for which the response demands, and consequences may be varied.

Historical examples of hostile acts across Australia and other jurisdictions are routinely monitored and considered in planning activities. These include, but are not restricted to, emergencies threatening or causing loss of life, prejudice to the safety, or harm to the health of persons caused by:

- an active armed offender
- hostile use of a vehicle or aircraft
- use of an explosive or hazardous substance
- persons being held hostage.

3.3 Planning and Arrangements

In accordance with the direction of the SEMC under the *Emergency Management Act 2005*, the HMA is responsible for the development of hazard management plans and local government is responsible for the development of local emergency management arrangements.

3.3.1 Resources

Identification of physical resources and expertise are essential to preparedness. Planning at all levels should reference local resource registers contained in local emergency management arrangements. Many agencies and organisations also hold individual resource registers which should be referenced in plans as far as practicable.

The WA Police Force is responsible for the overall control of resources required to physically respond to a hostile act. Other emergency management agencies provide their own resources in the first instance (see section 4.7).

Due to similarities, resources established to assist prevention and mitigation of a terrorist act through the ANZCTC, the WA Government and the WA Police Force may be accessed for a hostile act emergency, in accordance with risk priorities.

3.3.2 Training

Training Responsibility

To ensure this Plan operates successfully, agencies with roles and responsibility under the Plan should provide training for all relevant personnel on their arrangements.

Specific Training Needs

The safe and coordinated response to a hostile act emergency requires the application of specialised knowledge and specific operational techniques that are appropriate to each agency. Individual organisations and capability managers are responsible for training their own people.

Exercises

The WA Police Force conduct multi-agency exercises to assist agency personnel and others in becoming familiar with roles and responsibilities for hostile act emergencies. This includes exercises conducted as part of

the State Emergency Management Exercise Program (State Emergency Management Policy 4.8), with additional exercising in accordance with the ANZCTC protocols; until an incident is identified as a terrorist act, the response arrangements will be similar, if not the same.

3.4 Community Information and Education

Educational programs relating to what to do in certain hostile act emergencies are outlined in section 2.2.

The WA Police Force also assists venue owners and operators and event organisers with considerations for emergency planning.

3.5 Assistance Arrangements with Other Jurisdictions

3.5.1 Western Australia Border Agreements

On 26 August 2011, the WA Police Force signed a Cross Border Justice Scheme Memorandum of Understanding (0269/2010) with South Australia Police and Northern Territory Police agreeing that parties cooperate to provide appropriate police services to the cross-border regions. This includes assistance to neighbouring states/territories as requested where an emergency response is required.

3.5.2 Commonwealth Government Assistance

Australian Government assistance may be provided in accordance with the protocols established under the NCTP and the Guidelines for requesting support from the Australian Defence Force (ADF) should requirements of these assistance protocols be met by the hostile act circumstances.

Additional Australian Government physical assistance requests will be made in accordance with section 5.6.1 of the State Emergency Management Plan.

3.5.3 Interstate Assistance

Interstate assistance is provided in accordance with the protocols established under the NCTP and/or through Emergency Management Australia, Department of Home Affairs.

3.5.4 Australian Defence Force Assistance

ADF assistance may be provided through a request for Defence Assistance to the Civil Community (DACC) (which does not involve use of force) in relation to hostile acts.

Defence Force Assistance to the Civilian Authorities (DFACA) arrangements cover requests for support that is likely to involve the use of force. DFACA requests shall be made in accordance with the procedures set out in NCTP, Part IIIAAA of the *Defence Act 1903* (Cth), and the Government of WA – Application for Defence Force Aid to the Civilian Authorities Policy.

3.6 Coordination/Control Arrangements with Other Jurisdictions

Inter-jurisdictional coordination may occur through Emergency Management Australia, Department of Home Affairs, and/or arrangements under the NCTP depending on the nature of the hostile act emergency.



4

Response

4.1 Responsibility for Response

As the HMA, the Commissioner of Police is responsible for ensuring that all responses to hostile acts are initiated promptly and executed with effective use of all available resources.

It may take some time before it becomes apparent that an incident was the result of a hostile act. Where the cause of an emergency is not apparent and a hostile act cannot be readily discounted, the WA Police Force shall be notified and may deploy forward to commence investigations.

Response agencies will respond to an emergency according to standard emergency response procedures and, if activated, in accordance with the response sections of relevant State Hazard Plans.

When an incident is determined to be a hostile act emergency (see section 1.2), the WA Police Force will assume control and undertake actions as required under State policies and plans. There will be ongoing assessment of the potential of the emergency to be a terrorist act. Should this be determined by the Commissioner of Police in accordance with State Hazard Plan Terrorist Act, additional arrangements in that Plan will be activated.

4.2 Response Arrangements

Operational priorities when responding to a hostile act are consistent with the State Strategic Control Priorities:

- Protection and preservation of life
- Community warnings and information
- Protection of critical infrastructure and community assets
- Protection of residential property
- Protection of assets supporting individual livelihood and community financial sustainability

- Protection of environmental and heritage values.

In addition to the above, priorities should also focus on preserving evidence, apprehending offenders and disrupting subsequent criminal activity.

The WA Police Force may request establishment of the Security and Emergency Committee of Cabinet (SECC), activation of the State Crisis Centre and, if required, establishment of the State Emergency Coordination Group (SECG). These are described in more detail in section 4.4.

This requirement is not intended to affect the scalability of response, however does recognise the potential consequences of such an event on the community and the need for leadership at a high level.

4.2.1 Hazard Management Officers

In the case of an Emergency Situation declared in accordance with the *Emergency Management Act 2005* section 50, Hazard Management Officers may be appointed in accordance with section 55 and State Emergency Management Response Procedure 4.6. For this purpose, police officers with the WA Police Force carrying out emergency management duties in the area of, or otherwise involved in responding to a Hostile Act emergency situation have a standing delegation.

In addition, any employee of the Police Service (i.e. public servants in the WA Police Force) tasked with an operational support role and who is carrying out emergency management duties in response to the emergency situation also has a standing delegation to act as a Hazard Management Officer.

4.2.2 Authorised Officers

In the case of a State of Emergency declared under section 56 of the *Emergency Management Act 2005*, Authorised Officers may be appointed in accordance with section 61 and State Emergency Management Response Procedure 4.13. For this purpose, police officers with the WA Police Force carrying out emergency management duties in the area of, or otherwise involved in responding to a State of Emergency have a standing delegation.

In addition, any employee of the Police Service (i.e. public servants in the WA Police Force) tasked with an operational support role and who is carrying out emergency management duties in response to the State of Emergency also has a standing delegation to act as an Authorised Officer.

4.3 Notifications

Depending on the nature, level and requirements of the emergency, the following notifications between stakeholders may be made.

Stakeholder	Notified by
WA Police Force	Initial responding agency
Australian Bomb Data Centre	WA Police Force
Australian CBRN Data Centre	WA Police Force
Department of Home Affairs	WA Police Force
Australian Defence Force	WA Police Force
Australian Federal Police	WA Police Force
Australian Security Intelligence Organisation	WA Police Force
Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development	WA Police Force

Stakeholder	Notified by
Department of Health	WA Police Force
Department of Fire and Emergency Services	WA Police Force
Department of Water and Environment Regulation	WA Police Force
Media	WA Police Force
Ministers for Police and Emergency Services	WA Police Force
Department of the Premier and Cabinet	WA Police Force
Australian Government Crisis Coordination Centre, Canberra	WA Police Force
Public Transport Authority	WA Police Force
State Emergency Coordinator	WA Police Force
State Emergency Public Information Coordinator	WA Police Force

Stakeholder	Notified by
St John Ambulance	WA Police Force
Other relevant Local, State and Australian Government Agencies	WA Police Force
Essential services	WA Police Force
Main Roads WA – Traffic Operations Centre (metropolitan area)	WA Police Force
Main Roads WA – Customer Contact Centre (regional WA)	WA Police Force
Critical infrastructure owners (as relevant)	WA Police Force
SECG Members	WA Police Force
Chemistry Centre (WA)	Department of Fire and Emergency Services
Government Media Office	Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Notes

1 Typically, where the State Disaster Council is not established under the *Emergency Management Act 2005*.

Stakeholder	Notified by
Premier / Duty Minister	Department of the Premier and Cabinet
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Department of the Premier and Cabinet

4.4 Hazard Management Structure/ Arrangements

4.4.1 Multi-agency Management Groups and Triggers for Activation

Security and Emergency Committee of Cabinet (SECC)

The arrangements for the SECC are outlined in its terms of reference and the Leadership and Strategic Coordination Arrangements for State Security Incidents maintained by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

The SECC supports the whole-of-government response when a decision is made by the Premier to convene the SECC in relation to the occurrence or imminent occurrence of a state security incident or emergency¹. This may be one that occurs in WA, in another Australian jurisdiction or in an international jurisdiction.

The SECC does not direct the operational response to a state security incident or emergency. Management of the operational response to a state security incident or emergency is the role of the appropriate office-holder/

agency (e.g. Commissioner of Police in relation to a hostile act emergency).

4.4.2 Coordination Structure

The levels of coordination that shall be activated in response to an emergency arising from a hostile act will be in accordance with state level policies and plans and local emergency management arrangement, and, if the hostile act is a (suspected) terrorist act, the NCTP.

To facilitate coordination between incident command and other relevant agencies, the Police (Forward) Commander may establish Incident and/or Operational Area Support Groups.

A SECG may be established by the Commissioner as State Emergency Coordinator to facilitate the provision of coordinated emergency management by public authorities and other organisations at a strategic level, with a focus on state level impacts of the emergency.

4.4.3 Multiple Hazards

In the event that another type of hazard occurs as a consequence of a hostile act, the designated HMA for the consequential emergency will be required to assist in combatting the effects of that emergency. The WA Police Force will remain responsible for, and in control of, the overall management of a hostile act.

4.5 Public Warnings/Information

Media and public information for a state level emergency will be coordinated through the WA Police Force Public Information Officer, supported by WA Police Force Media and Corporate Communications, with additional support in accordance with the State Support Plan - Emergency Public Information. This may include the use of Emergency Alert, where appropriate.

At all times, the WA Police Force retain the responsibility for the control and release of information regarding victim identity.

If a hostile act is a (suspected) terrorist act, public information will be managed in accordance with the National Security Public Information Guidelines and Leadership and Strategic Coordination Arrangements for State Security Incidents.

4.6 Evacuation Arrangements During Response

The decision to evacuate persons, shelter-in-place, divert crowds, shutdown or temporarily close areas will be made by the WA Police Force Police (Forward) Commander.

If a decision to evacuate a location is made, an objective will be to evacuate the optimum number of people expeditiously and safely, using the resources and infrastructure at hand. The protection and preservation of life will be the overarching priority.

4.6.1 Medical Services

St John Ambulance (SJA) provides assistance to casualties in the pre-hospital environment at any incident. SJA may enact Ambplan (SJA Major Incident Plan) dependent on the scale and type of incident. Casualty management outside the jurisdiction of SJA will be managed by the Department of Health or Royal Flying Doctor Service.

Coordination of mass casualty management will be the responsibility of the Department of Health in conjunction with SJA and may result in the activation of arrangements under the State Health Emergency Response Plan including any relevant sub-plans.

4.6.2 Communications

Interagency Communications and Information Management

Agency Commanders will ensure that communications, information management and sharing mechanisms are established and information is

timely, complete, accurate and consistent across whole-of-government at the operational and strategic levels.

Communications should be facilitated through the use of crisis information management systems (e.g. WebEOC), electronic data, telephone networks and face-to-face discussion. Radio facilities and portable satellite telephones are maintained by the HMA to provide some redundancy for the public network and for mobile purposes.

Telecommunications

Agencies responding to a hostile act shall use telecommunications and radio infrastructure utilised on a day-to-day basis within the organisation, however no operationally sensitive information shall be broadcast over unsecured networks.

Secure Communications

Should this be required, the Australian Government has provided communications systems to be used for the transmission of national security information through electronic means.

National Security Information

Transmission and receipt of national security information is to be managed in accordance with the Protective Security Policy Framework and in compliance with the Memorandum of Understanding for the Protection of National Security Information.

4.6.3 Disaster Victim Identification

Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) is carried out in accordance with the Interpol Disaster Victim Identification Guide 2018.

Police are responsible for identifying deceased persons to the State Coroner. Successful disaster victim identification in mass casualty events requires a multi-agency approach involving a number of disciplines. Police work closely with medical and dental staff, Coroners and their staff, victim support

groups, grief counsellors and others.

It is essential that recording, collecting and preservation of evidence is done by appropriately qualified personnel. Except in exceptional circumstances the remains and personal property of all deceased shall be guarded and left in-situ until the arrival of DVI teams.

4.6.4 Investigations

A Senior Investigating Officer will be appointed by the WA Police Force to manage the criminal investigation.

Multi-jurisdiction criminal investigations where there is the potential for a hostile act emergency to be a terrorist act are conducted in accordance with the NCTP, the Intergovernmental Agreement on Australia's National Counter Terrorism Arrangements and relevant memoranda of understanding and ANZCTC protocols, as available and appropriate to the situation. State Hazard Plan Terrorist Act provides further details.

Memorandum of Understanding on Counter Terrorism Cooperation and the Joint Counter Terrorism Team and the Protocol on Multi-Jurisdictional Major Crime Investigation in Australia, as appropriate.

4.7 Financial Arrangements for Response

Generally, to ensure accountability for expenditure incurred, the organisation with operational control of any resource shall be responsible for payment of all related expenses associated with its operation during emergencies unless other arrangements are agreed. Requests for additional services or resources additional to the delivery of core functions will be made to the HMA through the WA Police Force.

Funding arrangements for emergencies are dependent on the situation and based on criteria detailed on the [SEMC website](#).



5

Recovery

The WA Police Force on behalf of the Commissioner of Police (HMA) will initiate recovery activities.

The WA Police Force will gain an understanding of known or emerging impacts for the emergency and coordinate the completion of an Impact Statement prior to the transfer of responsibility for management of recovery to the affected local government(s) and/or the State Recovery Controller (if appointed).

The Impact Statement will be developed in consultation with the Incident Support Group, all affected local governments and the State Recovery Coordinator.

The Impact Statement must be approved by the Police Commander with incident control, agreed to by the local government and acknowledged by the State Recovery Coordinator.

The local government will manage recovery following an emergency affecting the community in its district.

Where the WA Police Force and the District/Local Emergency Coordinator identify a requirement for state level coordination of recovery, the implementation of that coordination will be via the State Recovery Coordinator.

These recovery activities are in addition to support that is routinely provided to victims of crime and affected communities.

The WA Police Force will coordinate Commonwealth support in accordance with the recovery arrangements contained within the NCTP where appropriate.

NOTE: Emergency events resulting from a hostile act are not eligible for Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements Western Australia (DRFAWA) funding, unless it is determined to be a terrorist act (other eligible emergencies being fire and natural hazards).



Appendices

Appendix A: Distribution List

This State Hazard Plan is available on the [SEMC website](#). The agencies below will be notified by the WA Police Force (unless otherwise specified) when an updated version is published on this website.

- All agencies and organisations with responsibilities under this Plan
- Emergency Management Australia (SEMC Business Unit to notify)
- Minister for Emergency Services (SEMC Business Unit to notify)
- State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC), SEMC subcommittee and SEMC reference group members (SEMC Business Unit to notify)
- State Library of Western Australia (SEMC Business Unit to notify).

Appendix B: Glossary of Terms/Acronyms

Terminology used throughout this document has the meaning prescribed in section 3 of the *Emergency Management Act 2005* or as defined in the State Emergency Management Glossary. In addition, the following hazard-specific definitions apply.

B1: Glossary of Terms

Term	Definition
Hostile Act	<p>An event or situation that is, or is reasonable suspected to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one or more persons being held hostage • a kidnapping • a siege • the hijacking of a vehicle or aircraft, or • the escape of a person from lawful custody (in specified circumstances). <p>It also includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use, threat or reasonable suspicion of use of an explosive or hazardous substance • possession or reasonable suspicion of possession of a firearm and its use, threat to use or reasonable suspicion of its use (in specified circumstances) • intentional use, threat to use or reasonable suspicion of use or a vehicle or aircraft (in specified circumstances). <p>For the full definition of hostile act, see section 1.2 Hazard Definition of this Plan, derived from regulation 14 (<i>Emergency Management Act 2005</i>).</p>
Police Commander	<p>The person designated by the HMA responsible for the overall management of a hostile act and provides strategic direction to agencies and the Police Forward Commander in accordance with the need of the situation. This person performs the Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System function of Incident Controller.</p>

Term	Definition
Police Forward Commander	The person designated by the Police Commander responsible for control at the incident site.
Terrorist Act	<p>In accordance with the section 100.1 of the <i>Commonwealth Criminal Code 1995</i>:</p> <p>An act, or threat to commit an act, that is done with the intention to coerce or influence the public or any government by intimidation to advance a political, religious or ideological case, and the act causes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Death, serious harm or endangers a person• Serious damage to property• A serious risk to the health or safety of the public, or• Seriously interferes with, disrupts or destroys critical infrastructure such as a telecommunications or electricity network.

B2: Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning
ADF	Australian Defence Force
ANZCTC	Australia New Zealand Counter Terrorism Committee
Cth	Commonwealth
DACC	Defence Assistance to the Civil Community
DFACA	Defence Force Assistance to the Civilian Authorities
DRFAWA	Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements Western Australia
HMA	Hazard Management Agency
NCTP	National Counter Terrorism Plan
NFRC	National Federation Reform Council
SECC	Security and Emergency Committee of Cabinet
SECG	State Emergency Coordination Group

Acronym	Meaning
SEMC	State Emergency Management Committee
SJA	St John Ambulance (WA)

Appendix C: Response Roles and Responsibilities

The WA Police Force, through the Commissioner of Police as the HMA, has the primary role of coordinating the response to hostile act emergencies. The assistance and cooperation of other agencies and organisations operating within their functional areas are necessary for an effective and timely response.

The following are the response roles and responsibilities of agencies under this Plan. Brief all-hazards information is also provided for agencies who may have a role under this Plan – full details of these roles and responsibilities can be found in the State Emergency Management Plan, Appendix E. All agencies should maintain appropriate internal plans and procedures in relation to their specific responsibilities.

Organisation	Response Responsibilities (see State EM Plan Appendix E for full all-hazards roles and responsibilities)
Atco Gas Australia	a. Develop and maintain plans to protect and ensure the resilience of essential gas services.
Australian Government Departments	a. Undertake roles and responsibilities as described in the NCTP. Additional roles and responsibilities as agreed.
Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions	a. Develop and maintain plans to protect and conserve Western Australia's environment.
Department of Communities	a. Coordinate emergency relief and support services for those impacted by the emergency including operating evacuation centres and providing crisis support services (emergency accommodation, emergency clothing and personal requisites, personal support services, financial assistance, emergency food), as required. b. Coordinate and facilitate registration and reunification, including arranging for Register.Find.Reunite. to be activated via the Australian Red Cross, as required. c. Provide a Liaison Officer to the Maylands Incident Command Centre.

Organisation	Response Responsibilities (see State EM Plan Appendix E for full all-hazards roles and responsibilities)
Department of Fire and Emergency Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Develop and maintain plans for their response capabilities for fire, collapse and HAZMAT, chemical detection capability and specialist advice on issues relating to hazardous materials including chemicals, airborne contaminants and decontamination requirements.
Department of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Coordinate the provision of acute medical response to the emergency site. b. Coordinate the transport of medical staff/teams to the emergency site. c. Coordinate the triage of injured persons at the emergency site. d. In conjunction with the Ambulance Commander manage the health aspects of the emergency site. (See St John Ambulance WA). e. Coordinate the medical evacuation of severely injured persons to major medical centres in rural areas or the Perth Metropolitan Area as appropriate. f. Coordinate the public health response to minimise ongoing environmental and public health risks. g. Assist partner agencies in crisis counselling and critical stress management.
Department of the Premier and Cabinet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Undertake roles and responsibilities of First Minister's Departments as described in the NCTP. b. Provide support to the Security and Emergency Committee of Cabinet if activated. c. Provide support to the State Disaster Council if established.
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Develop and maintain plans to protect and ensure the resilience of agricultural and food services.

Organisation	Response Responsibilities (see State EM Plan Appendix E for full all-hazards roles and responsibilities)
Department of Water and Environment Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Chemical detection and monitoring with regard to any impacts on the environment (e.g. pollution of water resources, land, built environment)
Local Governments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Provide resources to assist the HMA when requested. b. Make available suitable municipal buildings to be used as evacuation centres. c. Issue closure notices for airports and airfields which are owned by the local government authority when necessary. d. Close and open roads within their jurisdiction when requested. e. Manage the recovery process for its affected communities.
Main Roads WA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Close and open roads within its jurisdiction at the request of the HMA. b. Assist in the recovery process through road and road infrastructure repair and reconstruction as required. c. Provide details on road conditions to the HMA. d. Traffic flow modelling, traffic light manipulation.
Media (ABC, 6PR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Broadcast public information messages when requested by the HMA. b. Provide support as requested by the HMA and the designated recovery authority during the response and recovery phases.

Organisation	Response Responsibilities (see State EM Plan Appendix E for full all-hazards roles and responsibilities)
Public Transport Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Develop and maintain plans to protect and ensure the resilience of public transport and the public who use these transport networks. b. Close and open public transport within its jurisdiction when requested by the HMA.
St John Ambulance WA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Provide and coordinate the ambulance response, including rescue helicopters, to the incident. b. Manage, coordinate and command the medical aspects at the incident, including jointly with Health Response Teams if required. c. Provide trained Paramedics Special Operations officers to the incident to assist the HMA or other agencies as required with casualty management and extrication (where an area has been deemed safe by the WA Police Force), as appropriate. d. Coordinate and manage the Triage, Treatment and Transport of casualties from the incident to appropriate medical facilities. This may be coordinated jointly with the State Health Incident Control Centre (SHICC). e. Provide appropriate liaison personnel to ISG, OASG, SECG or other coordination centres as requested and required. f. Assist with the transportation of Health Response teams to an incident if required.
Water Corporation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Develop and maintain arrangements to protect and ensure the resilience of its critical water assets².

Notes

² *Security of Critical Infrastructure Act 2018* (section 5).

Organisation	Response Responsibilities (see State EM Plan Appendix E for full all-hazards roles and responsibilities)
Western Australia Police Force (Commissioner of Police as HMA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Develop and maintain the WA Police Force plans specific to hostile act. b. As the HMA, in accordance with the <i>Emergency Management Act 2005</i> liaise with other agencies to ensure coordination of response. c. Initiate recovery activities.
Western Power and Horizon Power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Develop and maintain plans to protect and ensure the resilience of essential electricity services. b. Disconnect electricity services as and when requested by the HMA. c. Restore electricity services in the priority requested by the HMA or the designated recovery authority. d. Assist in the provision of emergency power as requested by the HMA or the designated recovery authority.

