

March 2026

The State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) met on 12 March 2026.

Henderson Precinct and HMAS Stirling

Henderson Precinct

SEMC Members were welcomed by the Henderson Alliance Group and participated in a tour of the Henderson Precinct. This gave members an insight into the investment that the site will be providing in the delivery of aspects of the AUKUS commitments.

The tour included the Common User Facility, which showcased extensive engineering, fabrication and assembly facilities. The site is equipped to build, sustain and upgrade larger and more complex surface fleet vessels, with requisite large vessel infrastructure, contingency docking and maintenance of conventionally armed, nuclear-powered submarines.

HMAS Stirling

HMAS Stirling, located on Garden Island, provides operational and logistical support to Royal Australian Navy (RAN) ships, submarines, and aircraft based in the region. The base also hosts the RAN Submarine Training and Systems Centre, Training Centre West, Defence Communications Station Perth, and various research, trials, and support facilities.

SEMC Members undertook a site tour of the island with Commanding Officer Captain Ken Burleigh, visiting key fireground locations, infrastructure developments, and viewing platforms. The SEMC meeting was subsequently held on site.

The SEMC Chair extends appreciation to the Henderson Alliance Group and the RAN for their hospitality, expertise, and support in facilitating the Members' engagement with local emergency management activities.

Discussion Items and Outcomes

Interim State Hazard Plan – Release of Radioactive Material from a Nuclear Powered Warship (NPW)

SEMC Members approved the Interim State Hazard Plan – Release of Radioactive Material from a Nuclear Powered Warship (NPW). Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) is advancing a validation process throughout 2026 to support the transition of the Hazard Management Agency (HMA) responsibilities from the Commissioner of Police to the Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner. These changes will be communicated across the sector as the work progresses.

State Hazard Plan – HAZMAT – Space Re-entry Debris (SPRED)

The State Hazard Plan – HAZMAT Annex B – Space Re-Entry Debris (SPRED) was approved by the SEMC, following a comprehensive review, consultation process, and endorsement by the SEMC Subcommittee.

Key changes include:

- Hazard definition updated to align with the *Emergency Management Regulations 2006*

- Roles and responsibilities summarised
- Related documents updated to include five core UN Treaties
- Prevention and mitigation strategies aligned with the revised AUSSPREDPLAN
- Recovery section updated to align with the State Recovery Framework and State Emergency Relief and Support Plan
- Terminology, legislation and committee names updated for accuracy
- Sections consolidated, restructured, and headings clarified.

Western Australia (WA) Police Force will communicate these changes across the sector.

[SEMC Subcommittees Workplans](#)

The SEMC Strategic Plan 2026–29 was released in October 2025. To support its implementation, the SEMC developed a 2026 Action Plan.

SEMC endorsed the SEMC Subcommittees Workplan 2026 that defines the priority themes and outcomes. This alignment ensures the SEMC Subcommittee workplans supports the performance, activities and outcomes that will be reported through the SEMC meeting cycles and within the SEMC Annual Report.

[Local Emergency Management Arrangements Project Update](#)

The Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA) Improvement Program is continuing to work toward a more capable and resilient community, through a local approach to emergency management.

The Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) partnered with DFES to deliver the improvement program.

Three key products will be completed by 15 April 2026:

1. LEMA Development Model – tiered approach to define four progressive levels of LEMA maturity – Insufficient, Essential, Established, Optimal.
2. Revised LEMA templates – three new templates, the Emergency Management Plan, Incident Support Handbook and Emergency Management Work Plan.
3. Local Government Emergency Management Knowledge Hub (EM Hub) – available for local governments to use.

SEMC acknowledges the work of the participating local governments during the LEMA Pilot program, their efforts and contributions through this review.

General Updates

[SEMC Annual Report 2024/25](#)

The [SEMC Annual Report 2024/25](#) was tabled in Parliament on 12 March 2026 and is available online.

The Annual Report demonstrates the work undertaken by the members of the SEMC, its Subcommittees and Reference Groups and the District and Local Emergency Management Committees over the reporting period. It shows the achievements and the dedication of the WA Emergency Management sector to ensure that WA's Emergency Management Framework remains contemporary and at the required capability.

2026 Resilient Australia Awards

The 2026 Resilient Australia Awards recognise and promote efforts that make communities safer, more connected and better prepared for natural hazards. Nominations are open until 2 June 2026 for the seven awards (Business, Community, Government, Local Government, Mental Health and Wellbeing, Photography and School). Further details are available on the [Resilient Australia Awards website](#).

Disaster Ready Fund Round Four

The Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) is the Australian Government's flagship disaster resilience and risk reduction initiative. The fourth funding round of DRF is open early to mid-2026. Visit the [Disaster Resilience Grants webpage](#) for more information.

Comprehensive Review Schedule

The following State Emergency Management documents are planned for comprehensive review and broad consultation in 2026:

State Hazard Plan – Animal and Plant Biosecurity	State Hazard Plan – Hostile Act – broad consultation currently open
State Hazard Plan – Cyber Security Incident	Local Recovery Guideline
State Support Plan – Freight and Supply Chain	Impact Statement Guideline and Template
State Support Plan – Emergency Public Information	State Hazard Plan – Maritime Environmental Emergencies
State Hazard Plan – Collapse	WA Community Evacuation in Emergencies Guideline
State Hazard Plan – Terrorist Act	State Hazard Plan – Heatwave
State Hazard Plan – Tsunami	State Hazard Plan – Earthquake
Traffic Management during Emergencies Guideline	Communicating in Recovery Guidelines
	District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC) Handbook

Next Meeting of the SEMC

The next meeting of SEMC will be held on 21 May 2026.

Contact Us

If you have feedback or questions, get in touch at info@semc.wa.gov.au