



DFES
Department of Fire &
Emergency Services

Annual Report 2021-22

FOR A SAFER STATE





📍 The stunning Western Australian landscape.
Credit: G Wilson.

Acknowledgement of Country

The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) acknowledges the Aboriginal peoples throughout the state of Western Australia (WA) 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.

Aboriginal people should be aware this publication may contain images or names of deceased persons in photographs or printed material.

Throughout this Annual Report, the term 'Aboriginal' is used rather than the term 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander' in recognition of the fact that Aboriginal people are the original inhabitants of Western Australia. No disrespect is intended to our Torres Strait Islander colleagues and community.

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* For our 2021–22 Annual Report, we have streamlined the contents in line with *Treasurer's Instruction 104C – Annual Reporting 2021–22 Exemption*.

Letter of Compliance



The Honourable Stephen Dawson MLC
Minister for Emergency Services
Dumas House
2 Havelock Street
West Perth WA 6005

Dear Minister Dawson,

In accordance with section 63 of the [Financial Management Act 2006](#), I hereby submit the Annual Report of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services for the financial year ended 30 June 2022, for your information and presentation to Parliament.

The Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the [Financial Management Act 2006](#) as well as the [Fire and Emergency Services Act 1998](#), the [Fire Brigades Act 1942](#) and the [Bush Fires Act 1954](#).

Sincerely,

D Klemm AFSM
Accountable Authority
29 August 2022



📷 Minister Stephen Dawson speaks with volunteers from Northshore SES .

Executive Summary



Commissioner Darren Klemm enjoying a lighter moment during a presentation.

From the Commissioner

As I enter my fifth year as the Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner, I continue to be impressed with the way the Department of Fire and Emergency Services and the broader emergency services community has navigated its way through another rewarding yet challenging year.

Collectively, we've continued to deliver on our purpose to support the WA community to prepare for disasters and protect them against the unpredictability of natural hazards and emergency incidents.

We've also made significant strides behind the frontline, working more closely with local communities and nurturing a diverse and supportive culture – both of which are critical to delivering highly effective and expert emergency management.

Our corporate and operational teams are more closely aligned than ever, ensuring we are working as one team in the service of our communities.

In the past year, emergency services personnel have attended more than 30,000 incidents. We've faced bushfires, structure fires, rescues on land and sea, floods, cyclones and severe weather. Working together with a unified vision, no matter the service we represent or the local community we serve in, is our strength.



Commissioner Darren Klemm

That has never been more evident than in February when we were faced with four Level 3 bushfires running concurrently in Denmark, Bridgetown/Hester, Shackleton/Corrigin and Narrogin. Emergency services volunteers from multiple services, career firefighters, DFES personnel and other agencies worked side by side to protect these communities to bring these blazes under control.

The incredible efforts of the 28,000 emergency services volunteers and DFES staff across the State show communities that they can trust and rely on us to be there in their time of need.

I also wish to thank the WA community for preparing themselves for emergencies, heeding advice and keeping themselves informed through Emergency WA. All this goes a long way to make WA a safer State now and into the future.

DFES has continued to stand with the communities devastated by the Woorloo bushfire and Tropical Cyclone Seroja. We have been supporting these communities in their recovery since February and April 2021, respectively, and will continue to do so until the job is done. Recovery is a critical part of DFES’ role to protect and support impacted communities. The way we’ve worked alongside other agencies and local governments to assist those affected to recover and rebuild has been impressive. Working in partnership is at the core of everything that we do.

I am proud we were in a position that, in addition to protecting our own communities, we could also offer our emergency services expertise nationally and internationally. In September 2021, a DFES taskforce travelled to Canada to provide much needed relief to emergency services who were battling intense wildfires. In April 2022, more than 70 volunteers and staff were deployed to support the response to devastating floods across New South Wales. DFES provided operational support, logistics, planning, public information and community engagement capabilities to these incidents.


This year DFES has continued to support COVID response efforts at the State Health Incident Control Centre. Urban Search and Rescue technicians were also deployed to New South Wales, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and locally at Fremantle Port providing logistical support through the Western Australian Medical Assistance Teams and Australian Medical Assistance Teams.

We are collectively working towards building a more diverse, inclusive and safer working environment. Through DFES’ Workforce and Diversity Plan, I am committed to building an inclusive culture that embraces a diverse workforce. It is recognised that our diversity brings an abundance of skills and a richness of knowledge that works hand in hand to keep the Western Australian community safe.

Thank you to all emergency services volunteers and DFES staff for your hard work over the past year. With your expertise, dedication and commitment we continue to make WA a safer State.

Darren Klemm AFSM
Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner



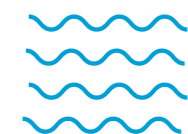
 A water bomber assists firefighters battling a bushfire in Treeton, February 2022.



We have over **28,000** emergency services volunteers and DFES staff across the State.



In the past year, emergency services personnel have attended more than **30,000** incidents.



More than **70** volunteers and staff were deployed to support the emergency response to the NSW floods.

Our Activities at a Glance*

We have structured our Annual Report around our Strategy 2020–24, which is built on three pillars: WA Communities, Our People and Emergency Management.

WA Communities

4,741

Emergency WA warnings issued

 **100**

new buildings inspected

 **88**

total fire ban days declared

298,053 

followers on social media

Our People

2,015 

staff and volunteers completed health and safety training

954

health and safety consultations

917

health and safety hazards reported

235 

Wellness Branch visits

Emergency Management

 **8,319**

total fires

4,411

bushfires

2,570 

natural hazard events

2,961 

road crash rescues

2,316

rescues with medical assistance

 **910**

homes saved from structure fire

1,037

hazardous situations

10,718 

Triple Zero (000) calls

* More statistics from our year are featured throughout this report on pages where stories give context to the numbers.

About Us



📷 Volunteers from Mandogalup BFB and Baldivis VFES.

Our Vision, Purpose and Values

Our vision

All Western Australians working together for a safer State.

Our purpose

To achieve a safer Western Australia by enabling and protecting the community before, during and after emergencies.

Our values

Teamwork

We are strongest when we work together. We value the skills and attributes each person brings and the role they play.

Commitment

We are dedicated to getting the best outcomes for our community. We go above and beyond to be prepared for the unexpected.

Trust

We rely on each other. We always treat each other with respect and act with integrity.

Leadership

We encourage people to lead through action and attitude. We nurture leadership in ourselves and our communities.



Organisational Profile

Working together for a safer State

Our people play an important role in making WA a safer place to live. Together with our emergency services volunteers, we are responsible for delivering emergency services in the largest jurisdiction in Australia, covering more than 2.5 million km², with a coastline of 10,200 km and a population of more than 2.7 million.

Our people in executive, technical and administrative roles support local governments in administering, training and funding the Bush Fire Service, Emergency Services Cadets and junior programs.

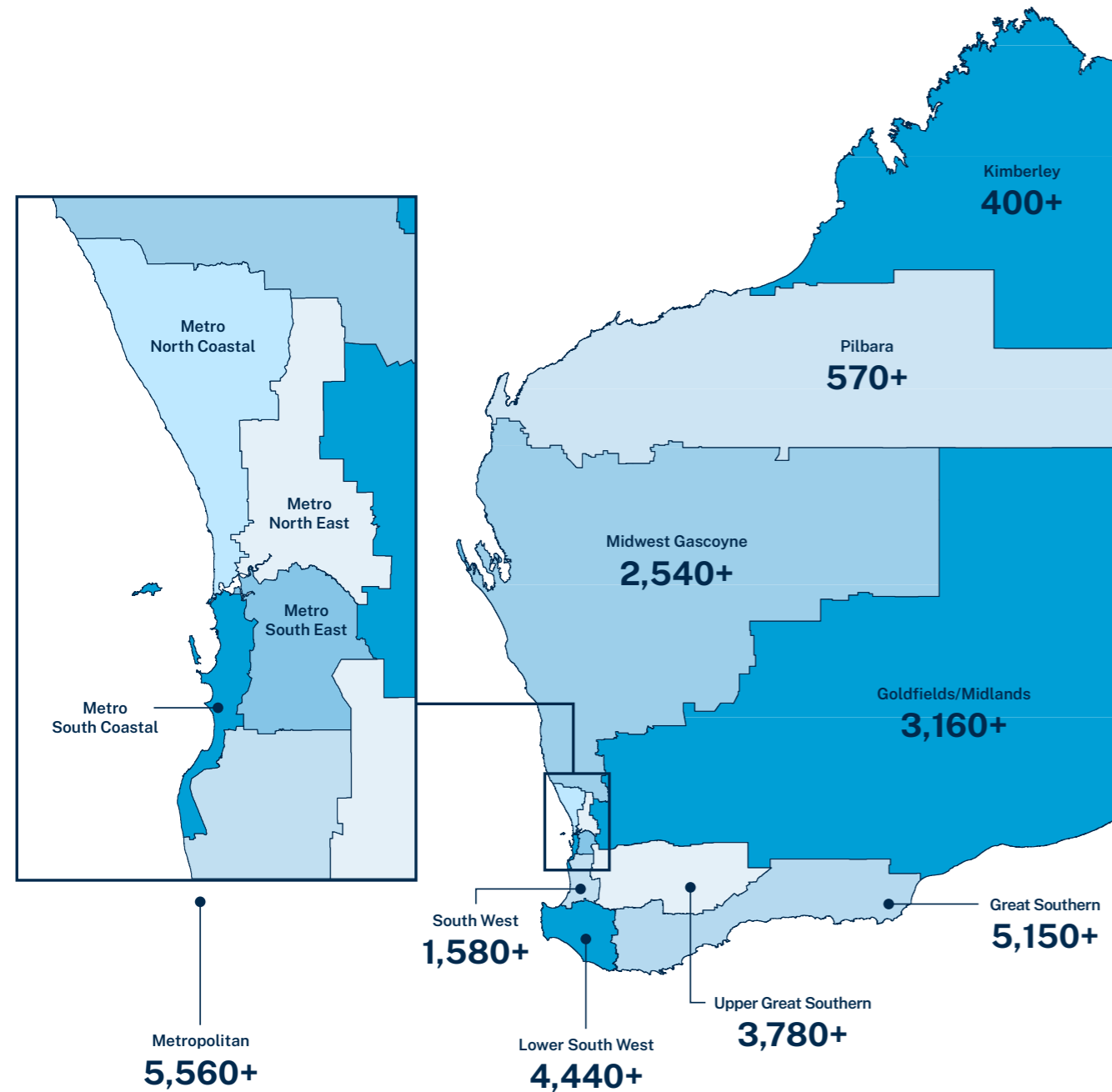


Volunteers in Northam work together during emergencies.

Service	BGUs*	Members	Juniors & cadets
Career Fire and Rescue Service (CFRS)	29	1,255	-
Bush Fire Service (BFS)	565	18,997	167
State Emergency Service (SES)	64	1,804	22
Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services (VFES)	37	897	21
Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service (VFRS)	94	2,177	213
Marine Rescue Western Australia	39	1,513	14
Public Service Officers and Technicians	-	578	-
Total staff and volunteers	828	27,221	437

* Brigades, groups or units.

Our people across the DFES regions



Working with our Emergency Services Partners

Our partnerships are critical to providing emergency services across WA. We work with a range of emergency services partners to deliver high quality, coordinated emergency responses for the community.

We share, with the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM), a responsibility to ensure WA communities are informed and supported in preparing for severe weather events. Through our close working relationship with BoM, a meteorologist is based in our Emergency Services Complex in Cockburn to provide current weather conditions and forecasts to incident managers.

We work closely with the WA Police Force (WA Police), which has responsibility for the State’s air, land and marine search and rescue operations. Our SES units and Marine Rescue WA groups provide local knowledge and search and rescue teams.

Together with WA Police and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), we work to reduce arson across the State. Joint agency campaigns encourage the community, particularly in areas vulnerable to bushfire, to be vigilant against arsonists and to report suspicious behaviour. A key tool is our Extinguish Arson Database, used by our Fire Investigation Officers and the WA Police Force to identify trends and monitor suspicious fire activity. Our [Strike Force Vulcan video](#) contains further information about how we work to reduce arson together.

We have joint management responsibility with DBCA for the State’s aerial firefighting assets. The State Operations Air Desk operates from the Emergency Services Complex, Cockburn. Together, we dispatch and coordinate our fire surveillance and firefighting aircraft.

We manage the contracts for the State’s two emergency rescue helicopters. Sponsorship for the helicopters is provided by RAC, and critical care paramedics are provided under a contract arrangement with St John Ambulance. Helicopters and crews are provided under private contract. In 2021–22, the Emergency Rescue Helicopter Service conducted 707 missions, flying more than 1,625 hours and travelling over 142,800 kms.



Partnership in Action

We work hard in conjunction with our partners across the State to achieve our vision of *All Western Australians working together for a safer State*. By working side-by-side and striving to achieve better outcomes for the WA community, we continue to deliver a high quality, effective and coordinated emergency service. Highlights of our partnerships in action this year include:

Rapid Ambulance Support Officers

When St John Ambulance were impacted with staffing pressures due to COVID-19, we supported them and the WA community by providing our front-line personnel to fulfill the role of Rapid Ambulance Support Officers. Our staff used their existing skills to drive ambulances and to assist paramedics where possible. By working together, we ensured the WA community continued to receive ambulance services they required.

Assisting in the search for missing girl

The search for missing four-year-old Cleo Smith near Quobba Blowholes campground, made headlines around the world. The WA Police Force immediately sought our assistance with the search on land and sea, and our State Emergency Service and Marine Rescue volunteers didn't hesitate to help. More than 45 volunteers put their lives on hold to help, dedicating more than 2,400 hours over seven days to support WA Police in the search. The volunteer's dedication to the search was unquestionable, and we were thrilled and relieved when Cleo was found safe.

COVID-19 pandemic response

We continued to support the Department of Health through the COVID-19 pandemic. We provided senior personnel to fulfill the role of Deputy Incident Controller dedicated to the State Health Incident Coordination Centre, to share our experience and knowledge of response to large-scale events. We also deployed logisticians as members of the Australian Medical Assistance Team (AUSMAT) to Papua New Guinea. The AUSMAT team flew to numerous hospitals around Papua New Guinea to assess local health plans, procedures and infrastructure, and assisted with clinical care of COVID-19 patients.

Cultural Fire Practices

Our Cultural Fire Program continues to grow by supporting and understanding cultural fire practises across the State, and empowering Aboriginal people to conduct cultural fire practises on their Boodja (Country). In partnership with Goreng-Menang Noongar Elders, Nowanup Rangers, Gondwana Link and the University of Western Australia, a two-way learning opportunity was realised when a series of cultural burns were delivered by the Elders. The Goreng-Menang Noongar Elders had an opportunity to apply long-held cultural burning practices and express their custodial responsibilities involved with Caring for Country. We enhanced our understanding, knowledge and application of cultural fire practices, including the integration of cultural and contemporary practices within the bushfire management sector. These cultural burns were undertaken in a range of locations northeast of Albany to support important cultural and environmental outcomes.



St John Ambulance Officer explaining the components of the ambulance to our frontline personnel.



Goreng-Menang Noongar Elders with UWA, Gondwana Link, Nowanup Rangers and DFES staff at the Nowanup Meeting Place.

WA Emergency Management

As WA's leading emergency management agency, DFES performs a critical role in supporting the State to coordinate and deliver its emergency management responsibilities across prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery.

We partner with our stakeholders and the community and strive to maximise the ability of the whole sector to achieve our vision: *all Western Australians working together for a safer State.*

Across emergency management we enable coordination, communication, and capacity and capability building across the State. We also connect with the community, supporting resilience building and locally led recovery.

We do this by:

Legislation, Policy and Governance

- Supporting the State's legislated advisory body for emergency management, the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC), its subcommittees and reference groups.
- Managing the State Emergency Management Framework on behalf of the SEMC.
- Providing executive and administration support for the *Emergency Management Act 2005* and *Emergency Management Regulations 2006*, including governance principles and advice.
- Administering Commonwealth/State risk reduction grants on behalf of the SEMC and recovery funding through Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements and other mechanisms as they become available.

- Fostering shared discussions and decision making between State and local government agencies and non-government organisations across emergency management.
- Representing the views of the State and the Emergency Management sector in a range of forums to ensure WA has a voice on important matters and that our practices are contemporary.

Communication

- Providing the public with accurate, coordinated, timely and accessible public information that allows people to make informed decisions and take appropriate action.
- Helping the State deliver Public Safety Mobile Broadband capability.
- Driving improvements in regional telecommunications resilience.
- Deliver education and engagement programs aimed at promoting disaster resilience for individuals and communities.

Capacity and Capability building

- Enhancing community preparedness.
- Working with our partners across government agencies, businesses, and the community to reduce the risk of hazards and mitigate their impacts on the community.
- Driving long term improvements in policy and practice in relation to natural disasters.
- Providing intelligence to inform decision making.



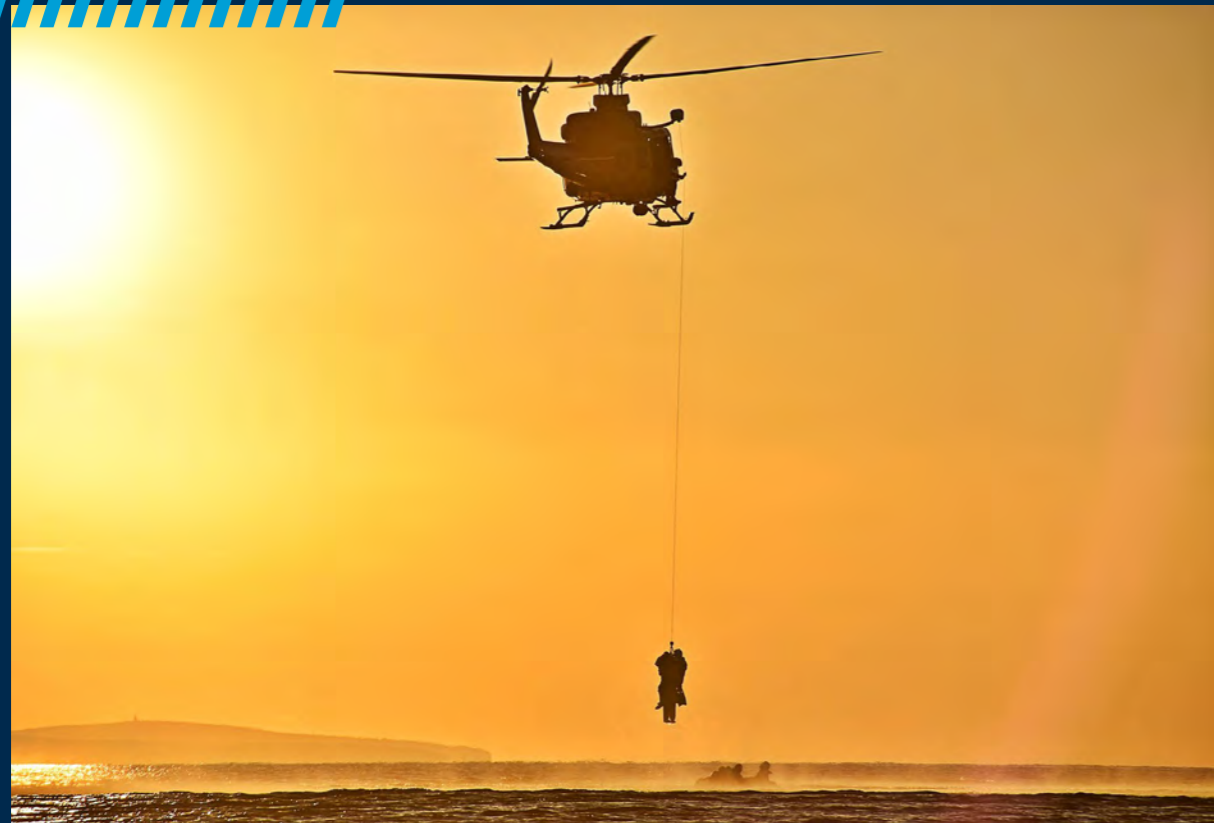
📷 DPIRD supports animal welfare following the Wooroloo bushfire.

- Develop and coordinate risk management strategies to assess community vulnerability to emergencies.
- Supporting the State to undertake capability-based exercising necessary to respond to and recover from the hazards impacting WA.
- Coordinating State support of locally led recovery.
- Administering financial recovery assistance on behalf of the Commonwealth and State.
- Facilitating consultation in partnership with local government for the development of a community disaster resilience strategy.
- Systematically collecting and reviewing data and information to identify trends, risks, and opportunities for improvement with the view of delivering better emergency management on behalf of the people of WA.

Connection

- Recognising the value of local knowledge and expertise, supporting locally led Emergency Management.
- Assisting Local and District Emergency Management Committees to:
 - provide strategic direction and guidance to emergency management agencies,
 - develop effective emergency management arrangements,
 - build capability, and
 - contribute to policy decisions.
- Employing District Emergency Management Advisors to work with our partners in the regions to enhance their emergency management capability and capacity.
- Working with the community, placing strong emphasis on shared responsibility and resilience.

Reflections on the Past Year



📷 DFES RAC Rescue helicopter and volunteers take part in a training exercise.

Reflection and Highlights

Our Strategy 2020–24 is built on three pillars: WA Communities, Our People and Emergency Management. Over the past year, many noteworthy activities have collectively supported us to achieve our strategic outcomes.

WA Communities

Tropical Cyclone Seroja and the Wooroloo bushfire – one year on

11 April 2022 marked one-year since Tropical Cyclone Seroja devastated communities across 16 local governments in the Mid West, Gascoyne and Wheatbelt regions. This powerful system took only 45 minutes to cross the coast and leave a trail of destruction across an area more than half the size of Victoria.

The impact left its mark on the landscape, on homes and businesses, and on the communities supporting each other in the aftermath. Through the Commonwealth and State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements, several assistance packages were initiated, including the \$104.5 million recovery program – the biggest disaster recovery package in WA history.

Many coastal and rural communities are working through the long recovery process. It's a different experience wherever you go and whoever you speak to, but empathy and compassion remains constant. The resilience local communities have shown us is inspiring.

There has been much work done on the ground in the past year from multiple agencies working side-by-side with the community. Every little bit is a step forward, and while there's still a long way to go, we're here for as long as it takes. Watch our [Cyclone Seroja 1 Year On video here](#).

1 February 2022 also marked one-year on from the Wooroloo bushfire that caused extensive damage in the Shire of Mundaring and the City of Swan. Over 10,000 hectares were burnt and 86 homes destroyed, with many more damaged by the fire. Though the fires have long since been extinguished, impacted local communities still face many challenges. These resilient communities have shown grace, patience and compassion on the road to recovery, and we are privileged to continue to provide them with our support.

New nationally consistent bushfire warnings ahead of summer

WA's bushfire warnings have new icons and colours as part of the new Australian Warning System. Emergency WA, the trusted source of emergency information for the whole State, now features the new bushfire warning colours: yellow for 'Advice' and orange for 'Watch and Act'. 'Emergency Warning' remains red. The changes are the first step in WA's adoption of the warning system, delivering nationally consistent emergency information so the public can recognise and understand warnings no matter where they are in Australia. For more information, watch our [Changes to the WA Bushfire Warning System video](#).

As well as new bushfire warning colours, BoM tracking maps for cyclones approaching the WA coast will also automatically appear on the Emergency WA website. These features will give the community greater awareness in the lead-up to and during emergencies.

Our unique social media approach is getting the message out there

This year, our dynamic approach to digital communications has continued to boost the delivery of critical information and community engagement through our online platforms. Our ongoing efforts to weave in local Aboriginal culture – such as the sharing of seasonal calendars, words and places – has been well received. The use of topical news and pop-culture references for safety messaging, combined with an engaging and educational approach to commentary, has seen greater interactions with the community. In 2021, our audience engagement grew exponentially to 6.9 million – a 121% increase on the previous year. Our positive brand recognition on social media continues to grow, and so do the numbers; we have seen a staggering 53% increase in overall impressions this year, from 95 to 146 million.



📷 The new bushfire warning icons and colours are consistent across Australia.



📷 Community members learn about Aboriginal traditional fire practices during the inaugural Bushfire Community Day.

Our Inaugural Bushfire Community Day

The first ever Bushfire Community Day was held in October 2021 at the Bushfire Centre of Excellence. Career and volunteer personnel were on hand to discuss and exhibit information related to bushfires, including the My Bushfire Plan app, the Emergency WA website, the new Australian Fire Danger Rating System and the Animal Welfare in Emergencies plan. Family friendly activities were available to discuss bushfire safety topics in engaging and age appropriate ways. Watch our [2021 Bushfire Community Day video](#) to see what the day looked like.

Permanent Large Air Tanker to be based in WA

In a major boost to the State’s aerial firefighting fleet, a Large Air Tanker (LAT) will be permanently located in WA during the southern bushfire season and will play a vital role in keeping our communities safe. There hasn’t been a LAT exclusively for WA before, with the State Government previously relying on aircraft being available through the National Aerial Firefighting Centre.

The State Government operated LAT will be based at the Busselton Margaret River Airport for three months each year from December to March, when the State is at its most vulnerable during the high threat bushfire season. The LAT will boost the State’s firefighting capability as it has a larger drop capacity, longer range, is able to fly in extreme conditions, contain bushfires in terrain that can’t be accessed by vehicles, providing invaluable support for the firefighters on the ground.



📷 Minister Stephen Dawson and Commissioner Darren Klemm alongside the Large Air Tanker.



📷 Minister Stephen Dawson and Commissioner Darren Klemm with the EHR crew members.

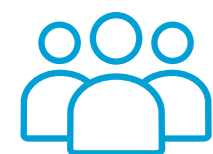
Emergency Rescue Helicopter Service Upgrades

The State Government is investing \$26.7 million to upgrade the Emergency Rescue Helicopter Service, commonly known as RAC Rescue. The service provides vital search and rescue and critical aeromedical services 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and these upgrades will modernise and enhance its capability. The significant upgrades include replacing the two primary and backup helicopters with newer models that can operate within a 350-kilometre radius of their bases at Bunbury and Jandakot, expanding the range by 75 per cent. Improvements in technology such as advanced night vision imaging systems will also be fitted.

Helping the community through blood donations

The Emergency Services Lifeblood Challenge sees DFES, WA Police and St John Ambulance engage in friendly competition to see who can achieve the highest number of donations. During the event held in August 2021, our staff and volunteers gave 452 donations, saving 1,336 lives, an amazing effort.

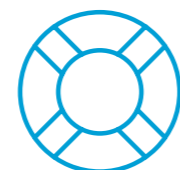
Throughout 2021, we rolled up our sleeves to make a total of 1,087 donations, helping to save 3,261 lives. Given the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are proud of our efforts in helping our communities.



We have **298,053** followers across all our social media platforms.



In the last financial year we've gained **175 million** social media impressions.



3,261 lives saved through annual blood donations.

Movember Foundation's First Responder Challenge

This year DFES embraced the Movember Foundation's First Responder Challenge. This initiative increases awareness of men's health and raises funds to support projects across mental health, suicide prevention, prostate cancer and testicular cancer research.

This year's Challenge saw 27 teams comprising of 136 members across the State growing a moustache, making a move or hosting a Moment event. A BBQ was held to kick start the month with Perth Movember Ambassador, Craig Butterworth providing inspiration. We also held four Move for Movember walks, and our friends at WA Police, St John Ambulance, Corrective Services and DBCA joined us to get active, raise awareness and support men's health. This year, DFES raised an impressive \$39,077 and moved 1,365 km.



Our People

A changing of the guard – Deputy Commissioner

In May, Melissa Pexton was appointed Deputy Commissioner, Strategy and Emergency Management. Melissa replaces Deputy Commissioner Mal Cronstedt AFSM, who has retired after more than 40 years of distinguished service.

Melissa is the first female Deputy Commissioner to be appointed at DFES. She brings an extensive knowledge of emergency management, with significant experience at national, state and local level. She has shown outstanding leadership in her recent role as State Recovery Controller, leading the considerable recovery effort required in the aftermath of Tropical Cyclone Seroja.

Our heartfelt thanks are extended to Mal Cronstedt AFSM, who made a significant contribution to emergency services and the WA community during his career. We wish Mal well as he retires to spend time with his family.




New Deputy Commissioner Melissa Pexton.



Retired Deputy Commissioner Mal Cronstedt receives a memento on his retirement, with Commissioner Darren Klemm and Deputy Commissioner Craig Waters.



 Zac Berglund, winner of the Marine Rescue Award for Youth Achievement, is joined with the finalists at the 2021 WAFES Awards.



408 national medals and clasps were awarded.



1,530 long-service medals and clasps were awarded.

WAFES Awards

Our annual Fire and Emergency Services Awards were held in September 2021. The ceremony recognises excellence across the whole of our emergency services.

State Emergency Service Awards

Connie Eikelboom from the Armadale State Emergency Service won the Peter Keillor Award, the highest individual honour within the service, and the Youth Achievement Award was presented to James Cotter from Carnarvon State Emergency Service. The Communications Support Unit was presented with the Team Achievement Award.

Marine Rescue

Western Australia Awards

Alex Williams, ESM of Marine Rescue Walpole, was presented with the Award for Outstanding Individual Contribution, and Zac Berglund from Marine Rescue Dampier received the Marine Rescue Award for Youth Achievement. Marine Rescue Albany was presented with the Award for Outstanding Group Operations.

Firefighting Awards

Broome Regional Bushfire Brigade member James Taylor received the Murray Lang Bush Fire Service Award, the highest individual honour within the Bush Fire Service. Firefighter Rik Fennell was presented with the WA Career Fire and Rescue Service Individual Achievement Award.

Eucla Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services member Simone Conklin received the Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services Award. The WA Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service Award was presented to Sheree Lowe of Merredin Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service.

Jay Dwyer from Quinns Rocks Bushfire Brigade was presented with the Firefighting Youth Achievement Award and the Kalbarri Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service received the Firefighting Team Achievement Award.

DFES Awards

Nicola O’Callaghan of DFES Marine Services was presented with the Corporate Award for Outstanding Individual Contribution, and Andrew Thompson AFSM from the Lower South West Regional Office was awarded the Operational Award for Outstanding Individual Contribution.

WA firefighters received Canadian recognition

Volunteer and career firefighters from DFES and DBCA received Canadian Deployment Recognition Pins in appreciation of their fighting efforts last year. Minister Stephen Dawson and Commissioner Darren Klemm presented the pins and thanked staff and volunteers for their efforts.

The special taskforce of WA firefighters was deployed after Australia received a formal request from the Canadian Government to help tackle the worst wildfires experienced in years. The team were sent to Ontario and British Columbia to help battle nearly 400 wildfires across the country. The fire intensity and horrendous conditions, a result of record temperatures, have been likened to our own Black Summer bushfires.

Our YES Program


Our Youth in Emergency Services (YES) program is for young people between 11 and 18 years and is delivered by volunteers from a range of emergency services, including BFB, SES, MRWA, VFRS, St John Ambulance and WA Police. The trainers' diversity of experience provides the participants with a holistic picture of emergency services and support network development across WA.

The YES program improves young people's risk perception and knowledge about hazards in their community, as well as their ability to appropriately prepare for local hazards, respond to an emergency and support recovery. It also promotes a positive view of volunteering and develops a willingness to volunteer with the emergency services into the future.



📷 Minister Stephen Dawson and Commissioner Darren Klemm with some of our Canadian Deployment Recognition Pins recipients.



 Bunbury CFRS and Bunbury VFRS firefighters wearing breathing apparatus at the Bridgetown bushfire.

Emergency Management

DFES' capabilities stretched by four concurrent bushfires

On Sunday 6 February, WA firefighters faced significant incidents under the worst weather conditions experienced in many years. Four concurrent significant bushfires, located in Narrogin, Shackleton, Denmark and Bridgetown, placed pressure on volunteer and career firefighters, supporting agencies and local governments alike. Firefighters from across the State were deployed to assist local crews battling these blazes. Working side by side, there is no doubt their efforts saved lives and properties, with an estimated 1,500 homes saved. In total, approximately 60,000 hectares were burnt that weekend, and about 40 dwellings were lost. Our thoughts remain with the communities impacted by these fires, and we are committed to providing ongoing support to help people through this challenging time.

Resupply missions to remote communities

Throughout the northern wet season, sudden flooding and severe weather routinely isolates remote communities, limiting or blocking any transport of supplies into the area.

This year, 27 resupply missions took place in the Kimberley region, delivering essential resources to communities like Noonkanbah, Bililuna, Tirralintji and Djugerari. Volunteers in Halls Creek, Fitzroy Crossing and Kununurra assisted with the resupply missions.



📍 Minister Stephen Dawson and Commissioner Darren Klemm at the Black Hawk launch.

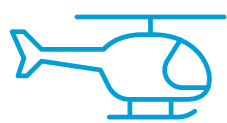
New aviation assets

Two Black Hawk twin-engine helicopters took to the skies over WA this summer, boosting the State's aerial fleet capacity. This was the first time Black Hawks have been deployed in WA, and they added a new dimension to the fleet with their ability to drop water, retardant and foam in inaccessible areas, and to support firefighters on the ground. The drop capacity of these aircraft is substantial, and their agility provides us with more versatility when fighting fires.

Supported by DFES mobile fuel trucks, the Black Hawks can operate for up to 10 hours a day, refuelling at suitable ovals or parks, and resupply water from collared tanks or available bodies of water.

We conducted a public naming competition through our social media to name the new Black Hawks. Over 2,500 entries were submitted, and names were narrowed down to a final list of five pairs, which were then voted on by the public. With over 12,000 votes cast, the winning names are Yelka and Florian. Yelka is the Aboriginal Noongar word for hawk, while Florian is the patron saint for firefighters. These names honour both the State's indigenous heritage and firefighters.

In a first for WA, a Large Air Tanker, funded through the National Aerial Firefighting Centre, was based in WA throughout the 2021-22 bushfire season.



1,625 total Emergency Rescue Helicopter Service mission hours



Aircrafts dropped fire suppressant **4,699** times.



A total of **15 million litres** of fire suppressant was dropped by aircraft.

Grain harvest strategy

To help protect WA's record-breaking grain harvest, we strengthened our response during this high-risk period by strategically basing waterbombing aircraft in grain-growing regions. Four waterbombers and two air attack supervision aircraft were based at Esperance, Northam and Narrogin during their respective peak periods, allowing strike teams to be deployed to high-priority fires at short notice. Over the six-week period, the strike teams responded to 19 crop fires from as far north as Allanooka in the Mid West down to Pink Lake in the Great Southern. The specialist aircraft completed 126 drops on firegrounds, dropping more than 390,000 litres of water and retardant to suppress flames and prevent fires from spreading.

WA teams help NSW with flood disaster

More than 75 WA Emergency Services personnel from DFES, including SES volunteers, and DBCA travelled to New South Wales to help the communities affected in the flooding disaster earlier this year. The WA teams were deployed across flood-affected towns, where their expertise in operations, incident control, planning, intelligence and community liaison played a critical role keeping the communities safe. We're thankful to have been able to provide much needed relief to our NSW emergency services family, as they have done for us during major emergencies.



DFES staff formed part of a multi-agency taskforce based at Goonellabah, responding to significant floods in the Northern Rivers region, NSW.

New fleet of emergency services vehicles

Designed in consultation with volunteers from across the State, a vast range of cutting-edge emergency services appliances have been rolled out across WA. Built fit-for-purpose, these impressive bits of kit can handle the tough conditions that WA throws our way. Since June 2021, a total of 91 vehicles have been delivered to local brigades, Marine Rescue Groups and SES units to enable our frontline personnel and volunteers to carry out their essential roles. To see how our project advisory teams gave us invaluable input into the new vehicles, watch our [Fleet Launch video](#).

The independent review into the Wooroloo Bushfire released

The Wooroloo Bushfire in February 2021 destroyed 86 properties and burnt more than 10,000 hectares in the Perth Hills. The *AFAC Independent Operational Review – A Review of the Management of the Wooroloo fire of February 2021* was released on 29 March 2022 and made 13 recommendations to enhance prevention, preparedness, response and recovery to bushfire in WA. The review also commended the efforts of emergency services, noting that weather conditions during the bushfire were incredibly challenging. DFES is leading the State Government’s implementation of the Report’s recommendations, in partnership with state agencies, local governments and other key stakeholders.



Minister Stephen Dawson, Commissioner Darren Klemm and volunteers with Marine Rescue Broome’s latest addition to their vessel fleet, Redbill III and Broome Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service’s new Road Crash Rescue appliance.



30,480 total incidents during the year.



9,543 volunteers attended incidents.



We have a fleet of 1,820 incident response vehicles and vessels.

Strategy 2020–24 Outcomes

Our Strategy 2020–24 is aligned to the State Government's goals and our Outcome Based Management Framework. It is built on three pillars: WA Communities, Our People and Emergency Management and is delivered through our Corporate and Command Plans which detail the action we will take to achieve our goals.

To track our progress, we regularly measure our performance against our outcomes. Over the past two years, we have achieved all of our target measures.



The DFES website was accessed **1,655,547** times for hazard risk and community information.



14% increase in the number of volunteers proportionate to regional populations.



1,259 operational training courses delivered.



843 planning proposals referred from local government.



\$10.4 million provided to local governments for bushfire mitigation activities.



579 bushfire mitigation treatments completed by local governments.

WA Communities

✓ **Achieved**

Communities recognise and understand their risks

To assess our performance against this outcome, we measure:

- Emergency WA uptime
- the number of times the community accessed hazard risk and community information from our website
- the proportion of the community who have a bushfire plan

These indicators show our programs and services have had a positive effect towards meeting this outcome.

✓ **Achieved**

Communities can effectively manage local hazards

To assess our performance against this outcome, we measure the proportion of:

- local governments participating in the bushfire risk management planning program
- volunteers in the regions

These indicators show our programs and services have had a positive effect towards meeting this outcome.

✓ **Achieved**

Partnerships work cohesively to achieve effective results

To assess our performance against this outcome, we measure the proportion of local governments:

- participating in the bushfire risk management planning program
- that have a Bushfire Risk Management Plan endorsed by the Office of Bushfire Risk Management

These indicators show our programs and services have had a positive effect towards meeting this outcome.

✓ **Achieved**


We embrace the skills and knowledge of the community

To assess our performance against this outcome, we measure the number of volunteers:

- as a proportion of regional populations
- who attended an incident this year
- who are qualified as Level 1 Incident Controllers

These indicators show our programs and services have had a positive effect towards meeting this outcome.


Our People

 **Achieved** **A diverse team of volunteers and staff with a wide range of skills**

To assess our performance against this outcome, we measure the following against State targets:

- our staff diversity
- our volunteer diversity


These indicators show our programs and services have had a positive effect towards meeting this outcome.

 **Achieved** **Development programs are in place to grow leadership qualities in all of our people**

To assess our performance against this outcome, we measure the availability of:


- training for all staff and volunteers across WA
- a variety of training courses

These indicators show our programs and services have had a positive effect towards meeting this outcome.

 **Achieved** **Our people are valued, respected and recognised**

To assess our performance against this outcome, we measure the proportion of volunteers who nominate to receive their long service award.

This indicator shows our programs and services have had a positive effect towards meeting this outcome.


 **Achieved** **An excellent health and safety record**

To assess our performance against this outcome, we measure our results against the following State targets:

- fatalities
- lost time injuries
- musculoskeletal injuries

These indicators show our programs and services have had a positive effect towards meeting this outcome.


Emergency Management

 **Achieved** **Excellent emergency management across all hazards**

To assess our performance against this outcome, we measure our:

- capability to respond to any of our eight hazards
- capacity to respond to any of our eight hazards


These indicators show our programs and services have had a positive effect towards meeting this outcome.

 **Achieved** **Risk is reduced and managed**

To assess our performance against this outcome, we measure the availability of:

- training for all staff and volunteers across the State
- a variety of training courses
- community access to hazard information

These indicators show our programs and services have had a positive effect towards meeting this outcome.

 **Achieved** **Innovation and continuous improvement is embedded before, during and after emergencies**

To assess our performance against this outcome, we measure the increase in After Action Review submissions registered.

This indicator shows our programs and services have had a positive effect towards meeting this outcome.

Compliance and Other Disclosures



📷 Karratha SES volunteers.

Compliance

Substantive Equality

Substantive Equality aims to achieve equitable outcomes for all Western Australians, as far as possible. At DFES, we realise that some policies, procedures, practices and services which appear neutral could unintentionally disadvantage some people. Our Workforce and Diversity Action Plan 2020-2022 meets Substantive Equality requirements and guidelines, and provides a powerful framework to build and sustain inclusive employment.

Our organisational culture creates positive working environments where all individuals are treated fairly and respectfully, with equal access to opportunities and resources. It is not about treating everyone exactly the same, all of the time, rather it is ensuring that everyone feels they are thriving and appreciated in the workplace. In turn, diversity becomes a strategic asset that drives performance and genuinely reflects the communities we serve.

Our vision, 'For a safer State' embodies not only a safer State of WA, but a safer state of wellbeing where everyone feels included and valued.

WA Multicultural Policy Framework

Our Multicultural Action Plan continues to provide strategic direction and guidance on how we think, plan and deliver on behalf of an increasingly cultural and diverse WA community. It promotes the importance of workforce diversity and inclusion for both staff and volunteers and builds our cultural competencies to better support Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CaLD) communities.

We are focussed on building our capacity in the areas of diverse and inclusive employment practices, ensuring ongoing advocacy and visible leadership for CaLD people, celebrating diverse cultures and ensuring equitable, high-quality service delivery for all communities.

Disability Access and Inclusion Plan

In accordance with section 29 of the [Disability Services Act 1993](#), our Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2020–2025 reinforces our commitment to providing access to information, services and facilities for everyone, including those with disabilities. We are striving to build a disability confident organisation, one that is supportive, positive and inclusive to help diversify our workforce and ensure our service delivery caters to the needs of people living with disability.

Our Plan also complements our Workforce and Diversity Action Plan 2020–2022, designed to build an inclusive and diverse workforce. Some of our achievements in 2021–22 include:

DFES joins the JobAccess Alumni

We proudly joined JobAccess Alumni, which represents a cohort of employers who have completed a 12-month partnership with the National Disability Recruitment Coordinator and are leading the way in workplace diversity. We are working with JobAccess to help us break-down barriers and make changes to increase employment opportunities for people with disability. Some of the activities completed in 2021–22 include:

- A review of our recruitment processes from the candidate’s perspective.
- Disability awareness training with a focus on disability employment including requirements, managing disclosure and making reasonable adjustments.
- Providing access to tools and resources, including the JobAccess Employer Toolkit and links to Disability Employment Service Providers and networks.

Opening the lines of communication in Triple Zero communications centre

Calling Triple Zero in an emergency is stressful enough for most people, but for those with a communication disability, the task can be extra challenging, not to mention frustrating. We teamed up with disability services provider Rocky Bay, to look for better ways to assist callers who may find communication challenging. Rocky Bay provided training to our phone operators to better understand the needs of those who may require more assistance when calling Triple Zero. Our phone operators learnt strategies that include allowing adequate time for people to express themselves properly, asking yes/no questions, using key words, providing alternatives, speaking in short sentences and keeping language simple. These strategies will enable us to respond more effectively in an emergency.

Early Access Tour for Young People with Autism and Their Families

An 'Early Access' tour occurred at the DFES Education and Heritage Centre special weekend opening hours, as part of the City of Perth’s Heritage Perth Festival. We organised an exclusive hour, prior to being open to the public, where children with autism and their families could engage with the exhibitions and fire trucks in a safe and supported environment. This 'Early Access' featured specialist guides and a 'quiet zone' tailored for autism needs. Such positive feedback was received from the families present that Early Access sessions will now be held at the DFES Education and Heritage Centre on the first Saturday of each month.

Reconciliation in progress

We are committed to working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities in a positive and constructive way. To honour this commitment, we continue to train and upskill staff and volunteers in cultural awareness and cultural competency. We are developing a better understanding of:

- The importance of Welcome to Country and Acknowledgement of Country.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture and the importance of context.
- How DFES can enhance the way we engage and communicate with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2022–2024

We are currently developing our Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2022-2024 as an important indicator of our commitment to First Nations People. The draft Plan is based on Reconciliation Australia’s framework, with suggestions and content gathered during a workshop facilitated by an Aboriginal consultancy business. The draft Plan has been submitted to Reconciliation Australia for feedback.



A Welcome to Country traditional dance being performed at a DFES event.

Public Sector Standards and Ethical Codes

The [Public Sector Management Act 1994](#) provides principles of conduct for all public sector bodies and staff. These include compliance with any legislation governing conduct, Public Sector Commissioner's Instructions, Public Sector Standards and Code of Ethics.

Ethics and integrity are embedded in our values and Code of Conduct, which define the standard of professional behaviour expected.

To ensure compliance with the Public Sector Standards and Code of Ethics, we uphold, manage and maintain a structured process to monitor official conduct and professional behaviour.

Our Code of Conduct prescribes mandatory standards of behaviour, conduct and integrity expected of all staff and volunteers. The Code places an obligation on us all to take responsibility for our own behaviours, conduct and integrity, to work cooperatively with the community, and to establish a safe and healthy workplace and culture.

Our Fraud and Corruption Control Plan gives guidance and direction on the processes for preventing, detecting and responding to fraud and corruption.

In the administration of DFES during 2021–22, I have complied with the Public Sector Standards in Human Resource Management, the Public Sector Code of Ethics and our Code of Conduct.

I have established procedures to ensure compliance with these standards and codes and conducted appropriate internal assessments to satisfy myself that the statement made here is correct.



D Klemm AFSM
Accountable Authority
29 August 2022



📷 Graduates from Firefighter Trainee School No 87.

Recordkeeping Plans

We are committed to continually improving our recordkeeping culture, systems and practices to ensure compliance with the *State Records Act 2000* (the Act) and best business outcomes. The following information is provided in accordance with the [State Records Commission Standards](#), Standard 2, Principle 6.

Our Recordkeeping Plan, RKP2019025, was approved by the State Records Commission in December 2019. In accordance with the Act, we will review our plan before December 2024.

All staff have access to Content Manager, our electronic document and records management system, enabling them to capture and manage records in line with our Record Keeping Plan and State Government Requirements.

Training in the use of Content Manager has been delivered in both group and one-on-one sessions throughout this year. 115 staff members have participated in desktop training or customised group training. 142 new employees have completed Information Management Induction training.

In the last year, more than 366,563 documents and 14,699 files have been created in Content Manager.



14,699 files created in Content Manager.



142 new employees completed Information Management Induction training.

Other Disclosures

Ministerial Directives

There were no Ministerial Directives pursuant to Treasurer's Instruction 903(12) during 2021–22.

Occupational safety, health and injury management

We are committed to providing a healthy and safe workplace for our staff, volunteers, visitors and contractors as demonstrated in our Commitment Statement for a Safe and Healthy Workplace.

Our Commitment Statement extends beyond a legal obligation, it is essential that we ensure our workers and the community feel safe when at work, visiting us, delivery of our services and during operations.

Health and Safety Management Framework

We are modernising our current Safety Management Framework to comply with the recently introduced *Work Health and Safety Act 2020* legislation. Our modernised Safety Management Framework will be a high-level outline describing how DFES manages health and safety. The overarching document is underpinned by the DFES Safety Management Plan, which describes the minimum standards all DFES areas must meet.

Introduced Work Health and Safety legislation

Ahead of the introduction of new Work Health and Safety legislation DFES briefed volunteers, community groups, local governments and other agencies about how the new legislation will affect emergency services and emergency management.

Incident rehabilitation trial

Heat stress is a significant hazard. To help eliminate this risk, we trialled a rehabilitation capability during the 2021/22 summer bushfire season. This capability helps firefighters to recover from the physical, emotional, and physiological impacts of attending an emergency incident. Rehabilitation can help replenish energy and performance and has been shown to decrease the incidence of firefighter injury and death.

On days of high temperatures, we sent the trial rehabilitation pod to structural fires. Our firefighters were able to cool down and recover quicker after working in these extreme conditions.

Health and Safety Representatives

We continue to encourage volunteers and staff to undertake duties as Health and Safety Representatives in their individual workgroups. We facilitate health and safety meetings at our regional offices and come together for quarterly health and safety committee meetings.

Thriving at DFES

Our vision is to be a mentally healthy workplace where everyone feels safe, supported, valued and included, with no one left behind. It has been one year since we launched our Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Action Plan 2021–2023 known as Thriving at DFES. Some of our key achievements in 2021–22 include:

Psychological Support Service

Our Psychological Support Service, which is available to staff, volunteers and their immediate family members, has seen several improvements to better support us, including:

- Expanding the number of service providers across the State to facilitate timely general psychological support.
- Providing access to 24 hours a day, 7 days a week crisis line for immediate psychological support.
- Providing access to critical incident and large-scale incident support.
- Improving feedback mechanisms to facilitate continuous improvement
- Increasing awareness of the availability of the service.

Mental health training for managers

We continue to offer Managing for Team Wellbeing workshops, with 110 managers and supervisors participating this year. These interactive workshops support managers to build and maintain resilient teams and reinforce the importance of self-awareness and self-care.

Headspace mindfulness app

Over 366 people signed up to benefit from our Headspace Mindfulness App which is offered to all volunteers and staff. Since January 2022, over 338,450 minutes of content has been accessed, including 23,906 minutes of meditation.

Our stories

Stories sourced from the lived experience of our staff and volunteers have been shared on our intranet and volunteer hub. These stories help us to learn from each other and remind ourselves that we are not alone. With help, growth and healing is possible.



📺 Watch Deputy Commissioner Craig Waters introduce Mindarma in this [short video](#).

Mindarma

All DFES staff and volunteers are also able to access support from Mindarma. Mindarma is a proactive, self-paced, online resilience training program supporting thousands of first responders across Australia.

Mindarma supports our people to learn about mindfulness, develop skills to help better manage difficult thoughts and uncomfortable emotions, and boost resilience through times of high stress. The program promotes healthy coping strategies, encourages people to seek help and supports users to create a personal plan of action for those tough days. Over 400 volunteers and staff have registered for this program.

Workers' compensation and injury management

Table of Results

(Public Sector Commissioner's Occupational Safety and Health Performance indicators 2020–21)

Indicator	2019/ 2020	2020/ 2021	2021/ 2022	Target	Comments towards targets
Number of fatalities.	0	1	0	Zero (0)	This figure in 2020/21 relates to one fatality claim due to an incident in the workplace.
Lost time injury/disease (LTI/D) incidence rate.*	6.97	7.15	6.4	Zero (0) or a 10% improvement on the previous three (3) years	There was a reduction of total LTI/D claims lodged in 2021/22.
Lost time injury severity rate.*	14.4	13.33	22.6	Zero (0) or a 10% improvement on the previous three (3) years	Despite the overall number of LTI claims reducing the total number of lost time injuries over 60 days, the severity rate has increased in 2021/22.
Percentage of injured workers returned to work within (i) 13 weeks.	86.21%	73.00%	64.13%	80.00%	Due to the increased severity rate in 2021/22, there was a reduction in the number of injured workers returning to work within 13 weeks of injury.
Percentage of injured workers returned to work within (ii) 26 weeks.	76.34%	87.00%	76.09%	Greater than or equal to 80.00% return to work	Increased psychological injuries combined with increased severity rates has resulted in this target not being met.
+Reduction in musculoskeletal injuries.^^	171	171	143	30% reduction in musculoskeletal injuries	Musculoskeletal injuries remain consistent with those reported in 2019/20 and 2020/21 however has reduced in 2021/22.

Statistics have been calculated using Government Insurance Division data and DFES average FTE data.

* Results relate to injured workers who returned to work.

^^ Statistics for musculoskeletal injuries have been calculated using DFES Solv Injury data.

NOTE: Rates and Percentages for 2019/20 and 2020/21 have been amended to show results calculated in line with reporting parameters for 2021/22.

National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Awareness and Management 2019–2023

We are committed to the National Strategic Plan, which aims to eliminate asbestos-related diseases in Australia by preventing exposure to asbestos fibres for our staff, volunteers and visitors.

All DFES sites containing asbestos have a register of asbestos containing materials (ACM). These registers are updated every five years and when any new ACM are identified. They are also updated when existing ACM are disturbed, removed, sealed or enclosed. DFES ACM registers are stored in the Department of Finance Asbestos Site Reports online portal.

During 2021–22, we have removed or treated ACM at several of our sites.



Pricing Policies of Services Provided

Emergency Services Levy

DFES charges for services rendered on a partial cost recovery basis. Pursuant to section 36G(3) of the [Fire and Emergency Services Act 1998](#) the current list of fees and charges were published in the Government Gazette on 27 May 2022 and payable from 1 July 2022.

In 2021–22, the Emergency Services Levy (ESL) raised \$365 million from ratepayers, \$4 million from local government owned properties and \$24 million from the State Government and non-trading State enterprises. The ESL raised by local government area is shown in Table 2.

The money collected provides facilities, equipment and resources, protective clothing, uniforms, vehicles and training for WA's fire and emergency services personnel, both career and volunteer, across the State. The ESL also supports specialist activities across the State such as fire investigations, building inspections, emergency planning and community safety programs.

In 2021–22, ESL has been used to fund the major services and activities shown in Table 1.

Our major services and activities

Table 1: Major services and activities funded in 2021–22






	Career Fire and Rescue Service Employed personnel in fire stations across Perth, Albany, Bunbury, Geraldton and Kalgoorlie who are response ready for a variety of emergency situations, 24/7.	\$120 million
	Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services / Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service The committed volunteers in towns and built-up areas who provide an emergency response when it is needed most.	\$14 million
	Bush Fire Service The dedicated volunteers who protect us from bushfires through fire suppression, prevention and risk management services and fire safety education in rural and pastoral areas.	\$32 million
	State Emergency Service The steadfast volunteers in orange who provide help to the community in a variety of situations such as severe weather and search and rescue operations.	\$10 million
	Marine Rescue Western Australia The devoted volunteers along our coastline who protect and save lives at sea.	\$11 million

Table 1: Major services and activities funded in 2020-21 (continued)

	Rural Fire Division Improving rural fire management through increased investment in mitigation, strengthening relationships with volunteers, and greater collaboration between agencies.	\$18 million
	Emergency Services Training Providing professional development for volunteers and career personnel to enhance their operational and organisational skills.	\$29 million
	Aerial Firefighting and Aviation Services Operation and coordination of the aerial fleet that is deployed rapidly to emergency incidents, protecting lives and property during the bushfire season.	\$18 million
	Asset Construction and Maintenance Includes construction of fire stations and other facilities as well as maintenance, improvement and replacement of facilities, response vehicles and equipment.	\$62 million
	Volunteer Engagement Working with communities and local governments to strengthen relationships with our volunteers.	\$2 million
	Emergency Management, Strategy and Planning Research and planning activities to improve our services and inform decisions on how we allocate our resources.	\$9 million
	Health and Wellness Enhancing psychological and physical wellbeing for emergency services employees, volunteers and their families.	\$3 million
	Investigation and Compliance Determining the cause of fires and ensuring compliance with relevant standards to reduce the frequency and impact of emergency incidents.	\$4 million
	Emergency Response Coordination Includes the running of emergency operations centres and the '000' communications centre to dispatch and coordinate emergency responses.	\$9 million
	Technology and Communications Improving and maintaining the technology and communications infrastructure behind all our emergency services.	\$26 million
	Special Operations Upskilling personnel and maintaining specialist equipment to enhance our emergency response across a range of events such as hazardous material spills and building collapse.	\$4 million
	Community Awareness and Education Providing information and programs to communities to increase awareness and build a more resilient and safer State.	\$10 million
Total		\$381 million

Table 1 shows an indicative breakdown of the ESL allocated to each service or activity and excludes expenditure funded from other sources. Figures have been rounded to the nearest million and include an allocation of indirect expenditure on a weighted average basis. The total ESL expended in 2021–22 was \$12 million less than the amount raised, primarily due to the delayed disbursement of ESL funded grants and delays to equipment and vehicle replacement programs due to supply shortages. The majority of these funds will be spent during the 2022-23 financial year.

ESL Referral and Grants Advisory Committee

The ESL Referral and Grants Advisory Committee improves the accountability and transparency of ESL expenditure.

It is designed to improve community confidence in the ESL and acts as the body of appeal for ESL grant-related issues. The committee:

- assesses appeals that may arise from the Local Government Grants Committees
- is an independent source of ESL and grants-related advice to the Minister
- monitors the collection and expenditure patterns of the ESL.

The committee advises the Minister for Emergency Services on the outcome of any appeal.

False Fire Alarms

We charge a fee for attending false fire alarms after the third attendance to premises in the same financial year. The fee reflects the cost of the resources in responding to false alarms.

As we are committed to reducing the number of false fire alarms, the fee is imposed to encourage proper maintenance of alarm systems.

Direct Brigade Alarms

The Direct Brigade Alarm network provides fire alarm monitoring for 4,211 premises across WA. Customer service, management, administration and monitoring services are provided by Fire Safety Pty Ltd trading as Fire Alarm Monitoring Services – Chubb.

The Direct Brigade Alarm monitoring charge recovers the cost of this service through a service level agreement.



📺 To understand more about the ESL, watch this [informational video](#).

ESL Collected

The table below shows the ESL raised within each local government area.

Please note that it does not include ESL raised in relation to property owned by the State Government and non-trading State enterprises.

Table 2: 2021–22 ESL raised by local government

Local government area	ESL raised \$,000	Local government area	ESL raised \$,000
Albany	3,787	Capel	1,131
Armadale	10,103	Carnamah	48
Ashburton	423	Carnarvon	289
Augusta-Margaret River	1,062	Chapman Valley	80
Bassendean	2,495	Chittering	256
Bayswater	10,300	Claremont	2,986
Belmont	9,029	Cockburn	18,684
Beverley	129	Collie	442
Boddington	110	Coolgardie	263
Boyup Brook	121	Coorow	106
Bridgetown-Greenbushes	307	Corrigin	82
Brookton	66	Cottesloe	1,787
Broome	1,147	Cranbrook	77
Broomehill-Tambellup	72	Cuballing	61
Bruce Rock	71	Cue	39
Bunbury	4,917	Cunderdin	87
Busselton	2,740	Dalwallinu	96
Cambridge	5,725	Dandaragan	354
Canning	18,538	Dardanup	737

Table 2: 2021–22 ESL raised by local government (continued)

Local government area	ESL raised \$,000	Local government area	ESL raised \$,000
Denmark	396	Kellerberrin	83
Derby-West Kimberley	248	Kent	41
Donnybrook-Balingup	322	Kojonup	116
Dowerin	53	Kondinin	66
Dumbleyung	50	Koorda	38
Dundas	90	Kulin	55
East Fremantle	1,421	Kwinana	5,811
East Pilbara	412	Lake Grace	100
Esperance	853	Laverton	55
Exmouth	244	Leonora	156
Fremantle	8,739	Mandurah	8,703
Gingin	505	Manjimup	567
Gnowangerup	83	Meekatharra	81
Goomalling	65	Melville	18,103
Gosnells	14,399	Menzies	55
Greater Geraldton	3,638	Merredin	210
Halls Creek	84	Mingenew	33
Harvey	1,325	Moora	146
Irwin	256	Morawa	53
Jerramungup	111	Mosman Park	1,620
Joondalup	23,708	Mount Marshall	47
Kalamunda	6,868	Mt Magnet	50
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	3,649	Mukinbudin	41
Karratha	1,642	Mundaring	3,571
Katanning	221	Murchison	6

Local government area	ESL raised \$,000	Local government area	ESL raised \$,000
Murray	907	Tammin	32
Nannup	106	Three Springs	41
Narembeen	55	Toodyay	293
Narrogin	290	Trayning	34
Nedlands	4,564	Upper Gascoyne	10
Ngaanyatjarraku	2	Victoria Park	6,937
Northam	644	Victoria Plains	52
Northampton	297	Vincent	7,348
Nungarin	20	Wagin	124
Peppermint Grove	413	Wandering	37
Perenjori	40	Wanneroo	24,687
Perth	25,190	Waroona	263
Pingelly	80	West Arthur	57
Plantagenet	321	Westonia	21
Port Hedland	1,152	Wickepin	51
Quairading	77	Williams	64
Ravensthorpe	162	Wiluna	34
Rockingham	12,957	Wongan-Ballidu	96
Sandstone	16	Woodanilling	34
Serpentine-Jarrahdale	1,695	Wyalkatchem	46
Shark Bay	70	Wyndham-East Kimberley	371
South Perth	7,683	Yalgoo	20
Stirling	37,400	Yilgarn	114
Subiaco	4,832	York	256
Swan	21,232		

Other Financial Disclosures

State Emergency Management Committee remuneration

Members were paid remuneration as determined by the Minister for Industrial Relations on the recommendation of the Minister for Public Sector Management. Public sector employees are not paid sitting fees. Fees paid to Committee members this year were:

Position	Name	Type of Remuneration	Period of Membership	Gross remuneration for 2020–21
Chair	Dr Ron Edwards	Per annum	Full year	\$67,348.69
Deputy	Ms Emma Cole	Per annum	Full year	\$50,512.18
Member	Mr Chris Dawson	Not applicable	Full year	\$0
Member	Mr Darren Klemm	Not applicable	Full year	\$0
Member	Ms Linda Savage	Per annum	July – Sept 2021	\$6,480.77
Member	Mr Mark Webb	Not applicable	Full year	\$0
Member	Dr Andy Robertson	Not applicable	Full year	\$0
Member	Mr Nick Sloan	Not applicable	Full year	\$0
Member	Mr Mike Rowe	Not applicable	Full year	\$0
Member	Ms Emily Roper	Not applicable	Full year	\$0
Member	Ms Rebecca Brown	Not applicable	Full year	\$0
Member	Ms Julie Waylen	Per annum	From April 2022	\$7,116.14
Total				\$131,457.78

Advertising

Section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907* requires the disclosure of advertising expenditure. In accordance with this section, we disclose that during 2021–2022, DFES paid \$592,889 to advertising agencies, direct mail and media advertising organisations.

Advertising agencies	\$38,450	Market research organisations	Nil
Access Community Engagement Services	\$300		
Bang Digital	\$8,550	Polling organisations	Nil
Chamber of Commerce	\$118		
Email Media	\$350	Direct mail organisations	Nil
Exhibitions And Event	\$1,433		
Gatecrasher Advertising Pty Ltd	\$4,325		
Google Ads	\$909	Media advertising agencies	\$554,439
Jurien Bay Community	\$118	Carat Australia Media Services Pty Ltd	\$526,149
Kalbarri Town Talk	\$580	Facebook	\$11,218
Local Government Professionals Australia WA	\$150	Initiative Media Australia Pty Ltd	\$16,679
Media on Mars	\$4,540	The West Australian Newspaper	\$393
Merredin Community Resource Centre	\$136	Total advertising costs	\$592,889
Mingenew Community Resource Centre Inc	\$453		
Perenjori Community Resource Centre	\$473		
Planning Institute Australia	\$300		
Pride Western Australia Inc	\$440		
The Event Crew Pty Ltd	\$556		
The Trustee for A.R.M. Trust	\$1,300		
Trustee for the Byrne No 2 Trust	\$771		
Walpole Community Resource Telecentre	\$75		
Wondrous World Images	\$100		
Wunderman Thompson	\$12,473		

Unauthorised use of credit cards

Our staff hold corporate credit cards where their use is warranted. The cardholder agreement, signed by staff, includes an acknowledgement staff are aware of their obligations under the credit card policy.

During 2021–22, more than 28,767 corporate credit card transactions were processed. Of those, 64 instances of personal use were identified, and each instance was declared by the cardholder. As these matters were noted and dealt with promptly, the nature of the expenditure was immaterial, and the instances were characteristic of an honest mistake, no disciplinary action was taken.

Aggregate amount	2020–21 (\$)	2021–22 (\$)
Personal use expenditure	3,392	2,511
Personal use expenditure settled within 5 working days	3,210	2,146
Personal use expenditure settled after 5 working days	182	365
Personal use expenditure outstanding at balance date	—	—

Acts of Grace payments

During the 2021–22 financial year, eleven Act of Grace payments totalling \$12,492 were made under section 80 of the *Financial Management Act 2006*.

The payments related to declared emergency costs incurred amidst COVID-19 restrictions that were reimbursed by DFES on behalf of the State Government.



 Kalamunda Bush Fire volunteers.

Financial Statements & Performance Indicators

Resource Agreement

Performance is monitored against financial targets and through our Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). The following performance information (financial and non-financial) is the subject of a Resource Agreement signed by the Minister for Emergency Services, the Treasurer and DFES under Part 3, Division 5 of the [Financial Management Act 2006](#). Resources are provided for the delivery of three Services linked to three agency level Desired Outcomes.

Financial Targets Summary

Financial results for 2021–22 are shown below. Further explanations are contained in Note 9.12 'Explanatory statement' to the Financial Statements.

	Target (\$,000)	Actual (\$,000)	Variation (\$,000)	Reason for significant variation
Total cost of services (expense limit) (sourced from Statement of Comprehensive Income)	496,169	525,990	29,821	Increase of \$29.8 million is primarily the result of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$27.0 million increase in unanticipated significant unforeseen expenditure predominantly associated with bushfire suppression and natural hazard incidents. \$8.5 million in additional service costs for the ERHS new lease mobilisation costs and additional temporary resources to assist with State Recovery functions. \$6.5 million in additional costs for depreciation, property maintenance and general restoration works including once-off costs for the audit of works on metropolitan DFES volunteer stations and the assessment of contaminated sites. offset by a \$12.0 million reduction in grants and subsidies expense due to underspends in grants programs.
Net cost of services (sourced from Statement of Comprehensive Income)	108,776	125,485	16,709	Increase in net cost of services is the result of the increase in the total cost of services of \$29.8 million (as detailed above) offset by an increase in income of \$13.1 million predominantly due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$5.3 million in additional grants and contributions from National Aerial Firefighting Centre for aviation services and retardant capability and contributions from the Commonwealth for National Partnership agreements and service delivery arrangements. \$2.2 million for the reimbursement of costs of staff deployed to assist with interstate and overseas emergency response and recovery operations and from unbudgeted prior period adjustments relating to the return of unspent grants. \$4.7 million in Emergency Services Levy due to a classification variance in the original published estimate between Income and Income from State Government (Treasurer's Instruction 1102).
Total equity (sourced from Statement of Financial Position)	525,051	556,081	31,030	Total equity increased by \$31.0 million primarily as a result of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$12 million improvement in the estimated surplus primarily due to additional income (as above). \$18.5 million increase in fixed asset values above the estimate as a result of favourable land and building revaluations.
Approved salary expense level	203,774	205,964	2,190	The increase of \$2.2 million over the estimate is predominantly the result of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$4.2 million in additional salary costs associated with bushfire suppression and natural hazard incidents \$3.2 million in additional Cabinet approved salaries expense for additional resourcing including Indian Ocean territories, Bushfire Mapping and Bushfire Framework Review, National Partnership agreements and enhanced State recovery functions. Offset by \$5.2 million in salary underspends mainly associated with vacancies and workers compensation recoveries.
Agreed borrowing limit	34,138	34,138	0	There has been no change in the agreed borrowing limit

KPI Summary

The following table summarises how we performed against each of our KPIs in 2021–22. More detail is provided on the pages indicated in the Notes column.

	Target	Result	Status*	Page #
Desired Outcome 1: WA communities recognise and understand their local hazard risks and can effectively manage them				
Proportion of community members who recognise their local natural hazard risks and are prepared to take action	20%	21.16%	✓	157
Service 1: Community awareness, education and information services				
Average cost per household to deliver education and awareness programs and emergency hazard information to the community	\$9.98	\$9.75	✓	158
Desired Outcome 2: A diverse team of volunteers and staff with a wide range of skills, who have access to development programs				
Proportion of scheduled operational courses delivered	80%	82.34%	✓	159
Service 2: Health, safety, wellbeing and training services				
Average cost per population to deliver health, safety, wellbeing and training services	\$8.45	\$10.12	✗	160
Desired Outcome 3: Risk is reduced and managed through innovation and continuous improvement across all hazards before, during and after emergencies				
Proportion of Level 3 incident Impact Statements completed and endorsed by the State Recovery Coordinator	80%	100%	✓	161
Proportion of structure fire reports completed within specified timeframes	90%	89.39%	✗	162
Proportion of responses to ESL 1 and ESL 2 incidents within target timeframes	90%	94.08%	✓	163
Proportion of structure fires confined to object or room of origin	72%	77.65%	✓	164
Service 3: Delivery of frontline services before, during and after incidents				
Average cost per population to deliver frontline services	\$171.84	\$181.32	✗	165

Certification of Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2022

The accompanying financial statements of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the [Financial Management Act 2006](#) from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the reporting period ended 30 June 2022 and the financial position as at 30 June 2022.

At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.



G Camarda BCom CPA
Chief Finance Officer
29 August 2022



D Klemm AFSM
Accountable Authority
29 August 2022

* Key:

✓ Target achieved.

✗ Target not achieved. We are taking action

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
COST OF SERVICES			
Expenses			
Employee benefits expense	3.1(a)	230,685	226,182
Supplies and services	3.3	155,051	134,466
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	5.1.1, 5.2, 5.3.1	44,253	44,202
Finance costs	7.3	1,534	1,690
Accommodation expenses	3.3	15,103	11,974
Grants and subsidies	3.2	67,508	49,122
Other expenses	3.3	11,856	10,414
Total cost of services		525,990	478,050
Income			
Emergency Services Levy	4.1	371,043	351,210
User charges and fees	4.2	10,237	9,028
Grants and contributions	4.4	12,490	10,468
Interest revenue	4.5	157	251
Other revenue	4.6	6,578	5,741
Total Income		400,505	376,698
NET COST OF SERVICES		125,485	101,352

	Note	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Income from State Government			
Service appropriation	4.3	88,609	95,307
Resources received	4.3	838	1,425
Royalties for Regions Fund	4.3	1,086	847
Income from other public sector entities	4.3	36,168	31,167
Total income from State Government		126,701	128,746
SURPLUS FOR THE PERIOD		1,216	27,394
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Items not reclassified subsequently to profit or loss			
Changes in asset revaluation surplus	9.9	28,911	6,447
Total other comprehensive income		28,911	6,447
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD		30,127	33,841

The Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Financial Position

for the year ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2022 (\$'000)	2021 (\$'000)
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	7.4	72,725	69,938
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	7.4	11,600	13,452
Inventories	6.3	17,593	16,421
Receivables	6.1	9,725	14,440
Other current assets	6.4	1,244	2,544
Total current assets		112,887	116,795
Non-current assets			
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	7.4	1,542	751
Amounts receivable for services	6.2	70,256	63,112
Property, plant and equipment	5.1	457,131	418,999
Right-of-use assets	5.2	28,133	13,662
Intangible assets	5.3	7,127	10,042
Total non-current assets		564,189	506,566
TOTAL ASSETS		677,076	623,361

	Note	2022 (\$'000)	2021 (\$'000)
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables	6.5	13,497	9,482
Borrowings	7.1	2,967	2,956
Lease liabilities	7.2	16,885	4,187
Employee related provisions	3.1(b)	33,359	32,406
Other current liabilities	6.6	-	47
Total current liabilities		66,708	49,078
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings	7.1	31,171	34,138
Lease liabilities	7.2	11,826	9,845
Employee related provisions	3.1(b)	11,290	12,189
Total non-current liabilities		54,287	56,172
TOTAL LIABILITIES		120,995	105,250
NET ASSETS		556,081	518,111
EQUITY			
Contributed equity	9.9	380,276	372,433
Reserves		86,551	57,640
Accumulated surplus		89,254	88,038
TOTAL EQUITY		556,081	518,111

The Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2022

	Note	Contributed equity (\$000)	Reserves (\$000)	Accumulated surplus (\$000)	Total equity (\$000)
Balance at 1 July 2020		361,068	51,193	60,644	472,905
Surplus for the year		-	-	27,394	27,394
Other comprehensive income		-	6,447	-	6,447
Total comprehensive income for the period		-	6,447	27,394	33,841
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Capital appropriations	9.9	2,540	-	-	2,540
Other contributions by owners	9.9	8,825	-	-	8,825
Distribution to owners		-	-	-	-
Total		11,365	-	-	11,365
Balance at 30 June 2021		372,433	57,640	88,038	518,111
Balance at 1 July 2021		372,433	57,640	88,038	518,111
Surplus for the year		-	-	1,216	1,216
Other comprehensive income		-	28,911	-	28,911
Total comprehensive income for the period		-	28,911	1,216	30,127
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:					
Capital appropriations	9.9	7,266	-	-	7,266
Other contributions by owners	9.9	577	-	-	577
Distribution to owners		-	-	-	-
Total		7,843	-	-	7,843
Balance at 30 June 2022		380,276	86,551	89,254	556,081

The Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT			
Service appropriation		81,465	87,034
Funds from other public sector entities		35,993	31,155
Royalties for Regions Fund		1,663	9,672
Capital appropriations		7,266	2,540
Net cash provided by State Government		126,387	130,401
Utilised as follows:			
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Employee benefits		(230,673)	(226,800)
Supplies and services		(150,255)	(133,384)
Finance costs		(1,562)	(1,726)
Accommodation		(14,834)	(12,600)
Grants and subsidies		(68,821)	(59,998)
GST payments on purchases		(27,480)	(26,186)
Other payments		(11,566)	(10,459)
Receipts			
Emergency Services Levy		371,203	352,138
User charges and fees		9,784	9,005
Grants and contributions		18,724	10,895
Interest received		156	251
GST receipts on sales		2,840	2,575
GST receipts from taxation authority		24,162	24,028
Other receipts		6,191	7,038
Net cash used in operating activities	7.4	(72,131)	(65,223)

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2022 (continued)

	Note	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Purchase of non-current assets		(33,388)	(46,792)
Receipts			
Proceeds from the sale of non-current assets		700	756
Net cash used in investing activities		(32,688)	(46,036)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Payments			
Repayment of principal elements of lease arrangements		(16,886)	(16,423)
Repayment of borrowings		(2,956)	(2,946)
Receipts			
Proceeds from borrowings		-	-
Net cash used in financing activities		(19,842)	(19,369)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		1,726	(227)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		84,141	84,368
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD	7.4	85,867	84,141

The Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Summary of Consolidated Account Appropriations

for the year ended 30 June 2022

	2022 Budget Estimate (\$000)	2022 Supplementary Funding (\$000)	2022 Revised Budget (\$000)	2022 Actual (\$000)	2022 Variance (\$000)
Delivery of Services					
Item 64 Net amount appropriated to deliver services	53,806	9,172	62,978	87,564	24,586
Amount authorised by other Statutes – <i>Salaries and Allowances Act 1975</i>	1,045	-	1,045	1,045	-
Total appropriations provided to deliver services	54,851	9,172 (a)	64,023	88,609	24,586 (a)
Capital					
Item 132 Capital Appropriation	6,850	416	7,266	7,266	-
Administered transactions					
Item 65 Amount provided for Administered Grants, Subsidies and Other Transfer Payments	166,960	10,000	176,960	166,960	(10,000)
Total administered transactions	166,960	10,000	176,960	166,960 (b)	(10,000)
GRAND TOTAL	228,661	19,588	248,249	262,835	14,586

(a) The Department receives supplementary funding to recoup unfunded costs associated with bushfire suppression and natural hazard incidents.

(b) Results from administered transactions are disclosed in Note 10 'Administered disclosures'.

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2022

1 Basis of preparation

The Department is a WA Government entity, controlled by the State of Western Australia, which is the ultimate parent. The Department is a not-for-profit entity (as profit is not its principal objective).

These annual financial statements were authorised for issue by the Accountable Authority of the Department on 29 August 2022.

Statement of compliance

These general purpose financial statements are prepared in accordance with:

1. The [Financial Management Act 2006 \(FMA\)](#)
2. The Treasurer's Instructions (TIs)
3. Australian Accounting Standards (AAS) including applicable interpretations
4. Where appropriate, those AAS paragraphs applicable for not-for-profit entities have been modified.

The FMA and the TIs take precedence over AAS. Several AAS are modified by the TIs to vary application, disclosure format and wording. Where modification is required and has had a material or significant financial effect upon the reported results, details of that modification and the resulting financial effect are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

Basis of preparation

These financial statements are presented in Australian dollars applying the accrual basis of accounting and using the historical cost convention. Certain balances will apply a different measurement basis (such as the fair value basis). Where this is the case, the different measurement basis is disclosed in the associated note. All values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000).

Judgements and estimates

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about financial information being presented. The significant judgements and estimates made in the preparation of these financial statements are disclosed in the notes where amounts affected by those judgements and/or estimates are disclosed. Estimates and associated assumptions are based on professional judgements derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Accounting for Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except that the:

- (a) amount of GST incurred by the Department as a purchaser that is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) is recognised as part of an asset's cost of acquisition or as part of an item of expense
- (b) receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

Cash flows are included in the Statement of cash flows on a gross basis. However, the GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

Contributed equity

AASB Interpretation 1038 *Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities* requires transfers in the nature of equity contributions, other than as a result of a restructure of administrative arrangements, to be designated by the Government (the owner) as contributions by owners (at the time of, or prior to, transfer) before such transfers can be recognised as equity contributions. Capital appropriations have been designated as contributions by owners by TI 955 *Contributions by Owners made to Wholly Owned Public Sector Entities* and have been credited directly to Contributed Equity.

Administered items

The Department administers, but does not control, certain activities and functions for and on behalf of Government that do not contribute to the Department's services or objectives. It does not have discretion over how it utilises the transactions in pursuing its own objectives. Transactions relating to the administered activities are not recognised as the Department's income, expenses, assets and liabilities, but are disclosed in the accompanying schedules as Note 10.1 'Disclosure of administered income and expenditure', and Note 10.3 'Administered assets and liabilities'. The accrual basis of accounting and applicable AAS have been adopted.

2 Department outputs

How the Department operates

This section includes information regarding the nature of funding the Department receives and how this funding is used to achieve the Department's objectives. This note also provides the distinction between controlled funding and administered funding:

	Note
Department objectives	2.1
Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service	2.2
Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service	2.3

2.1 Department objectives

Purpose

To achieve a safer Western Australia by enabling and protecting the community before, during and after emergencies.

The Department provides the following services:

Service 1: Community Awareness, Education and Information Services

Provision of generic and targeted awareness, education and information programs before an incident and emergency hazard information during an incident via social media, telephone call centre, television and radio interviews to increase community awareness of preventable and natural emergency hazards, and support their ability to take action.

Service 2: Health, Safety, Wellbeing and Training Services

Services provided to ensure that frontline emergency personnel, including volunteers, are not only trained and supported to maintain their physical and mental health while providing safe and efficient services to the community.

Service 3: Delivery of Frontline Services Before, During and After Incidents

Services provided by frontline personnel, including volunteers, to enable the community prepare for, prevent where possible, respond to and recover from emergency incidents.

2.2 Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service for the year ended 30 June 2022

	Community Awareness, Education and Information Services		Health, Safety, Wellbeing and Training Services		Delivery of Frontline Services Before, During and After Incidents		Total	
COST OF SERVICES	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Expenses								
Employee benefits expense	4,375	4,298	17,616	17,932	208,694	203,952	230,685	226,182
Supplies and services	4,953	5,126	7,042	7,109	143,056	122,231	155,051	134,466
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	543	575	1,358	1,888	42,352	41,739	44,253	44,202
Finance costs	17	22	42	71	1,475	1,597	1,534	1,690
Accommodation expenses	32	24	467	217	14,604	11,733	15,103	11,974
Grants and subsidies	58	668	145	205	67,306	48,249	67,508	49,122
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other expenses	252	209	601	644	11,003	9,561	11,856	10,414
Total cost of services	10,230	10,922	27,271	28,066	488,490	439,062	525,990	478,050
Revenue and income								
Emergency Services Levy	7,421	7,024	18,552	21,073	345,070	323,113	371,043	351,210
User charges and fees	-	-	-	-	10,237	9,028	10,237	9,028
Grants and contributions	162	53	7	160	12,321	10,255	12,490	10,468
Interest revenue	3	5	8	15	146	231	157	251
Other revenue	21	47	51	142	6,506	5,552	6,578	5,741
Total revenue	7,607	7,129	18,618	21,390	374,280	348,179	400,505	376,698
NET COST OF SERVICES	2,623	3,793	8,653	6,676	114,210	90,883	125,485	101,352
Income from State Government								
Service appropriation	1,772	1,906	4,430	5,718	82,407	87,683	88,609	95,307
Resources received	17	29	42	86	779	1,310	838	1,425
Royalties for Regions Fund	12	12	30	36	1,044	799	1,086	847
Income from other public sector entities	451	430	1,127	1,290	34,590	29,447	36,168	31,167
Total income from State Government	2,252	2,377	5,629	7,130	118,820	119,239	126,701	128,746
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD	(371)	(1,416)	(3,024)	454	4,610	28,356	1,216	27,394

The Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

2.3 Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service for the year ended 30 June 2022

	Community Awareness, Education and Information Services		Health, Safety, Wellbeing and Training Services		Delivery of Frontline Services Before, During and After Incidents		Total	
	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Assets								
Current assets	2,258	2,336	5,644	7,008	104,985	107,451	112,887	116,795
Non-current assets	11,284	10,131	28,209	30,394	524,696	466,041	564,189	506,566
Total assets	13,542	12,467	33,854	37,402	629,681	573,492	677,076	623,361
Liabilities								
Current liabilities	1,334	981	3,335	2,945	62,038	45,153	66,708	49,078
Non-current liabilities	1,086	1,124	2,714	3,370	50,487	51,677	54,287	56,172
Total liabilities	2,420	2,105	6,050	6,315	112,525	96,830	120,995	105,250
NET ASSETS	11,122	10,362	27,804	31,087	517,156	476,662	556,081	518,111

The Schedule of Assets and Liabilities by Service should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

3 Use of our funding

Expenses incurred in the delivery of services

This section provides additional information about how the Department's funding is applied to its operating activities. Operating activities are defined as the activities undertaken by the Department to achieve its objectives as determined by Government. The accounting policies that are relevant for an understanding of the items recognised in the financial statements have been disclosed as a narrative within the note.

For expenses and policies related to the Department's investment activities in resources that generate future service capacity refer to Note 5 'Key assets'.

For the expenses and policies related to the Department's financing activities refer to Note 7 'Financing'.

Cost of services for operating activities	Note	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Employee benefits expense	3.1(a)	230,685	226,182
Grants and subsidies	3.2	67,508	49,122
Operating expenditure	3.3	182,010	156,854
		480,203	432,158
Future entitlements related to employee benefits expense			
Employee related provisions	3.1(b)	44,649	44,595
		44,649	44,595

3.1 (a) Employee benefits expense

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Employee benefits	206,460	202,555
Superannuation - defined contributions plans (a)	22,694	22,451
Other related expenses	1,451	619
Termination benefits	80	557
Total employee benefits expenses^(a)	230,685	226,182
Add: AASB 16 Non-monetary benefits	1,577	1,258
Less: Employee contributions	(367)	(334)
NET EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	231,895	227,106

^(a) 2020-21 comparative was restated per Note 9.2 'Correction of prior period errors/changes in accounting estimates'

Employee benefits: Include wages and salaries, accrued and paid leave entitlements and paid sick leave.

Superannuation: The amount recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income comprises employer contributions paid to Fire and Emergency Services Superannuation Fund (FESSF), Gold State Superannuation Scheme (GSS), West State Superannuation Scheme (WSS), Government Employee Superannuation Board (GESB) and other eligible funds nominated by employees.

The FESSF is a multi-employer plan available to employees of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, the United Professional Firefighters Union of Western Australia, the Western Australian Volunteer Fire and Rescue Services Association (Inc.) and the Fire and Emergency Services Superannuation Board (FESSB). The FESSB is a trustee of the FESSF and is responsible for managing the fund in the best interest of all members and for ensuring the fund is managed in accordance with governing legislation, the *Fire and Emergency Services Superannuation Act 1985* and the *Fire and Emergency Services (Superannuation Fund) Regulations 1986*. The FESSF is a defined benefit scheme for the purpose of employees and is a defined contribution plan for the Department as the superannuation liability is extinguished by concurrent employer contributions to the fund in accordance with the governing legislation.

The GSS is a defined benefit scheme for the purposes of employees and whole-of-government reporting. The Department has no liabilities under the Pension Scheme or the GSS. The liabilities for the unfunded Pension Scheme and the unfunded GSS transfer benefits attributable to members who transferred from the Pension Scheme, are assumed by the Treasurer. All other GSS obligations are extinguished by concurrent contributions made by the Department to the GESB.

Other related expenses: Includes non-monetary benefits provided to employees such as medical care, housing, cars and subsidised goods or services.

Termination benefits: Payable when employment is terminated before normal retirement date, or when an employee accepts an offer of benefits in exchange for the termination of employment. Termination benefits are recognised when the Department is demonstrably committed to terminating the employment of current employees according to a detailed formal plan without possibility of withdrawal, or providing termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy. Benefits falling due more than 12 months after the end of the reporting period are discounted to present value.

AASB 16 Non-monetary benefits: Non-monetary employee benefits, that are employee benefits expenses, predominantly relate to the provision of vehicle and housing benefits are measured at the cost incurred by the Department and are included under accommodation expenses in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Employee contributions: Contributions made to the Department by employees towards employee benefits that have been provided by the Department. This includes both AASB 16 and non-AASB 16 employee contributions and are included under other revenue in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

3.1 (b) Employee related provisions

Provision is made for benefits accruing to employees in respect of annual leave and long service leave for services rendered up to the reporting date as disclosed in the Statement of Financial Position and recorded as an expense during the period the services are delivered in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Current	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
<i>Employee benefits provision</i>		
Annual leave ^{(a) (e)}	15,383	14,392
Long service leave ^(d)	15,988	16,676
Deferred salary schemes ^(c)	803	637
	32,174	31,705
<i>Other provisions</i>		
Employment on-costs ^{(d) (e)}	1,185	701
	1,185	701
Total current employee related provisions	33,359	32,406
Non-current		
<i>Employee benefits provision</i>		
Long service leave ^{(b) (e)}	10,882	11,922
<i>Other provisions</i>		
Employment on-costs ^{(d) (e)}	408	267
Total non-current employee related provisions	11,290	12,189
Total employee related provisions	44,649	44,595

(a) **Annual leave liabilities:** Classified as current as there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period. Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities is expected to occur as follows:

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period ^(e)	11,749	11,385
More than 12 months after the end of the reporting period ^(e)	3,634	3,007
	15,383	14,392

The provision for annual leave is calculated at the present value of expected payments to be made in relation to services provided by employees up to the reporting period.

(b) **Long service leave liabilities:** Unconditional long service leave provisions are classified as current liabilities as the Department does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period.

Pre-conditional and conditional long service leave provisions are classified as non-current liabilities because the Department has an unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability until the employee has completed the requisite years of service.

Assessments indicate that actual settlement of the liabilities is expected to occur as follows:

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period ^(e)	4,757	5,016
More than 12 months after the end of the reporting period ^(e)	22,113	23,582
	26,870	28,598

The provision for long service leave is calculated at present value as the Department does not expect to wholly settle the amounts within 12 months. The present value is measured taking into account the present value of expected future payments to be made in relation to services provided by employees up to the reporting date. These payments are estimated using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement, and discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

(c) **Deferred salary scheme liabilities:** Classified as current where there is no unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period

Actual settlement of the liabilities is expected to occur as follows:

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Within 12 months of the end of the reporting period	532	145
More than 12 months after the end of the reporting period	271	492
	803	637

(d) **Employment on-costs:** The settlement of annual and long service leave liabilities gives rise to the payment of employment on-costs including workers' compensation insurance. The provision is the present value of expected future payments.

Employment on-costs, including workers' compensation insurance, are not employee benefits and are recognised separately as liabilities and expenses when the employment to which they relate has occurred. Employment on-costs are included as part of 'Operating expenditure', Note 3.3 (apart from the unwinding of the discount (finance cost)) and are not included as part of the Department's 'employee benefits expense'. The related liability is included in 'Employment on-costs provision'.

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Carrying amount at start of period ^(e)	968	943
Additional/(reversals of) provisions recognised ^(e)	781	460
Payments/other sacrifices of economic benefits ^(e)	(94)	(433)
Additional/(reversals of) provisions recognised ^(e)	(62)	(2)
Carrying amount at end of period ^(e)	1,593	968

(e) 2020-21 comparative was restated to correct classification of employee benefits expense and employment on-costs. Refer to Note 9.2 'Correction of prior period errors/ changes in accounting estimates'.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty – long service leave

Key estimates and assumptions concerning the future are based on historical experience and various other factors that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next financial year. Several estimates and assumptions are used in calculating the Department's long service leave provision. These include:

These include:

- Expected future salary rates
- Discount rates
- Employee retention rates
- Expected future payments.

Changes in these estimations and assumptions may impact the carrying amount of the long service leave provision. Any gain or loss following revaluation of the present value of long service leave liabilities is recognised as employee benefits expense.

3.2 Grants and subsidies

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Recurrent grants		
Local governments ^(a)	12,541	14,656
Mitigation and hazard management grants	9,717	8,273
Emergency service volunteer brigades, groups and units	3,623	3,809
Volunteer representative bodies ^(b)	1,928	2,234
Hazardous material scientific services	1,500	1,500
Other recurrent grants ^(c)	538	1,236
	29,847	31,708
Capital grants		
Local governments ^(d)	30,121	12,474
Marine Rescue WA groups ^(e)	7,540	4,940
	37,661	17,414
Total grants and subsidies	67,508	49,122

(a) The decrease is due to cash flow timing difference as the Local Government Grant Scheme (LGGs) quarterly payments have been realigned to occur within the relevant financial year.

(b) Includes \$1.381 million annual grant for Surf Life Saving Western Australia.

(c) The decrease is mainly due to a one-off \$600,000 contribution in 2021 for the national Public Safety Mobile Broadband capability project.

(d) The variance is due to the increase in the build and delivery of vehicles and facilities to local governments under the LGGs in 2022.

(e) The increase is mainly due to the clearing of the 2021 vessels and facilities build and refit program, particularly for groups in Geraldton, Port Hedland, Broome and Augusta.

Transactions in which the Department provides goods, services, assets (or extinguishes a liability) to another party without receiving approximately equal value in return are categorised as 'Grant expenses'. Grants and other transfers to third parties (other than contributions to owners) are recognised as an expense in the reporting period in which they are paid or payable.

Recurrent grants

Grant payments to **local governments** include payments to meet the operational costs of Bush Fire Brigades and State Emergency Service Units via the LGGs as well as other payments to support the employment of Community Emergency Service Managers.

Mitigation and hazard management grants include grant payments to local government and eligible organisations for various projects to implement sustained mitigation and hazard management strategies that directly benefit the WA community.

The Department provides a quarterly grant to the Chemistry Centre of Western Australia to support emergency services in relation to **hazardous material** including scientific services and other related activities.

Grants made to **volunteer representative bodies** that assist in the engagement and representation of emergency service volunteers in WA. See note 9.6 'Affiliated bodies' for assistance provided to affiliated volunteer representative bodies.

The Department provides direct grant funding to **emergency service volunteer brigades, groups and units** in the form of operational efficiency grants and Emergency Services Volunteer Fuel Card Scheme grants.

Capital grants

Local government capital grants relate to significant capital works initiatives including the acquisition or modification of facilities, appliances, vehicles and major items of equipment.

Capital grants paid to **Marine Rescue WA groups**, provide for the design and acquisition of rescue craft, towing vehicles, radio communication equipment and facilities.

3.3 Operating expenditure

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Supplies and services		
Service and contract expense	49,593	43,500
Plant and equipment hire	37,870	34,215
Minor equipment purchases and maintenance	29,374	26,280
Consumables	13,667	10,949
Travel expenses	7,333	5,211
Emergency Services Levy administration charges	6,302	5,237
Communication expenses	3,474	3,337
Insurance premiums and claims	4,740	3,094
Other supplies and services	2,698	2,643
	155,051	134,466
Accommodation expenses		
Property repairs and maintenance	11,451	8,676
Energy, water and rates	3,099	2,926
Short-term rental expenses	553	372
	15,103	11,974
Other expenses		
Employment on-costs	11,443	10,005
Audit fees	166	164
Expected credit loss expense	9	6
Other expenses from ordinary activities	238	239
	11,856	10,414
Total operating expenditure	182,010	156,854

Supplies and services

Service and contract expense is predominantly associated with ICT services such as software development services, ICT managed services, professional advisory fees such as internal audit and legal fees and critical paramedical care for the Emergency Rescue Helicopter Service.

Plant and equipment hire: The Department contracts the services of firefighting aircraft and heavy plant and equipment to suppress fires on a short term hire basis. The cost of the Emergency Rescue Helicopter Service standing charges are recognised under AASB 16 Leases as a right-of-use asset and included in the Statement of Financial Position.

Minor equipment purchases and maintenance: Equipment valued at less than \$5,000 such as breathing apparatus, rescue equipment, minor furniture and fittings are expensed as incurred. Repairs and maintenance on equipment are recognised as expenses as incurred, except where they relate to the replacement of a significant component of an asset. In that case, the costs are capitalised and depreciated.

Consumables: Includes significant expenditure such as personal protective clothing and catering during emergency incidents.

Accommodation expenses

Property repairs and maintenance: Includes costs associated with the restoration and minor improvements of buildings and lease outgoings related to office accommodation.

Short-term rental expenses: Include short-term leases with a lease term of 12 months or less. Expenditure also includes office rental which are expensed as incurred as Memorandum of Understanding Agreements with the Department of Finance for the leasing of office accommodation contain significant substitution rights.

Other expenses

Employment on-costs includes workers' compensation insurance and other employment on-costs. The on-costs liability associated with the recognition of annual and long service leave liabilities is included at Note 3.1(b) 'Employee related provisions'. Superannuation contributions accrued as part of the provision for leave are employee benefits and are not included in employment on-costs. The prior period comparative was restated, refer to Note 9.2 'Correction of prior period errors/changes in accounting estimates' for further details.

Expected credit losses is an allowance of trade receivables and is measured at the lifetime expected credit losses at each reporting date. The Department has established a provision matrix that is based on its historical credit loss experience, adjusted for forward-looking factors specific to the debtors and the economic environment.

4 Our funding sources**How we obtain our funding**

This section provides additional information about how the Department obtains its funding and the relevant accounting policy notes that govern the recognition and measurement of this funding. The primary income received by the Department and the relevant notes are:

	Note	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Emergency Services Levy	4.1	371,043	351,210
User charges and fees	4.2	10,237	9,028
Income from State Government	4.3	126,701	128,746
Grants and contributions	4.4	12,490	10,468
Interest revenue	4.5	157	251
Other revenue	4.6	6,578	5,741
		527,206	505,444

4.1 Emergency Services Levy

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Emergency Services Levy ^(a)	371,043	351,210

(a) Excludes levies received from public sector entities. This is disclosed in note 4.3 'Income from State Government'.

The Emergency Services Levy (ESL) is a property-based levy under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1998*. The levy is calculated using the Gross Rental Value (GRV) of most urban properties, with a fixed rate charge per property in rural and remote areas. Local governments (LG) collect the ESL from private property owners on behalf of the Department, with the charge included in the property owner's rates notices. On the other hand, the Department manages ESL billing for land owned by the State, State agency or instrumentality and this revenue is disclosed as part of Note 4.3 'Income from State Government'.

The Department recognises ESL income during the year, based on the estimated GRV of each property multiplied by the Gazetted ESL rate and Category. A reconciliation of the actual ESL collected from LGs against the estimate is performed after year end. These reconciliations will not be completed and submitted in time to enable the Department to reliably measure the adjustments to revenue recognition for the reporting period.

The Department expects uncertainty over the measurement of the adjustments to be resolved in September 2022.

4.2 Users charges and fees

Disaggregation of user charges and fees

The Department provides specific services to the WA community and charges a fee to the users to recover the cost of providing the service. The following table disaggregates these revenues by major services, timing of revenue recognition and type of customer.

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Major Services		
Direct Brigade Alarm-Connection and Monitoring	6,534	6,403
False Fire Alarm Fee	3,111	2,072
Aviation services attendance fee	552	502
Other	40	51
	10,237	9,028

Revenue is recognised at the transaction price when the Department transfers control of the services to customers. Revenue is recognised for the major activities as follows:

Revenue is recognised over-time for **Direct Brigade Alarm**, a protected premises fire alarm monitoring network that provides a direct data link to a fire control station as required by the Building Code of Australia and relevant Australian Standards. The Department charges an annual fee over the financial year for the rental and connection of the system. Thus, the Department typically satisfies its performance obligations over the period where the network equipment monitoring, telecommunication and specialist support services are provided to the customers.

Revenue is recognised at a point-in-time for the **False Fire Alarm Fee**. The fee is part of the Department's strategy to reduce the number of false fire alarms by charging owners and occupants of premises the cost of attendance after the third false alarm in a financial year. The Department recognises revenue subsequent to attending to the third false fire alarm.

Revenue is recognised at a point-in-time for **Aviation services attendance fee** charged to Commonwealth facilities for the use the Department's rotary aircraft attendance.

4.3 Income from State Government

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Appropriation received during the period		
Service appropriation	88,609	95,307
Income received from other public sector entities during the period		
Emergency Services Levy	22,034	21,491
Grants	6,742	5,936
Services provided at cost	7,085	3,355
Other revenue	307	385
	36,168	31,167
Resources received from other public sector entities during the period		
Western Australian Land Information Authority (Landgate)	447	792
State Solicitor's Office	313	539
Department of Finance	69	59
Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development	-	24
Department of Health	8	8
Main Roads Western Australia	-	2
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation	1	1
	838	1,425
Royalties for Regions Fund		
Regional Community Services Account	1,086	847
Total income from State Government	126,701	128,746

Service Appropriations are recognised as income at the fair value of consideration received in the period in which the Department gains control of the appropriated funds. The Department gains control of the appropriated funds at the time those funds are deposited in the bank account or credited to the holding account held at Treasury.

Income from other public sector entities are recognised as income when the Department has satisfied its performance obligations under the funding agreement. If there is no performance obligation, income will be recognised when the Department receives the funds. Refer to Note 4.1 'Emergency Services Levy' for ESL revenue accounting policy.

Resources received from other public sector entities are recognised as income (and assets or expenses) equivalent to the fair value of the assets, or the fair value of those services that can be reliably determined and which would have been purchased if not donated.

The Regional Infrastructure and Headworks Account and Regional Community Services Accounts are sub-funds within the over-arching 'Royalties for Regions Fund'. The recurrent funds are committed to projects and programs in WA regional areas and are recognised as income when the Department receives the funds.

4.4 Grants and contributions

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Commonwealth contributions		
Emergency service assistance	9,349	7,803
National Partnership Payments	2,898	2,506
	12,247	10,309
Other grants		
Other	243	159
	243	159
Total grants and contributions	12,490	10,468

Recurrent grants are recognised as income when the grants are receivable. Capital grants are recognised as income when the Department achieves milestones specified in the grant agreement.

Emergency service assistance contributions include Commonwealth payments for the operation of the Department's fire fighting aircraft, service delivery to the Indian Ocean Territories and reimbursement of services provided to the Australian Maritime Safety Authority for search and rescue operations conducted in Commonwealth jurisdictions.

National Partnership Payments relates to payments under the National Partnership on Disaster Risk Reduction, Flood Mitigation and the Australian Fire Danger Rating System.

4.5 Interest revenue

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Emergency Services Levy interest	157	251

Late payment interest of 11% per annum is charged if a property owner does not pay either the full or part payment of ESL on time. However, late ESL payment penalty interest will not be charged when eligible pensioners choose to defer the payment of their ESL charge.

4.6 Other revenue

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Sponsorship	2,727	2,650
Prior year recoveries	845	1,380
General revenue	1,124	465
Recovery of local government granted vehicles	1,727	727
Total other revenue	6,423	5,222

Sponsorship revenue is related to RAC WA sponsorship of the Emergency Rescue Helicopter Service.

General revenue includes recoups received from other jurisdictions for interstate and international deployments during the year ended 30 June 2022.

Contributions

Employee contributions	362	329
Total contributions	362	329

Net gain/(loss) on disposal of non-current assets**Proceeds from disposal of non-current assets**

Plant, equipment and vehicles	700	756
Right-of-use Liability from disposal of Right-of-use assets	–	644

Carrying amount of non-current assets disposed

Buildings	(872)	(281)
Land	–	(161)
Plant, equipment and vehicles	(35)	(142)
Right-of-use assets	–	(626)

Net gain/(loss)	(207)	190
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	665	662
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	(872)	(472)
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of non-current assets	(207)	190

Total other revenue	6,578	5,741
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Gains and losses on the disposal of non-current assets are presented by deducting from the proceeds on disposal the carrying amount of the asset and related selling expenses. Gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

5 Key assets**Assets the Department utilises for service potential**

This section includes information regarding the key assets the Department uses to gain economic benefits or provide service potential. The section sets out both the key accounting policies and financial information about the performance of these assets:

	Note	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Property, plants and equipment	5.1	475,131	418,999
Right-of-use assets	5.2	28,133	13,662
Intangible assets	5.3	7,127	10,042

5.1 Property, plant and equipment

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the reporting period are set out in the table below.

	Land (\$000)	Buildings (\$000)	Buildings under construction (\$000)	Vehicles (\$000)	Vehicles under construction (\$000)	Plant and equipment (\$000)	Plant and equipment under construction (\$000)	Leasehold improvements (\$000)	Total (\$000)
1 July 2020									
Cost or fair value	102,137	182,459	12,795	142,167	4,789	23,268	981	2,183	470,779
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	-	(66,501)	-	(10,727)	-	(1,525)	(78,753)
Carrying amount at start of period	102,137	182,459	12,795	75,666	4,789	12,541	981	658	392,026
Additions	-	-	32,853	495	9,309	122	2,028	-	44,807
Transfers ^(c)	-	(459)	-	54	-	(54)	-	458	(1)
Completed works in progress	-	33,099	(33,099)	5,242	(5,242)	2,545	(2,545)	-	-
Other disposals (at written down value)	(144)	(164)	-	(112)	-	-	-	(29)	(449)
Revaluation increments/(decrements)	(328)	6,641	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,313
Depreciation	-	(10,112)	-	(10,476)	-	(2,713)	-	(396)	(23,697)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2021	101,665	211,464	12,549	70,869	8,856	12,441	464	691	418,999
1 July 2021									
Cost or fair value	101,665	211,475	12,549	146,674	8,856	25,754	464	2,612	510,049
Accumulated depreciation	-	(11)	-	(75,805)	-	(13,313)	-	(1,921)	(91,050)
Net book amount	101,665	211,464	12,549	70,869	8,856	12,441	464	691	418,999
Additions	-	-	12,918	273	17,048	-	3,011	-	33,250
Transfers ^(c)	-	(170)	-	563	-	(393)	-	-	-
Completed works in progress	-	3,789	(3,789)	6,504	(6,504)	2,546	(2,546)	-	-
Other disposals (at written down value)	-	(872)	-	(34)	-	-	-	-	(906)
Revaluation increments/(decrements)	8,153	20,760	-	-	-	-	-	-	28,913
Depreciation	-	(9,818)	-	(10,239)	-	(2,808)	-	(260)	(23,125)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2022	109,818	225,153	21,678^(a)	67,936	19,400^(b)	11,786	929	431	457,131
Cost or fair value	109,818	225,153	21,678	153,199	19,400	27,907	929	2,612	560,696
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	-	(85,263)	-	(16,121)	-	(2,181)	(103,565)

^(a) The increase in the 2022 Buildings under construction ending balance largely represents the ongoing project works including Koolinup Emergency Service Centre in Collie, Northampton Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service (VFRS) Station and other VFRS facilities.

^(b) The increase in vehicles under construction balance in 2022 is mainly due to the resumption of the Department's appliance replacement program that was impacted by COVID-19 related supply chain issues.

As at the reporting date, there were over 60 Light Tankers and 20 Urban Pumpers and Urban Tankers under construction totalling \$16.7 million.

^(c) Transfers include reclassification between asset categories. For transfers of land, Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) is the only agency with the power to sell Crown land. If land is transferred to DPLH for sale, the Department will account for the transfer as a distribution to owner.

Initial recognition

Items of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure, costing \$5,000 or more are measured initially at cost. Where an asset is acquired for no cost or significantly less than fair value, the cost is valued at its fair value at the date of acquisition. Items of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure costing less than \$5,000 are immediately expensed direct to the Statement of Comprehensive Income (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

Assets transferred as part of a Machinery of Government change are transferred at their fair value.

The cost of a leasehold improvement is capitalised and depreciated over the shorter of the remaining term of the lease or the estimated useful life of the leasehold improvement.

Subsequent measurement

Subsequent to initial recognition of an asset, the revaluation model is used for the measurement of:

- land
- buildings.

Land is carried at fair value.

Buildings and infrastructure are carried at fair value less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

All other property, plant and equipment are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Land and buildings are independently valued annually by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuations and Property Analytics) and recognised annually to ensure that the carrying amount does not differ materially from the asset's fair value at the end of the reporting period.

Land and buildings were revalued as at 1 July 2021 by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuations and Property Analytics). The valuations were performed during the year ended 30 June 2022 and recognised at 30 June 2022. In undertaking the revaluation, fair value was determined by reference to market values for land: \$14,859,200 (2021: \$14,322,600) and buildings: \$35,490,500 (2021: \$33,875,000). For the remaining balance, fair value of buildings was determined on the basis of current replacement cost and fair value of land was determined on the basis of comparison with market evidence for land with low level utility (high restricted use land).

Revaluation model

(a) Fair value where market-based evidence is available:

The fair value of land and buildings is determined on the basis of current market values determined by reference to recent market transactions. When buildings are revalued by reference to recent market transactions, the accumulated depreciation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount restated to the revalued amount.

(b) Fair value in the absence of market-based evidence:

Where buildings are specialised or where land is restricted, the fair value is determined on the basis of existing use.

Existing use buildings: Fair value is determined by reference to the cost of replacing the remaining future economic benefits embodied in the asset, i.e. the current replacement cost. Where the fair value of buildings is determined on the current replacement cost basis, the gross carrying amount is adjusted in a manner that is consistent with the revaluation of the carrying amount of the asset and the accumulated depreciation is adjusted to equal the difference between the gross carrying amount and the carrying amount of the asset.

Restricted use land: Fair value is determined by comparison with market evidence for land with similar approximate utility (high restricted use land) or market value of comparable unrestricted land (low restricted use land).

5.1.1 Depreciation and impairment charge for the period

Depreciation	Note	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Vehicles	5.1	10,239	10,476
Buildings	5.1	9,818	10,112
Plant and equipment	5.1	2,808	2,601
Leasehold improvements	5.1	260	508
Total depreciation for the period		23,125	23,697

As at 30 June 2022 there were no indications of impairment to property, plant or equipment.

All surplus assets at 30 June 2022 have either been classified as assets held for sale or have been written-off.

Finite useful lives

All infrastructure, property, plant and equipment having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their estimated useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their future economic benefits. The exceptions to this rule include assets held for sale, land and investment properties.

Depreciation is generally calculated on a straight line basis, at rates that allocate the asset's value, less any estimated residual value, over its estimated useful life. Typical estimated useful lives for the different asset classes for current and prior years are included in the table below:

Asset	Useful life
Buildings ^{(a) (b)}	15–100 years
Vehicles	5–20 years
Plant and equipment	3–10 years

(a) During the reporting period, the Department noted that the accumulated depreciation of certain building assets may not fully reflect the level of consumption, service potential nor expiration of the building's future economic benefits. Refer to Note 9.2 'Correction of prior period errors/changes in accounting estimates'.

(b) The Department's buildings can be further broken down into the following type

Asset	Useful life
Fire stations	40–100 years
Metal structure	15–25 years
Offices and other facilities	40–50 years

A number of fire stations are heritage listed and are retained beyond the Department's replacement plan due to them having cultural, environmental or historical significance. Further, the Department is bound by certain legal and statutory obligations to ensure the service continuation of these heritage listed fire stations. To ensure a safe working environment for our stakeholders whilst adhering to the heritage site obligations, the Department reviews and implements a set of facility maintenance, modification and improvement frameworks to mitigate obsolescence and deterioration. Due to this, it may be difficult to estimate the useful lives of the Department's heritage listed buildings, which may reach up to 100 years.

The estimated useful lives, residual values and depreciation method are reviewed at the end of each annual reporting period, and adjustments are made where appropriate.

Land and works of art, which are considered to have an indefinite life, are not depreciated. Depreciation is not recognised in respect of these assets because their service potential has not, in any material sense, been consumed during the reporting period.

Impairment

Non-financial assets, including items of plant and equipment, are tested for impairment whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired. Where there is an indication of impairment, the recoverable amount is estimated. Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to the recoverable amount and an impairment loss is recognised.

Where an asset measured at cost is written down to its recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised through profit or loss.

Where a previously revalued asset is written down to its recoverable amount, the loss is recognised as a revaluation decrement through other comprehensive income.

As the Department is a not-for-profit agency, the recoverable amount of regularly revalued specialised assets is anticipated to be materially the same as fair value.

The risk of impairment is generally limited to circumstances where an asset's depreciation is materially understated, where the replacement cost is falling or where there is a significant change in useful life. Each relevant class of assets is reviewed annually to verify that the accumulated depreciation/amortisation reflects the level of consumption or expiration of the asset's future economic benefits and to evaluate any impairment risk from declining replacement costs.

5.2 Right-of-use assets

Year ended 30 June 2022

	Emergency Rescue Helicopters (\$000)	Buildings (\$000)	Plant, equipment and vehicles (\$000)	Total (\$000)
1 July 2020				
Gross carrying amount	20,369	11,054	6,745	38,168
Accumulated depreciation	(10,198)	(2,091)	(2,191)	(14,480)
Carrying amount at start of period	10,171	8,963	4,554	23,688
Additions	-	1,433	4,614	6,047
Transfers	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	(520)	(107)	(627)
Adjustments	1,090	(148)	133	1,075
Depreciation	(11,261)	(2,502)	(2,758)	(16,521)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2021	-	7,226	6,436	13,662
1 July 2021				
Gross carrying amount	21,459	11,819	11,385	44,663
Accumulated depreciation	(21,459)	(4,593)	(4,949)	(31,001)
Net book amount	-	7,226	6,436	13,662
Additions	-	6,687	2,244	8,931
Transfers	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	(328)	-	(328)
Adjustments	23,024	(39)	(23)	22,962
Depreciation	(11,512)	(2,920)	(2,662)	(17,095)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2022	11,512	10,626	5,995	28,133
Gross carrying amount	44,483	18,139	13,606	76,228
Accumulated depreciation	(32,971)	(7,513)	(7,611)	(48,096)

Initial recognition

Right-of-use assets are measured at cost including the following:

- the amount of the initial measurement of lease liability
- any lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received
- any initial direct costs
- restoration costs, including dismantling and removing the underlying asset.

The Department has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases (with a lease term of 12 months or less) and low value leases (with an underlying value of \$5,000 or less). Lease payments associated with these leases are expensed over a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Subsequent measurement

The cost model is applied for subsequent measurement of right-of-use assets, requiring the asset to be carried at cost less any accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses and adjusted for any re-measurement of lease liability.

Depreciation and impairment of right-of-use assets

Right-of-use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of the lease term and the estimated useful lives of the underlying assets.

If ownership of the leased asset transfers to the Department at the end of the lease term or the cost reflects the exercise of a purchase option, depreciation is calculated using the estimated useful life of the asset.

Right-of-use assets are tested for impairment when an indication of impairment is identified. The policy in connection with testing for impairment is outlined in Note 5.1.1 'Depreciation and impairment charge for the period'.

The following amounts relating to leases have been recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income:

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Depreciation expense of right-of-use assets	17,093	16,514
Lease interest expense	684	654
Expenses related to variable leave payments not included in lease liability	701	414
Short-term leases	551	372
Total amount recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income	19,029	17,954

The total cash outflow for leases in 2022 was \$16,885,737 (2021: \$17,077,544).

The Department's leasing activities and how these are accounted for

The Department has leases for the Emergency Rescue Helicopters, vehicles, telecommunication towers, office and residential accommodations.

The corresponding lease liabilities in relation to these right-of-use assets have been disclosed in Note 7.2 'Lease Liabilities'.

The Department has also entered into Memorandum of Understanding Agreements (MOU) with the Department of Finance for the leasing of office accommodation. These are not recognised under AASB 16 because of substitution rights held by the Department of Finance and are accounted for as an expense as incurred.

Office accommodation paid to the Department of Finance forms part of Note 3.3 'Operating expenditure'.

5.3 Intangible assets

	Intangible assets not yet available for use (\$000)	Computer software (\$000)	Total (\$000)
Year ended 30 June 2021			
1 July 2020			
Gross carrying amount	-	20,959	20,959
Accumulated amortisation	-	(7,969)	(7,969)
Carrying amount at start of period	-	12,990	12,990
Additions	1,043	-	1,043
Completed works in progress	-	-	-
Amortisation	-	(3,991)	(3,991)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2021	1,043	8,999	10,042
Year ended 30 June 2022			
1 July 2021			
Gross carrying amount	1,043	20,959	22,002
Accumulated amortisation	-	(11,960)	(11,960)
Carrying amount at start of period	1,043	8,999	10,042
Additions	1,120	-	1,120
Completed works in progress	(824)	824	-
Amortisation	-	(4,035)	(4,035)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2022	1,339	5,788	7,127

Initial recognition

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. For assets acquired at no cost or for nominal cost, the cost is their fair value at the date of acquisition.

An internally generated intangible asset arising from development (or from the development phase of an internal project) is recognised if, and only if, all of the following are demonstrated:

- (a) the technical feasibility of completing the intangible asset so that it will be available for use or sale
- (b) an intention to complete the intangible asset, and use or sell it
- (c) the ability to use or sell the intangible asset
- (d) the intangible asset will generate probable future economic benefit
- (e) the availability of adequate technical, financial and other resources to complete the development and to use or sell the intangible asset
- (f) the ability to measure reliably the expenditure attributable to the intangible asset during its development.

Acquisitions of intangible assets costing \$5,000 or more and internally generated intangible assets costing \$50,000 or more that comply with the recognition criteria as per AASB 138.57 (as noted above), are capitalised.

Costs incurred below these thresholds are immediately expensed directly to the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Costs incurred in the research phase of a project are immediately expensed.

Subsequent measurement

The cost model is applied for subsequent measurement of intangible assets, requiring the asset to be carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

5.3.1 Amortisation and impairment

Charge for the period	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Computer software	4,035	3,991
Total amortisation for the period	4,035	3,991

As at 30 June 2022 there were no indications of impairment to intangible assets.

The Department held no goodwill or intangible assets with an indefinite useful life during the reporting period. At the end of the reporting period there were no intangible assets not yet available for use.

Amortisation of finite life intangible assets is calculated on a straight line basis at rates that allocate the asset's value over its estimated useful life. All intangible assets controlled by the Department have a finite useful life and zero residual value. Estimated useful lives are reviewed annually.

The estimated useful lives for each class of intangible asset are:

Asset	Useful life
Software	5 years

Impairment of intangible assets

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are tested for impairment annually or when an indication of impairment is identified.

The policy in connection with testing for impairment is outlined in Note 5.1.1 'Depreciation and impairment charge'.

6 Other assets and liabilities

This section sets out those assets and liabilities that arose from the Department's controlled operations and includes other assets utilised for economic benefits and liabilities incurred during normal operations:

	Note	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Assets			
Receivables	6.1	9,725	14,440
Amounts receivable for services (Holding Account)	6.2	70,256	63,112
Inventories	6.3	17,593	16,421
Other assets	6.4	1,244	2,544
Liabilities			
Payables	6.5	13,497	9,482
Other current liabilities	6.6	-	47

6.1 Receivables

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Current		
Trade receivables	5,793	11,448
Allowance for impairment of receivables	(58)	(51)
GST receivable	3,462	3,043
Accrued Income	528	-
	9,725	14,440

Trade receivables are recognised at original invoice amount less any allowances for uncollectible amounts (i.e. impairment). The carrying amount of net trade receivables is equivalent to fair value as it is due for settlement within 30 days.

6.1.1 Movement in the allowance for impairment of trade receivables

Reconciliation of changes in the allowance for impairment of trade receivables:	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Opening balance	51	47
Expected credit losses expense	9	6
Amount written off during the period	(2)	(2)
	58	51

6.2 Amounts receivable for services (Holding Account)

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Current	-	-
Non-current	70,256	63,112
Balance at end of period	70,256	63,112

Amounts receivable for services represent the non-cash component of service appropriations. It is restricted in that it can only be used for asset replacement or payment of leave liability.

Amounts receivable for services are considered not impaired (i.e. there is no expected credit loss of the holding accounts).

6.3 Inventories

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Inventories held for distribution (at cost)	14,260	13,199
Inventories held for consumption (at cost)	3,333	3,222
Total inventories	17,593	16,421

Inventories held for distribution represent fire appliances under construction as part of the Emergency Services Levy capital grants process. These inventories are measured at cost. A capital grant expense is recognised when the fire appliance is completed and delivered to the local government authority.

Inventories held for consumption represents fire appliances parts, consumable items, service exchange equipment and tools stored in the Fleet and Equipment Services workshop facility in O'Connor. These inventories are measured on a weighted average cost basis.

6.4 Other assets

Current	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Prepayments	1,244	2,544
Total other assets	1,244	2,544

Other non-financial assets include **prepayments** which represent payments in advance of receipt of goods or services or that part of expenditure made in one accounting period covering a term extending beyond that period.

6.5 Payables

Current	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Trade payables	12,559	8,298
Accrued salaries	40	202
GST payable	740	799
Accrued interest	158	183
	13,497	9,482

Trade payables are recognised at the amounts payable when the Department becomes obliged to make future payments as a result of a purchase of assets or services. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value as settlement is generally within 20 days.

Accrued salaries represent the amount due to staff but unpaid at the end of the reporting period. Accrued salaries are settled within a week of the reporting period end. The Department considers the carrying amount of accrued salaries to be equivalent to its fair value.

The accrued salaries suspense account (See Note 7.4 'Restricted cash and cash equivalents') consists of amounts paid annually, from Department's operating account, into a suspense account to meet the additional cash outflow for employee salary payments in reporting periods with 53 pay days instead of the normal 52. This is due to next occur in 2026-27. No interest is received on this account.

GST payable is the Goods and Services tax raised from taxable sales by the Department due to the Australian Taxation Office.

Accrued interest represents interest expense incurred but not yet paid as at reporting date.

6.6 Other current liabilities

Reconciliation of changes in contract liabilities

Current	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Opening balance at the beginning of the period	47	50
Additions	6,534	6,403
Revenue recognised in the reporting period	(6,581)	(6,406)
Closing balance of contract liabilities at the end of the period	-	47

The Department's contract liabilities relate to Direct Brigade Alarm yet to be performed at the end of the reporting period. Typically, a connection and monitoring fee is received upfront for 12 months of services.

7 Financing

This section sets out the material balances and disclosures associated with the financing and cash flows of the Department.

	Note	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Borrowings	7.1	34,138	37,094
Lease liabilities	7.2	28,711	14,032
Finance costs	7.3	1,534	1,690
Cash and cash equivalents	7.4	85,867	84,141

7.1 Borrowings

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Current		
Western Australian Treasury Corporation loan	2,967	2,956
Non-Current		
Western Australian Treasury Corporation loan	31,171	34,138
Balance at end of period	34,138	37,094

Borrowings refer to interest bearing liabilities raised from public borrowings through Western Australian Treasury Corporation (WATC), which is an interest bearing arrangement.

Borrowings are classified as financial instruments. All interest bearing borrowings are initially recognised at the fair value of the consideration received less directly attributable transaction costs. The Department has classified all financial liabilities at 'amortised cost'.

7.2 Lease liabilities

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Current	16,885	4,187
Non-current	11,826	9,845
Total lease liabilities	28,711	14,032

The Department measures a lease liability, at the commencement date, at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at that date. The lease payments are discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease.

If that rate cannot be readily determined, the Department uses the incremental borrowing rate provided by WATC.

Lease payments included by the Department as part of the present value calculation of lease liability include:

- Fixed payments (including in-substance fixed payments), less any lease incentives receivable;
- Variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date;
- Amounts expected to be payable by the lessee under residual value guarantees;
- The exercise price of purchase options (where these are reasonably certain to be exercised);
- Payments for penalties for terminating a lease, where the lease term reflects the Department exercising an option to terminate the lease.

The interest on the lease liability is recognised in profit or loss over the lease term so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability for each period. Lease liabilities do not include any future changes in variable lease payments (that depend on an index or rate) until they take effect, in which case the lease liability is reassessed and adjusted against the right-of-use asset.

Periods covered by extension or termination options are only included in the lease term by the Department if the lease is reasonably certain to be extended (or not terminated).

Variable lease payments, not included in the measurement of lease liability, that are dependant on sales are recognised by the Department in profit or loss in the period in which the condition that triggers those payment occurs.

This section should be read in conjunction with note 5.2 'Right-of-use assets'.

Subsequent Measurement

Lease liabilities are measured by increasing the carrying amount to reflect interest on the lease liabilities; reducing the carrying amount to reflect the lease payments made; and remeasuring the carrying amount at amortised cost, subject to adjustments to reflect any reassessment or lease modifications.

7.3 Finance costs

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Interest expense	779	959
Lease interest expense	684	654
Loan guarantee fees	71	77
Total lease liabilities	1,534	1,690

Finance costs includes the **interest expense** in connection to long term borrowings. The Department is required to pay a **loan guarantee fee** which represents the premium paid to Government, which acts as guarantor for all long term borrowings of the Department.

7.4 Cash and cash equivalents

7.4.1 Reconciliation of cash

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Cash and cash equivalents	72,725	69,938
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		
Current		
Commonwealth specific purpose grant funding (a)	10,211	9,167
Royalties for Regions Fund (b)	1,222	4,038
State mitigation funding (c)	2	8
Funds held for service delivery to the Indian Ocean Territories	156	238
Rental bond deposits	9	1
Non-current		
53rd pay (d)	1,542	751
Total restricted cash and cash equivalents	13,142	14,203
Total cash and cash equivalents	85,867	84,141

- (a) Unspent funds relating to the Natural Disaster Resilience, Prepared Communities, Disaster Risk Reduction and National Bushfire Mitigation Programs.
- (b) Unspent funds relating to the construction of the Koolinup Emergency Service Centre in Collie and Volunteer Fuel Card Scheme.
- (c) Unspent funds from the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage for bushfire mitigation activities.
- (d) Funds held to provide for the year in which employees receive 53 salary payments rather than the typical 52.

For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalent (and restricted cash and cash equivalent) assets comprise cash on hand which are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

7.4.2 Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows used in operating activities

	Note	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Net cost of services as per operating statement		(125,485)	(101,352)
Non-cash items:			
Depreciation and amortisation expense	5.1.1, 5.2 and 5.3.1	44,253	44,202
Net (gain)/loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	4.6	207	(190)
Services received free of charge	4.3	838	1,425
Expected credit loss	6.1.1	9	6
Adjustments for other non-cash items		(375)	(745)
Change in assets from operating activities			
(Increase)/decrease in current receivables (a)		5,804	2,832
(Increase)/decrease in other assets		771	(42)
(Increase)/decrease in current inventories		(960)	(9,776)
Change in liabilities from operating activities			
Increase/(decrease) in payables (a)		3,224	(2,667)
Increase/(decrease) in provisions		1,007	820
Increase/(decrease) in non-current provisions		(899)	(150)
Increase/(decrease) in other liabilities		(47)	(3)
Net GST receipts/(payments) (b)		(3,318)	(2,158)
Change in GST in receivables/payables (c)		2,840	2,575
Net cash used in operating activities		(72,131)	(65,223)

(a) Note that the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) receivable/payable in respect of GST and the receivable/payable in respect of the sale/purchase of non-current assets are not included as they do not form part of reconciling items.

(b) This is the net GST paid/received, i.e. cash transactions.

(c) This reverses out the GST in receivables and payables.

7.5 Capital commitments

Capital expenditure commitments, being contracted capital expenditure additional to the amounts reported in the financial statements, are payable as follows:

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Within 1 year	29,501	31,867
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	13,467	12,877
Later than 5 years	-	-
	42,968	44,744

8 Risks and contingencies

This note sets out the key risk management policies and measurement techniques of the Department.

	Note
Financial risk management	8.1
Contingent liabilities	8.2
Fair value measurements	8.3

8.1 Financial risk management

Financial instruments held by the Department are cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash and cash equivalents, receivables, payables, WATC borrowings and finance leases. The Department has limited exposure to financial risks. The Department's overall risk management program focuses on managing the risks identified below.

(a) Summary of risks and risk management

Credit Risk

Credit risk arises when there is the possibility of the Department's receivables defaulting on their contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Department.

Credit risk associated with the Department's financial assets is minimal because the main receivable is the amounts receivable for services (holding account). For receivables other than Government, the Department trades only with recognised, creditworthy third parties. The Department has policies in place to ensure that sales of products and services are made to customers with an appropriate credit history. In addition, receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis with the result that the Department's exposure to bad debts is minimal. Debt will be written-off against the allowance account when it is improbable or uneconomical to recover the debt. At the end of the reporting period there were no significant concentrations of credit risk.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises when the Department is unable to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Department is exposed to liquidity risk through its trading in the normal course of business.

The Department has appropriate procedures to manage cash flows including drawdown of appropriations by monitoring forecast cash flows to ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet its commitments.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices such as foreign exchange rates and interest rates will affect the Department's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments. The Department does not trade in foreign currency and is not materially exposed to other price risks. The Department's exposure to market risk for changes in interest rates relate primarily to the long-term debt obligations.

All borrowings are due to the WATC and are repayable at fixed rates with varying maturities. Other than as detailed in the interest rate sensitivity analysis table at Note 8.1(e), the Department is not exposed to interest rate risk because the majority of cash and cash equivalents and restricted cash are non-interest bearing and it has no borrowings other than the Treasurer's advance (non-interest bearing), WATC borrowings and finance leases (fixed interest rate).

(b) Categories of financial instruments

The carrying amounts of each of the following categories of financial assets and financial liabilities at the end of the reporting period are:

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Financial assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	85,867	84,141
Financial assets at amortised cost (a)	76,519	74,509
Total financial assets	162,386	158,650
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost (b)	46,895	45,777
Total financial liabilities	46,895	45,777

(a) The amount of financial assets at amortised cost excludes GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

(b) The amount of financial liabilities at amortised cost excludes GST payable to the ATO (statutory payable).

(c) Credit risk exposure

The expected credit loss for ESL and other receivables is based on the historical repayment profile. Based upon the historical risk profile of each category of receivable the Department has determined the expected credit loss rates for trade receivables is materially different in respect to ESL receivable and therefore have disaggregated the expected credit loss rates. The material difference in expected credit loss for ESL arises due to ESL being secured against the value of the rateable land, upon settlement and the apportionment of rates and taxes the Department recovers all ESL receivable that does not exceed the consideration paid for the property.

The following table details the credit risk exposure on the Department's trade receivables using a provision matrix.

	Total (\$000)	Current (\$000)	<30 days (\$000)	30-60 days (\$000)	61-90 days (\$000)	>91 days (\$000)
30 June 2022						
Expected credit loss rate	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Gross carrying amount – ESL receivable	3,155	45	848	(12)	228	2,046
Expected credit loss rate	2.24%	0.23%	2.07%	6.98%	20.37%	32.65%
Gross carrying amount – other receivables	2,638	2,158	242	86	54	98
Loss allowance	58	5	5	6	11	31
30 June 2021						
Expected credit loss rate	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Gross carrying amount – ESL receivable	3,095	5	514	-	-	2,576
Expected credit loss rate	0.59%	0.06%	6.00%	4.29%	15.79%	17.31%
Gross carrying amount – other receivables	8,354	7,961	75	105	57	156
Loss allowance	51	5	5	5	9	27

(d) Liquidity risk and Interest rate exposure

The following table details the Department's interest rate exposure and the contractual maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities. The maturity analysis section includes interest and principal cash flows. The interest rate exposure section analyses only the carrying amounts of each item.

Interest rate exposure and maturity analysis of financial assets and financial liabilities

	Weighted average effective interest rate %	Interest rate exposure			Maturity dates						
		Carrying amount (\$'000)	Fixed interest rate (\$'000)	Variable interest rate (\$'000)	Non-interest bearing (\$'000)	Nominal amount (\$'000)	Up to 1 month (\$'000)	1-3 months (\$'000)	3 months to 1 year (\$'000)	1 - 5 years (\$'000)	More than 5 years (\$'000)
2022											
Financial assets											
Cash and cash equivalents	-	72,725	-	-	72,725	72,725	72,725	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	-	13,142	-	-	13,142	13,142	-	-	-	-	-
Receivables (a)	-	5,735	-	-	5,735	5,735	-	-	-	-	-
Amounts receivable for services	-	70,256	-	-	70,256	-	-	-	-	-	70,256
		161,858	-	-	161,858	161,858	91,602	-	-	-	70,256
Financial liabilities											
Payables (c)	-	12,757	-	-	12,757	12,757	-	-	-	-	-
Lease liabilities (b)	2.43%	28,711	28,711	-	-	29,514	1,482	2,980	12,920	9,836	2,296
WATC Borrowings	2.24%	34,138	34,138	-	-	39,012	947	-	2,915	14,427	20,723
		75,606	62,849	-	12,757	81,283	15,186	2,980	15,835	24,263	23,019
2021											
Financial assets											
Cash and cash equivalents	-	69,938	-	-	69,938	69,938	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	-	14,203	-	-	14,203	13,452	-	-	-	751	-
Receivables (a)	-	11,397	-	-	11,397	11,397	-	-	-	-	-
Amounts receivable for services	-	63,112	-	-	63,112	-	-	-	-	-	63,112
		158,650	-	-	158,650	158,650	94,787	-	-	751	63,112
Financial liabilities											
Payables (c)	-	8,683	-	-	8,683	8,683	-	-	-	-	-
Lease liabilities (b)	3.38%	14,032	14,032	-	-	15,309	432	853	3,279	8,334	2,411
WATC Borrowings	2.38%	37,094	25,966	11,128	-	41,133	976	-	2,818	13,809	23,530
		59,809	39,998	11,128	8,683	65,125	10,091	853	6,097	22,143	25,941

(a) The amount of receivables excludes the GST recoverable from the ATO (statutory receivable).

(b) The amount of lease liabilities includes \$11,569,823 from Emergency Rescue Helicopters (2021: \$nil), \$10,893,814 leased buildings (2021: \$7,402,237) and \$6,247,641 (2021: \$6,630,075) from leased plant, equipment and vehicles.

(c) The amount of payables excludes the GST payable to the ATO (statutory payable).

(e) Interest rate sensitivity

The following table represents a summary of the interest rate sensitivity of the Department's financial assets and liabilities at the end of the reporting period on the surplus for the period and equity for a 1% change in interest rates. It is assumed that the change in interest rates is held constant throughout the reporting period.

2022	Carrying amount (\$000)	-100 basis points		+100 basis points	
		Surplus (\$000)	Equity (\$000)	Surplus (\$000)	Equity (\$000)
Financial liabilities					
WATC borrowings	34,138	341.4	341.4	(341.4)	(341.4)
Total increase/(decrease)	34,138	341.4	341.4	(341.4)	(341.4)
2021					
Financial liabilities					
WATC Borrowings	37,094	370.9	370.9	(370.9)	(370.9)
Total increase/(decrease)	37,094	370.9	370.9	(370.9)	(370.9)

8.2 Contingent liabilities

Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position but are disclosed and, if quantifiable, are measured at the best estimate.

The following contingent liabilities are excluded from the liabilities included in the financial statements:

Litigation in progress

A class action has been brought against the Department for judicial review of an employer direction. The quantum of any potential claims arising from this matter is currently undetermined. Further, an insurance liability claim against the Department is currently being conciliated.

Contaminated sites

Under the [Contaminated Sites Act 2003](#), the Department is required to report known and suspected contaminated sites to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER). In accordance with the Act, DWER classifies these sites on the basis of the risk to human health, the environment and environmental values. Where sites are classified as 'contaminated – remediation required' or 'possibly contaminated – investigation required', the Department may have a liability in respect of investigation or remediation expenses.

The Department has reported 48 sites that are classified as 'possibly contaminated - investigation required' to DWER. None of these sites have been 'remediated for restricted use.' In August 2018, the Department completed a DWER recommended GIS-Risk Based Assessment (GIS-RBA) of all the sites to determine a prioritised list of sites that may require

further investigation based on the risks associated with the past use and/or storage of Aqueous Film-Forming Foams (AFFF). The GIS-RBA categorised and prioritised the sites in accordance with the National Environmental Management Plan guidelines as 23 'Urgent', 42 'High', 58 'Standard', 38 'Low' and 1 'None' (no action needed).

Limited information is available at this time for the likely outcome of the investigation process. Subject to the funding availability, the Department may apply for funding from the Contaminated Sites Management Account to undertake further investigative work.

8.3 Fair value measurements

Assets measured at fair value:	Level 1 (\$000)	Level 2 (\$000)	Level 3 (\$000)	Fair value at end of period (\$000)
2022				
Land (Note 5.1)	-	14,859	94,959	109,818
Buildings (note 5.1)	-	35,490	189,663	225,153
	-	50,349	284,622	334,971
2021				
Land (Note 5.1)	-	14,322	87,343	101,665
Buildings (note 5.1)	-	33,875	177,590	211,465
	-	48,197	264,933	313,130

One building was transferred from Level 3 to Level 2 during the current period (previous period: four).

Valuation techniques to derive Level 2 fair values

Level 2 fair values of Land and Buildings (office accommodation) are derived using the market approach. Market evidence of sales prices of comparable land and buildings (office accommodation) in close proximity is used to determine price per square metre.

Non-current assets held for sale have been written down to fair value less costs to sell. Fair value has been determined by reference to market evidence of sales prices of comparable assets.

Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)

	Land (\$000)	Buildings (\$000)	Total (\$000)
2022			
Fair value at start of period	87,343	177,590	264,933
Additions	-	1,954	1,954
Revaluation increments/(decrements) recognised in Other Comprehensive Income	7,616	19,739	27,355
Transfers from/(to) Level 2	-	(381)	(381)
Disposals	-	(855)	(855)
Depreciation expense	-	(8,384)	(8,384)
Fair value at end of period	94,959	189,663	284,622
2021			
Fair value at start of period	79,846	149,176	229,022
Additions	-	11,523	11,523
Revaluation increments/(decrements) recognised in Other Comprehensive Income	(484)	6,022	5,538
Transfers from/(to) Level 2	8,125	20,201	28,326
Disposals	(144)	(169)	(313)
Depreciation expense	-	(9,163)	(9,163)
Fair value at end of period	87,343	177,590	264,933

Valuation processes

Transfers in and out of a fair value level are recognised on the date of the event or change in circumstances that caused the transfer. Transfers are generally limited to assets newly classified as non-current assets held for sale as TIs require valuations of land, buildings and infrastructure to be categorised within Level 3 where the valuations will utilise significant Level 3 inputs on a recurring basis.

Land (Level 3 fair values)

Fair value for restricted use land is based on comparison with market evidence for land with low level utility (high restricted use land). The relevant comparators of land with low level utility is selected by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuations and Property Analytics) and represents the application of a significant Level 3 input in this valuation methodology. The fair value measurement is sensitive to values of comparator land, with higher values of comparator land correlating with higher estimated fair values of land.

Buildings and Infrastructure (Level 3 fair values)

Fair value for existing use specialised buildings and infrastructure assets is determined by reference to the cost of replacing the remaining future economic benefits embodied in the asset, i.e. the current replacement cost. Current replacement cost is generally determined by reference to the market observable replacement cost of a substitute asset of comparable utility and the gross project size specifications, adjusted for obsolescence. Obsolescence encompasses physical deterioration, functional (technological) obsolescence and economic (external) obsolescence.

Valuation using current replacement cost utilises the significant Level 3 input, consumed economic benefit/obsolescence of asset which is estimated by the Western Australian Land Information Authority (Valuations and Property Analytics). The fair value measurement is sensitive to the estimate of consumption/obsolescence, with higher values of the estimate correlating with lower estimated fair values of buildings and infrastructure.

Basis of valuation

In the absence of market-based evidence, due to the specialised nature of some non-financial assets, these assets are valued at Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy on an existing use basis. The existing use basis recognises that restrictions or limitations have been placed on their use and disposal when they are not determined to be surplus to requirements. These restrictions are imposed by virtue of the assets being held to deliver a specific community service.

9 Other disclosures

This section includes additional material disclosures required by accounting standards or other pronouncements, for the understanding of this financial report.

	Note
Events occurring after the end of the reporting period	9.1
Correction of prior period errors/changes in accounting estimates	9.2
Future impact of Australian standards issued but not yet operative	9.3
Key management personnel	9.4
Related party transactions	9.5
Affiliated bodies	9.6
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Remuneration of auditors	9.8
Equity	9.9
Supplementary financial information	9.10
Indian Ocean Territories	9.11
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9.1 Events occurring after the end of the reporting period

No other matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2022 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the Department's operations, the results of those operations, or the Department's state of affairs in future financial years.

9.2 Correction of prior period errors/changes in accounting estimates

Correction of prior period errors

AASB 119 and TI 1101 recognition of superannuation and employment on-cost expenses.

TI 1101 Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements' interpretation of AASB 119 regards superannuation contributions as a form of employee benefits and does not consider the payment to be an employment on-costs of which is classified as Other Expenses. Further, the TI posits that the expected settlement of employees' leave that give rise to the payment of superannuation contributions should be accrued as part of the leave provisions instead of employment on-costs provisions.

The Department has incorrectly classified the superannuation component of leave provisions as part of employment on-costs provisions in Note 3.1(b) 'Employee related provisions'. The impacts are mainly on employee provisions' underlying Notes. There are no impacts on the Department's reported total cost of services and financial position.

The Department has recast comparative results for 2020-21 to correct prior period errors and to account for these reclassifications. The Department has reclassified a number of items in the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Note 3.1(b) 'Employee related provisions'.

To allow users to understand the Department's comparative performance, the following is a summary of the restatements of comparative results:

	Note	As reported 2021 (\$000)	TI 1101 Reclassification (\$000)	Actual 2021 Restated (\$000)
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME				
Expenses				
Employee benefits expense	3.1(a)	226,020	162	226,182
Other expenses	3.3	10,576	(162)	10,414
		As reported 2021 (\$000)	TI 1101 Reclassification (\$000)	Actual 2021 Restated (\$000)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS				
3.1 (b) Employee related provisions				
<i>Current</i>				
<i>Employee benefits provisions</i>				
Annual leave		12,870	1,522	14,392
Long Service leave		15,188	1,488	16,676
<i>Other provisions</i>				
Employment on-costs		3,711	(3,010)	701
<i>Non-current</i>				
<i>Employee benefits provisions</i>				
Long Service leave		10,671	1,251	11,922
<i>Other provisions</i>				
Employment on-costs		1,518	(1,251)	267

Changes in accounting estimates**AASB 116 assessment and revision of buildings' useful lives**

The Department noted that initial estimates of certain Firestation, Office and Depot buildings' useful lives may not fully reflect the level of consumption, service potential nor expiration of the building's future economic benefits. Further, annual kerbside inspection and valuation by Western Australian Land Information Authority (Landgate) and the Department's internal asset maintenance plan reaffirm that the useful lives of these assets will exceed management's initial estimates.

The effect on the current and future reporting period will be an estimated decrease in the annual depreciation charge of \$1.9 million in 2021-22 and for the next 9 reporting periods.

The change in accounting estimate is reflected only in periods subsequent to the change and no changes were made to the Department's historical and previously reported depreciation expense and buildings' fair values.

9.3 Future impact of Australian standards issued but not yet operative

The Department cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard unless specifically permitted by TI 1101 *Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements* or by an exemption from TI 1101. Where applicable, the Department plans to apply the following Australian Accounting Standards from their application date.

Operative for
reporting periods
beginning on/
after

AASB 17	<i>Insurance contracts</i> This Standard establishes principles for the recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of insurance contracts. There is no financial impact.	1 January 2023
AASB 2020-1	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current</i> This Standard amends AASB 101 to clarify requirements for the presentation of liabilities in the Statement of Financial Position as current or non-current. There is no financial impact.	1 January 2023
AASB 2020-3	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Annual Improvements 2018–2020 and Other Amendments</i> This Standard amends: (a) AASB 1 to simplify its application of AASB 1; (b) AASB 3 to update a reference to the Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting; (c) AASB 9 to clarify the fees an entity includes when assessing whether the terms of a new or modified financial liability are substantially different from the terms of the original financial liability; (d) AASB 116 to require an entity to recognise the sales proceeds from selling items produced while preparing property, plant and equipment for its intended use and the related cost in profit or loss, instead of deducting the amounts received from the cost of the asset; (e) AASB 137 to specify the costs that an entity includes when assessing whether a contract will be loss-making; and (f) AASB 141 to remove the requirement to exclude cash flows from taxation when measuring fair value. There is no financial impact.	1 January 2022
AASB 2020-6	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current – Deferral of Effective Date</i> This Standard amends AASB 101 to defer requirements for the presentation of liabilities in the Statement of Financial Position as current or non-current that were added to AASB 101 in AASB 2020-1. There is no financial impact.	1 January 2022

Operative for
reporting periods
beginning on/
after

AASB 2021-2	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure of Accounting Policies and Definition of Accounting Estimates</i>	1 January 2023
	This Standard amends: (a) AASB 7, to clarify that information about measurement bases for financial instruments is expected to be material to an entity's financial statements; (b) AASB 101, to require entities to disclose their material accounting policy information rather than their significant accounting policies; (c) AASB 108, to clarify how entities should distinguish changes in accounting policies and changes in accounting estimates; (d) AASB 134, to identify material accounting policy information as a component of a complete set of financial statements; and (e) AASB Practice Statement 2, to provide guidance on how to apply the concept of materiality to accounting policy disclosures.	
	There is no financial impact.	
AASB 2021-6	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure of Accounting Policies: Tier 2 and Other Australian Accounting Standards</i>	1 January 2023
	This standard amends: (a) AASB 1049, to require entities to disclose their material accounting policy information rather than their significant accounting policies; (b) AASB 1054 to reflect the updated accounting policy terminology used in AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements; and (c) AASB 1060 to required entities to disclose their material accounting policy information rather than their significant accounting policy and to clarify that information about measurement bases for financial instruments is expected to be material to an entity's financial statements.	
	There is no financial impact.	
AASB 2021-7	<i>Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Effective Date of Amendments to AASB 10 and AASB 128 and Editorial Corrections</i>	1 January 2022
	This standard further defers (to 1 January 2025) the amendments to AASB 10 and AASB 128 relating to the sale or contribution of assets between an investor and its associated or joint venture. The standard also includes editorial corrections.	
	There is no financial impact.	

9.4 Key management personnel

The Department has determined key management personnel to include Cabinet Ministers and senior officers of the Department. The Department does not incur expenditures to compensate Ministers and those disclosures may be found in the Annual Report on State Finances.

The total fees, salaries, superannuation, non-monetary benefits and other benefits for senior officers of the Department for the reporting period are presented within the following bands:

Compensation Band (\$)	2022	2021
170,000-180,000	–	1
200,001-210,000	1	–
230,001-240,000	–	2
240,001-250,000	1	1
260,001-270,000	–	1
270,001-280,000	1	–
300,001-310,000	1	–
320,001-331,000	1	–
340,001-350,000	–	1
380,001-390,000	1	–
	2022	2021
	(\$000)	(\$000)
Short-term employee benefits	1,481	1,305
Post-employment benefits	232	157
Other long-term benefits	33	45
Termination benefits	–	–
Total senior officer compensation (a)	1,746	1,507

Total compensation includes the superannuation expense incurred by the Department in respect of senior officers.

(a) The increase was attributable to award and superannuation guarantee escalations and lump sum retirement payment to a Senior Officer after more than 40 years of distinguished firefighting service.

9.5 Related party transactions

The Department is a wholly owned public sector entity that is controlled by the State of Western Australia.

Related parties of the Department include:

- all Cabinet Ministers and their close family members, and their controlled or jointly controlled entities
- all senior officers and their close family members, and their controlled or jointly controlled entities
- other departments and statutory authorities, including related bodies, that are included in the whole of government consolidated financial statements (i.e. wholly-owned public sector entities)
- associates and joint ventures of a wholly-owned public sector entity
- the Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB).

Significant transactions with Government-related entities

In conducting its activities, the Department is required to transact with the State and entities related to the State. These transactions are generally based on the standard terms and conditions that apply to all agencies. Such transactions include:

- income from State Government (Note 4.3)
- equity contributions (Note 9.9)
- superannuation payments to GESB and FESSB (Note 3.1(a))
- lease rentals payments (Note 3.3) to the Department of Finance (Government Office Accommodation)
- lease rentals payments to the Department of Finance (State Fleet) and the Housing Authority (Government Regional Officer Housing) and the related outstanding balances (Note 7.2)
- insurance payments to the Insurance Commission and RiskCover fund (Note 3.3)
- remuneration for services provided by the Auditor General (Note 9.8).

Material transactions with related parties

Outside of normal citizen type transactions with the Department, there were no other related party transactions that involved key management personnel and/or their close family members and/or their controlled (or jointly controlled) entities.

9.6 Affiliated bodies

Affiliated bodies are entities that are significantly dependant on funding received from the Department, judged as more than 50%, however retain independent operational control. The following are classified as non-government affiliated bodies and receive direct and/or indirect financial assistance. Direct financial assistance is given in the form of a grant (see Note 3.2) and minor reimbursements. Indirect assistance is given in the form of in-kind benefits including office accommodation and minor administrative support.

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Volunteer Fire and Rescue Services Association of WA (Inc) (a)	307	427
SES Volunteers Association of Western Australia Incorporated	124	133
Emergency Services Volunteers Association Incorporated (b)	85	75
Volunteer Marine Rescue Western Australia (Inc) (c)	57	46
Total financial assistance to affiliated bodies	573	681

(a) The decrease in 2022 funding is attributable to one-off contributions made in 2021 for the Easter Championships, Volunteer's Affiliation & Zone fees and the Welfare Fund.

(b) The increase in 2022 is associated with an increase in the annual operating grant and reimbursement of conference attendance fees.

(c) The increase in 2022 funding is mainly due to an insurance claim payout and reimbursements for protective and safety clothing.

9.7 Special purpose accounts

WA Volunteer Fire Brigades Trust (a)

The purpose of the account is to hold funds pursuant to the last will and testament of Cecilia Veal for the use of Volunteer Fire Brigades in Western Australia.

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Balance at start of period	354	498
Receipts	1	2
Payments	(7)	(146)
Balance at end of period	348	354

Coolgardie Volunteer Fire Brigade Trust (a)

The purpose of the account is to hold funds pursuant to the last will and testament of Frances Tree for the use of Coolgardie Volunteer Fire Brigade.

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Balance at start of period	44	59
Receipts	-	-
Payments	1	(15)
Balance at end of period	45	44

(a) Established under section 16(1)(c) of [Financial Management Act 2006](#).

9.8 Remuneration of auditors

Remuneration payable to the Auditor General in respect of the audit for the current financial period is as follows:

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Auditing the financial statements, controls and key performance indicators	171	167

9.9 Equity

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Contributed equity		
Balance at start of period	372,433	361,068
Contribution by owners		
Capital appropriation	7,266	2,540
Other contributions by owners		
Royalties for Regions Fund – Regional Community Services Account	-	8,825
Royalties for Regions Fund – Regional Infrastructure and Headworks Fund	577	-
Transfer of net assets from other agencies		
Transfer of Land from Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage	-	-
Total contributions by owners	7,843	11,365
Balance at end of period	380,276	372,433
Reserves		
Asset revaluation surplus		
Balance at start of period	57,640	51,193
Net revaluation increment/(decrement)		
Land	8,151	(311)
Buildings	20,760	6,758
Balance at end of period	86,551	57,640
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)		
Balance at start of period	88,038	60,644
Results for the period	1,216	27,394
Balance at end of period	89,254	88,038

9.10 Supplementary financial information

(a) Write-Offs

During the financial year, a light tanker was written off the Department's asset register (2021: nil).

The asset has been fully written down and thus, has a book value of \$0.

(b) Losses through theft, defaults and other causes	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Write-off of debts and receivables	3	3
(c) Gifts of public property	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Gifts of public property provided by the Department	6	9

9.11 Indian Ocean Territories

The Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities provides funding for the Department to:

- support the provision of community safety/prevention programs
- assess commercial and industrial building plans, inspect completed buildings for compliance with National Construction Code and test fire safety equipment
- undertake fire safety assessments
- support fire and emergency services and marine rescue groups, including: training, emergency exercises, inspect and provide advice on personal protective clothing and personal protective equipment
- provide advice on emergency recovery plans
- provide a Volunteer Assistance Program.

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Balance at start of period	238	313
Receipts	296	203
Payments	(378)	(278)
Balance at end of period	156	238

9.12 Explanatory statement (Controlled Operations)

This explanatory section explains variations in the financial performance of the Department undertaking transactions under its own control, as represented by the primary financial statements.

All variances between annual estimates (original budget) and actual results for 2022 and between the actual results for 2022 and 2021 are shown below. Narratives are provided for key major variances which vary more than 10% from their comparative and that the variation is more than 1% of the dollar aggregate of:

- Total Cost of Services for the Statements of Comprehensive Income and Statement of Cash Flows (1% of \$478,050,000); and
- Total Assets for the Statement of Financial Position (1% of \$623,361,000).

9.12.1 Statement of Comprehensive Income variances

	Variance Note	Estimate 2022 (\$000)	Actual 2022 (\$000)	Actual 2021 (\$000)	Variance between estimate and actual (\$000)	Variance between actuals (\$000)
Expenses						
Employee benefits expense		228,810	230,685	226,182	1,875	4,503
Supplies and services	1, a	121,125	155,051	134,466	33,926	20,585
Depreciation and amortisation expenses		41,093	44,253	44,202	3,160	51
Finance costs		2,758	1,534	1,690	(1,224)	(156)
Accommodation expenses		11,818	15,103	11,974	3,285	3,129
Grants and subsidies	2, b	79,551	67,508	49,122	(12,043)	18,386
Other expenses		11,014	11,856	10,414	842	1,442
Total cost of services		496,169	525,990	478,050	29,821	47,940
Income						
Emergency Services Levy		366,360	371,043	351,210	4,683	19,833
User charges and fees		9,422	10,237	9,028	815	1,209
Grants and contributions	3	7,233	12,490	10,468	5,257	2,022
Interest revenue		-	157	251	157	(94)
Other revenue		4,378	6,578	5,741	2,200	837
Total Income		387,393	400,505	376,698	13,112	23,807
NET COST OF SERVICES		108,776	125,485	101,352	16,709	24,133
Income from State Government						
Service appropriation	4	54,851	88,609	95,307	33,758	(6,698)
Resources received		2,273	838	1,425	(1,435)	(587)
Royalties for Regions Fund		3,061	1,086	847	(1,975)	239
Income from other public sector entities	c	34,726	36,168	31,167	1,442	5,001
Total income from State Government		94,911	126,701	128,746	31,790	(2,045)
SURPLUS FOR THE PERIOD		(13,865)	1,216	27,394	15,081	(26,178)

	Variance Note	Estimate 2022 (\$000)	Actual 2022 (\$000)	Actual 2021 (\$000)	Variance between estimate and actual (\$000)	Variance between actuals (\$000)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME						
Items not reclassified subsequently to profit or loss						
Changes in asset revaluation surplus		-	28,911	6,447	28,911	22,464
Total other comprehensive income		-	28,911	6,447	28,911	22,464
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD		(13,865)	30,127	33,841	43,992	(3,714)

Major Estimate and Actual (2022) Variance Narratives

- Actual supplies and services is \$33.926 million (28.01%) higher than the estimate due to significant unforeseen expenditure associated with bushfire suppression and natural hazards incidents. Significant events during 2022 included fire events in Denmark, Shackleton Complex, Bridgetown, Narrogin and Margaret River and required provision of additional resources including the hire of aircraft and heavy machinery. In addition to this, the estimate does not reflect subsequent Government approvals for costs associated with Emergency Rescue Helicopter Service new lease mobilisation costs, Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) contamination settlement and additional temporary resources to assist with State Recovery function cost pressures.
- Actual grants and subsidies expense is \$12.043 million (15.14%) less compared to the estimate, primarily due to underspends in grants programs including Bushfire Mitigation, National Disaster Risk Reduction and Volunteer Marine Rescue capital grants. ESL mitigation activity was delayed due to environmental weather conditions, COVID-19 restrictions, heritage clearances and availability of local government resources and contractors. National Disaster Risk Reduction has reduced due to no external grants being paid in 2022.
- Actual grants and contributions revenue is \$5.257 million (72.68%) more than the estimate primarily due to an additional \$4.415 million in contributions from the National Aerial Firefighting Centre for aviation services and retardant capability, and a \$0.870 million increase in Commonwealth grants (Australian Fire Danger Rating System, National Flood Mitigation and Public Education Campaign Fund) and service delivery arrangements (Australian Maritime Safety Authority and Indian Ocean Territories).
- The increase in service appropriation of \$33.758 million (61.54%) is predominantly due to approved Supplementary funding of \$24.586 million for unforeseen bushfire and natural hazard incident response. Significant events during 2022 included fire events in Denmark, Shackleton Complex, Bridgetown, Narrogin and Margaret River which required provision of additional resources including the hire of aircraft and heavy machinery. Furthermore, additional appropriation of \$9.172 million was approved for the Emergency Rescue Helicopter Service's new lease, PFAS contamination settlement and State Recovery additional resourcing.

Major Actual (2022) and Comparative (2021) Variance Narratives

- (a) Supplies and services has increased by \$20.585 million (13.28%) compared with the 2021 actual due to: an additional \$1.870 million in significant unforeseen expenditure associated with bushfire suppression and natural hazards incidents and \$18.755 million as a result of an increase in travel expenditure post COVID-19, Emergency Rescue Helicopter Service mobilisation costs, additional aviation standing charges and costs, additional level 2 structural firefighting protective clothing, increase in RiskCover insurance premiums, increase in Landgate valuation fees, PFAS contamination settlement and temporary short term resourcing for the State Recovery function.
- (b) Grants and subsidies increased by \$18,386 million (27.24%) compared to 2021 actual primarily due to higher Local Government Grants Scheme (LGGS), ESL mitigation and Volunteer Marine Rescue capital grants. The LGGS recognises the expensing of appliances to local governments that have been completed and commissioned during the financial year with these amounts previously recognised as inventory in the Statement of Financial Position.
- (c) Income from other public sector entities is higher than the estimate by \$5.001 million (13.83%) as a result of an increase in fire and emergency service attendance and standby reimbursements predominantly from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions; and increase in ESL from State government entities; and increase in grants of public sector entities including Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements, WA Police Force and Landgate; and an increase in general insurance claims recoveries from RiskCover.

9.12.2 Statement of Financial Position variances

	Variance Note	Estimate 2022 (\$'000)	Actual 2022 (\$'000)	Actual 2021 (\$'000)	Variance between estimate and actual (\$'000)	Variance between actuals (\$'000)
ASSETS						
Current assets						
Cash and cash equivalents		25,828	72,725	69,938	46,897	2,787
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		3,819	11,600	13,452	7,781	(1,852)
Inventories		16,551	17,593	16,421	1,042	1,172
Receivables		14,444	9,725	14,440	(4,719)	(4,715)
Other current assets		2,544	1,244	2,544	(1,300)	(1,300)
Total current assets		63,186	112,887	116,795	49,701	(3,908)
Non-current assets						
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		3,754	1,542	751	(2,212)	791
Amounts receivable for services		70,298	70,256	63,112	(42)	7,144
Property, plant and equipment		464,736	457,131	418,999	(7,605)	38,132
Right-of-use assets	1, a	80,137	28,133	13,662	(52,004)	14,471
Intangible assets		8,779	7,127	10,042	(1,652)	(2,915)
Total non-current assets		627,704	564,189	506,566	(63,515)	57,623
TOTAL ASSETS		690,890	677,076	623,361	(13,814)	53,715

Notes to the Financial Statements / 9 Other disclosures / 9.12 Explanatory statement
(Controlled Operations) (continued) / 9.12.2 Statement of Financial Position (Controlled
Operations) (continued)

	Variance Note	Estimate 2022 (\$000)	Actual 2022 (\$000)	Actual 2021 (\$000)	Variance between estimate and actual (\$000)	Variance between actuals (\$000)
LIABILITIES						
Current liabilities						
Payables		4,961	13,497	9,482	8,536	4,015
Borrowings		2,440	2,967	2,956	527	11
Lease liabilities	b	15,396	16,885	4,187	1,489	12,698
Employee related provisions		33,126	33,359	32,406	233	953
Other current liabilities		47	-	47	(47)	(47)
Total current liabilities		55,970	66,708	49,078	10,738	17,630
Non-current liabilities						
Borrowings		31,698	31,171	34,138	(527)	(2,967)
Lease liabilities	2	65,982	11,826	9,845	(54,156)	1,981
Employee related provisions		12,189	11,290	12,189	(899)	(899)
Total non-current liabilities		109,869	54,287	56,172	(55,582)	(1,885)
TOTAL LIABILITIES		165,839	120,995	105,250	(44,844)	15,745
NET ASSETS		525,051	556,081	518,111	31,030	37,970
Equity						
Contributed equity		380,345	380,276	372,433	(69)	7,843
Reserves		68,084	86,551	57,640	18,467	28,911
Accumulated surplus		76,622	89,254	88,038	12,632	1,216
TOTAL EQUITY		525,051	556,081	518,111	31,030	37,970

Major Estimate and Actual (2021) Variance Narratives

1. The actual right-of-use assets is lower than the estimate by \$52.004 million (64.89%) predominantly due to the Emergency Rescue Helicopter Service (ERHS) lease arrangements. During the 2021 financial year, the existing ERHS contract expired. The estimate is based on the modelling of the existing contract arrangements over a seven year period from 2022 resulting in the recognition of a significant right of use asset and lease liability. During the 2022 financial year, approval to enter into a contract for a next generation ERHS service from 2023-24 was granted resulting in only a two year modification to the existing contract from 2022 with the recognition of a smaller right-of-use asset and lease liability.
2. The actual lease liability is lower than the estimate by \$54.156 million (82.08%) predominantly due to the ERHS lease arrangements. During the 2021 financial year, the existing ERHS contract expired. The estimate is based on the modelling of the existing contract arrangements over a seven year period from 2022 resulting in the recognition of a significant right of use asset and lease liability. During the 2022 financial year, approval to enter into a contract for a next generation ERHS service from 2023-24 was granted resulting in only a two year modification to the existing contract from 2022, with the recognition of a smaller right-of-use asset and lease liability.

Major Actual (2022) and Comparative (2021) Variance Narratives

- (a) The Right-of-use assets is higher compared to the 2021 actual by \$14.471 million (51.44%) and is predominantly due to the recognition of the remaining lease asset on the two year renewal of the ERHS that expired in 2021.
- (b) The increase in current lease liabilities of \$12.698 million (75.20%) compared with the prior year actual is primarily due to the recognition of the liability for the final year of the contract for the ERHS that was renewed for a two year period commencing in 2022. Refer associated note (a) above on the corresponding right-of-use asset.

9.12.3 Statement of Cash Flows variances

	Variance Note	Estimate 2022 (\$000)	Actual 2022 (\$000)	Actual 2021 (\$000)	Variance between estimate and actual (\$000)	Variance between actuals (\$000)
CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT						
Service appropriation	1	47,665	81,465	87,034	33,800	(5,569)
Capital appropriations		6,850	7,266	2,540	416	4,726
Royalties for Regions Fund	a	4,855	1,663	9,672	(3,192)	(8,009)
Funds from other public sector entities	b	34,726	35,993	31,155	1,267	4,838
Net cash provided by State Government		94,096	126,387	130,401	31,291	(4,014)
Utilised as follows:						
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES						
Payments						
Employee benefits		(230,758)	(230,673)	(226,800)	85	(3,873)
Supplies and services	2, c	(121,312)	(150,255)	(133,384)	(28,943)	(16,871)
Finance costs		(2,758)	(1,562)	(1,726)	1,196	164
Accommodation		(12,030)	(14,834)	(12,600)	(2,804)	(2,234)
Grants and subsidies	3, d	(79,551)	(68,821)	(59,998)	10,730	(8,823)
GST payments on purchases	4	(18,794)	(27,480)	(26,186)	(8,686)	(1,294)
Other payments		(11,180)	(11,566)	(10,459)	(386)	(1,107)
Receipts						
Emergency Services Levy		366,360	371,203	352,138	4,843	19,065
User charges and fees		10,322	9,784	9,005	(538)	779
Grants and contributions	5, e	7,233	18,724	10,895	11,491	7,829
Interest received		-	156	251	156	(95)
GST receipts on sales		1,250	2,840	2,575	1,590	265
GST receipts from taxation authority	6	17,544	24,162	24,028	6,618	134
Other receipts		3,280	6,191	7,038	2,911	(847)
Net cash used in operating activities		(70,394)	(72,131)	(65,223)	(1,737)	(6,908)

	Variance Note	Estimate 2022 (\$000)	Actual 2022 (\$000)	Actual 2021 (\$000)	Variance between estimate and actual (\$000)	Variance between actuals (\$000)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES						
Payments						
Purchase of non-current assets	7, f	(55,720)	(33,388)	(46,792)	22,332	13,404
Receipts						
Proceeds from the sale of non-current assets		-	700	756	700	(56)
Net cash used in investing activities		(55,720)	(32,688)	(46,036)	23,032	13,348
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES						
Payments						
Repayment of principal elements of lease arrangements		(15,739)	(16,886)	(16,423)	(1,147)	(463)
Repayment of borrowings		(2,956)	(2,956)	(2,946)	-	(10)
Receipts						
Proceeds from borrowings		-	-	-	-	-
Net cash used in financing activities		(18,695)	(19,842)	(19,369)	(1,147)	(473)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(50,713)	1,726	(227)	52,439	1,953
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		84,113	84,141	84,368	28	(227)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD		33,400	85,867	84,141	52,467	1,726

Major Estimate and Actual (2022) Variance Narratives

1. The increase in Service Appropriation of \$33.800 million (70.91%) compared with the estimate is due to additional appropriation approved during the financial year including \$9.214 million for the ERHS new lease, PFAS contamination settlement and State Recovery additional resourcing. Supplementary funding of \$24.586 million was also approved for unbudgeted bushfire and natural hazard incidents. Significant events during 2022 included fire events in Denmark, Shackleton Complex, Bridgetown, Narrogin and Margaret River and required provision of additional resources including the hire of aircraft and heavy machinery.
2. Actual supplies and services is \$29.109 million (24.00%) higher compared to the estimate due to significant unforeseen expenditure associated with bushfire suppression and natural hazards incidents. Significant events during 2022 included fire events in Denmark, Shackleton Complex, Bridgetown, Narrogin and Margaret River and required provision of additional resources including the hire of aircraft and heavy machinery. In addition to this, the estimate does not reflect subsequent Government approvals for costs associated with ERHS new lease mobilisation costs, PFAS contamination settlement and additional temporary resources to assist with State Recovery function cost pressures.
3. Actual grants and subsidies expense is \$10.730 million (13.49%) lower compared to the estimate primarily due to underspends in grants programs including Bushfire Mitigation, National Disaster Risk Reduction and Volunteer Marine Rescue WA capital grants. ESL mitigation activity was delayed due to environmental weather conditions, COVID-19 restrictions, heritage clearances and availability of internal local government resources and contractors. National Disaster Risk Reduction has reduced due to no external grants being paid in 2022.
4. The estimated GST payments on purchases is \$8.686 million (46.22%) less than the actual commensurating to the level of purchasing activity due to increase in supplies and services expenditure, refer to Major Estimate Variance Note 1.
5. Actual grants and contributions receipts is \$11.491 million (158.87%) higher compared to the estimate, primarily due to additional contributions from the National Aerial Firefighting Centre for aviation services and retardant capability, an increase in Commonwealth grants (Australian Fire Danger Rating System, National Flood Mitigation and Public Education Campaign Fund) and service delivery arrangements (Australian Maritime Safety Authority and Indian Ocean Territories) and the receipt of prior year grants of \$6.5 million from the Australasian Fire & Emergency Services Authorities Council in 2022.
6. The estimated GST receipt on sales is \$1.590 million (127.20%) lower compared to the actual, predominantly due to underprovisioning of GST collections from Direct Brigade Alarm fees.
7. Actual payments for the purchase of non-current assets is \$22.332 million (40.08%) lower compared to the estimate primarily due to underspends in Asset Investment Programs as a result of delivery challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic and supply chain constraints.

Major Actual (2021) and Comparative (2020) Variance Narratives

- (a) Cash flows from the Royalties for Regions (RfR) Fund reduced by \$8.009 million (481.60%) compared to the 2021 actual primarily due to the construction of the Koolinup Emergency Services Centre in Collie being substantially complete requiring significantly less RfR funding in 2022.
- (b) Funds from other public sector entities is higher than the 2021 actual by \$4.838 million (13.44%) as a result of an increase in fire and emergency services attendance and standby reimbursements predominantly from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions; and increase in ESL from State government entities; and increase in grants of public sector entities including Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements Fund, WA Police Force and Landgate; and an increase in general insurance claims recoveries from RiskCover.
- (c) Supplies and services has increased by \$16.871 million (11.23%) from 2021 actual due to unforeseen expenditure associated with bushfire suppression and natural hazards incidents; increases in travel expenditure post COVID-19; additional ERHS mobilisation costs and aviation standing charges; additional level 2 structural firefighting protective clothing; increase in RiskCover insurance premiums and Landgate valuation fees; PFAS contamination settlement and temporary short term resourcing for the State Recovery function.
- (d) Grants and subsidies increased by \$8.823 million (12.82%) compared to 2021 actual primarily due to higher Local Government Grants Scheme (LGGs), ESL mitigation and Volunteer Marine Rescue capital grants.
- (e) Grants and contributions is higher than the 2021 actual by \$7.829 million (41.81%) primarily due to additional contributions from the National Aerial Firefighting Centre for aviation services and retardant capability and an increase in Commonwealth grants for Australian Fire Danger Rating System, National Flood Mitigation and Public Education Campaign Fund.
- (f) Payments for the purchase on non-current assets is lower than the 2021 actual by \$13.404 million (40.15%) primarily due to: a \$20.419 million reduction in the land and buildings program as major construction projects near completion including Career Fire and Rescue Cockburn and Kensington Stations, Koolinup Emergency Services Centre in Collie and Bushfire Centre of Excellence, offset by a \$7.056 million increase in the appliance replacement program.

10 Administered disclosures

The Department is responsible for the administration of the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (known as DRFAWA). The new arrangements replace the Western Australia Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements. The Western Australian and Commonwealth Governments provide financial resources for a range of relief measures to assist communities recover from eligible natural disaster events.

	Note
Disclosure of administered income and expenditure	10.1
Explanatory statement for administered items	10.2
Administered assets and liabilities	10.3

10.1 Disclosure of administered income and expenditure

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
Income from administered items		
Appropriation	166,960	85,000
Total income from administered items	166,960	85,000
Administered expenses		
Disaster Relief Funding Arrangements Western Australia	74,395	74,998
Total administered expenses	74,395	74,998

Activities administered under DRFAWA are in addition to services disclosed in Note 2.2 'Schedule of Income and Expenses by Service'.

10.2 Explanatory statement for administered items

This explanatory section explains variations in the financial performance of the Department undertaking transactions as an agent of the government as detailed in the administered schedules.

All variances between annual estimates (original budget) and actual results for 2022, and between the actual results for 2022 and 2021 are shown below. Narratives are provided for key major variances, which vary by more than 10% from their comparative and that the variation is more than 1% of the dollar aggregate of Total Administered Income (1% of \$85,000,000).

	Variance Note	Estimate 2022 (\$000)	Actual 2022 (\$000)	Actual 2021 (\$000)	Variance between estimate and actual (\$000)	Variance between actuals (\$000)
Income from administered items						
Appropriation	a	166,960	166,960	85,000	-	81,960
Total income from administered items		166,960	166,960	85,000	-	81,960
Administered expenditure						
Disaster Relief Funding Arrangements Western Australia	1	225,991	74,395	74,998	(151,596)	(603)
Total administered expenditure		225,991	74,395	74,998	(151,596)	(603)

Major Estimate and Actual (2022) Variance Narratives

- The variance between estimated and actual disaster grant expenditure of \$152m is due to lower than projected (estimated) claims received in 2021-22 for eligible natural disasters. This variability is a consequence of works completion, eligibility criteria and lodgement of claims by stakeholders as well as the uncertainty in the timing and the severity of the impacts on infrastructure.

Major Actual (2022) and Comparative (2021) Variance Narratives

- The 49% (\$82m) increase in administered appropriation was attributable to additional Commonwealth and State assistance packages to meet significant recovery efforts brought forth by the Wooroloo bushfire, Severe Tropical Cyclone Seroja and flooding in Carnarvon which had severely impacted communities and public infrastructure across the State.

10.3 Administered assets and liabilities

	2022 (\$000)	2021 (\$000)
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	151,904	59,031
TOTAL ADMINISTERED ASSETS	151,904	59,031
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Grants payables	307	-
TOTAL ADMINISTERED LIABILITIES	307	-
NET ADMINISTERED ASSETS	151,597	59,031

Certification of Key Performance Indicators for the year ended 30 June 2022

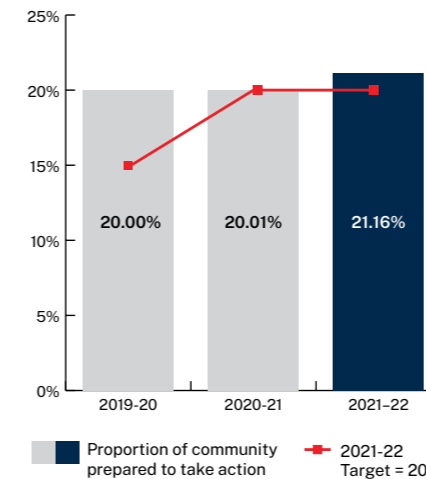
I hereby certify that the Key Performance Indicators are based on proper records, are relevant and appropriate for assisting users to assess the Department of Fire and Emergency Services' performance, and fairly represent the performance of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services for the reporting period ended 30 June 2022.



D Klemm AFSM
Accountable Authority
29 August 2022

21.16%

of community members recognised their local natural hazard risks and were prepared to take action



Why is this an indicator of our performance?

As legislated in the [Bush Fires Act 1954](#) and emergency management policy, the FES Commissioner must provide community education programs. Community members who are prepared to take action when faced with bushfire, storm or cyclone will experience less impact and recover faster. In an extreme situation, understanding your risk and being prepared to act can mean the difference between life and death.

This indicator aligns to our Strategy 2020–24 and measures the effectiveness of our community engagement and media activities which aim to:

- help community members understand their risk of a natural hazard incident
- support communities to be better prepared for natural hazard incidents.

Building natural hazard risk awareness and increasing the community's level of preparedness will take time and is part of our ongoing commitment to building a safer State.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated from the results of an independent online survey and computer assisted telephone interviews. More than 1,200 people across WA at high risk of storm, cyclone or bushfire responded to the survey.

Our target for this indicator increased from 15% to 20% from 1 July 2020 to better reflect our performance.

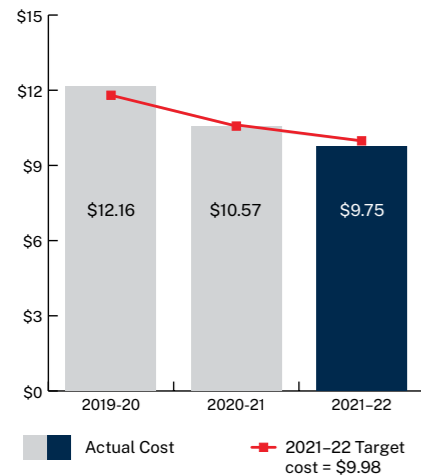
A higher than target result is desired.

What does this indicator show?

This indicator shows 21.16% of community members recognised their risk of bushfire, storm or cyclone and have either prepared an emergency kit or written an emergency plan for that hazard, demonstrating understanding of the hazard and their preparedness to take action.

\$9.75

was the average cost to deliver education and awareness programs and emergency hazard information to the community



Why is this an indicator of our performance?

As legislated in the [Bush Fires Act 1954](#) and emergency management policy, the FES Commissioner must provide community education programs. This indicator aligns to our Strategy 2020–24 and measures the efficiency (cost) of our community engagement and media activities.

Research shows informed communities are better able to manage their risks, reducing the impact of natural hazards and other preventable emergencies. That is why we invest in a range of education and awareness programs able to reach WA's diverse communities.

Should an emergency occur, our emergency information provided through Emergency WA, social media, television and radio helps save lives and property.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated as a cost of service divided by the number of WA households (as published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in March 2019).

The target for this indicator is set each year as part of the State Government's Budget Papers #2 process.

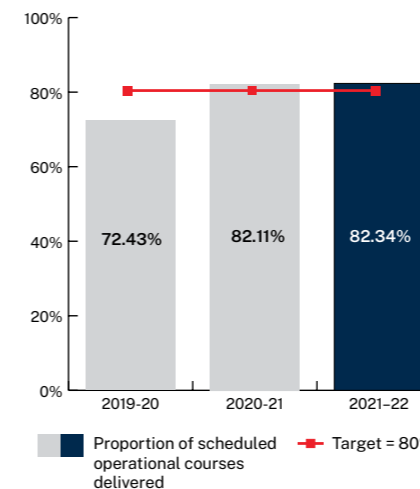
A lower than target result is desired as it demonstrates our efficiency in managing allocated funding to deliver education and awareness programs and emergency hazard information to the community.

What does this indicator show?

This indicator shows we spent 23 cents per household less than our target of \$9.98 to deliver education and awareness programs and emergency hazard information.

82.34%

of scheduled operational courses were delivered



Why is this an indicator of our performance?

This indicator is aligned to our Strategy 2020–24 and measures the delivery of scheduled operational training. These training courses enable our staff and volunteers to provide contemporary services safely and efficiently to the community.

Because our ability to effectively respond to emergencies requires an operational workforce that is trained to respond to incidents, operational training is scheduled as required throughout the year. Training requests are received from Operations Command, Rural Fire Division and all our volunteer brigades, groups and units. These requests identify which courses are scheduled and where they will be delivered.

Operational training courses are provided through the WAFES Academy, the Bushfire Centre of Excellence and delivered remotely across WA by our network of qualified trainer assessors.

This indicator includes operational training courses for staff and volunteer brigades, groups and units.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the number of scheduled operational courses delivered by the number of operational training courses scheduled to be delivered.

A higher than target result is desired.

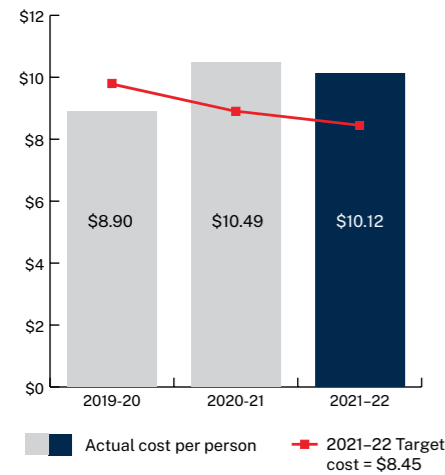
Previous year results have been restated to include online courses previously excluded. As a result, the 2020-21 actual has increased from 82.03% to 82.11% and the 2019-20 actual has increased from 72.33% to 72.43%

What does this indicator show?

This indicator shows we are delivering the scheduled operational training to support our staff and volunteers to undertake their operational roles.

\$10.12

was the average cost to deliver health, safety, wellbeing and training services



Why is this an indicator of our performance?

This indicator aligns to our Strategy 2020–24 and measures the cost to ensure emergency responders are not only trained, but physically and emotionally able to respond to, and recover from, incidents.

It is essential our people are trained and supported to maintain their physical and mental health while providing safe and efficient services to the community. That is why we invest in safety, wellness and training programs including confidential counselling services, chaplaincy support, mindfulness app access, mental health first aid training, injury management support, and safety and operational response training for both staff and volunteers.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated as the cost of service divided by WA's population (as advised by the Department of Treasury).

The target for this indicator is set each year as part of the State Government's Budget Papers #2 process.

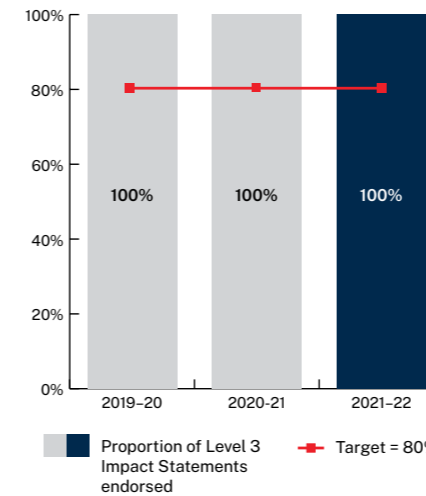
A lower than target result is desired as it demonstrates our efficiency in managing allocated funding to deliver critical health, safety, wellbeing and training services to our people.

What does this indicator show?

Our result of \$10.12 per person to deliver health, safety, wellbeing and training services was slightly lower than the previous year. However the result was 20% higher than our target of \$8.45. When setting the target, unforeseen costs relating to operational training instructors were not included which contributed to 14% of the difference between target and actual. The remaining variance is attributable to additional corporate overheads.

100%

of Level 3 incident Impact Statements were completed and endorsed by the State Recovery Coordinator



Why is this an indicator of our performance?

Under the State Emergency Management Committee's Procedure 4, we are required to ensure Impact Statements are completed, agreed and submitted for each local government impacted by a Level 3 incident.

This indicator aligns to our Strategy 2020–24 and measures our level of engagement with local governments and communities during and after an emergency.

A completed Level 3 Impact Statement, endorsed by the State Recovery Coordinator, enables effective engagement and planning with local government to recover from a major incident. In partnering with local government, we can ensure the right recovery support is provided to the community.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the number of Level 3 incidents with Impact Statements completed and endorsed by the State Recovery Coordinator within 60 days of the closure of the incident by the number of Level 3 incidents.

A higher than target result is desired.

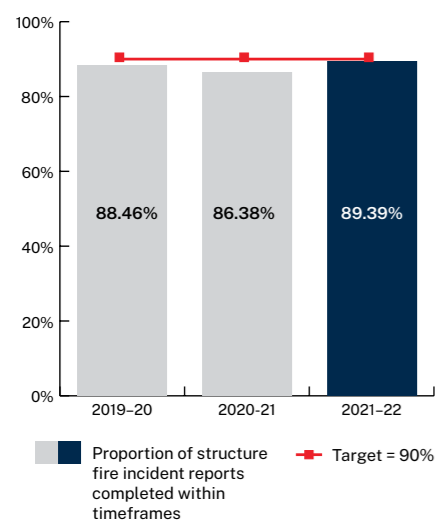
What does this indicator show?

This indicator shows that all Level 3 Impact Statements were completed and endorsed within the target timeframe.

As we have exceeded this target since 2019–20 we will be revising it for 2022–23.

89.39%

of structure fire reports were completed within specified timeframes

**Why is this an indicator of our performance?**

This indicator aligns to our Strategy 2020–24 and measures the timely completion of structure fire incident reports by career brigades as first responders.

We receive approximately 2,000 requests each year from insurance companies requiring information about a structure fire. This information enables payments to be processed so the structure can be repaired or rebuilt. Before this information can be supplied, incident reports must be completed by the attending crew.

When incident reports are completed promptly, buildings can be repaired / rebuilt more quickly, aiding recovery and reducing the impact on families and businesses.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the number of structure fire incident reports completed within specified timeframes by the total number of structure fire incident reports.

A higher than target result is desired.

Finalisation and lodgement of the incident reports can be delayed past the end of year. This is why data for previous years has been updated to include all completed incident reports as at 30 June 2022.

What does this indicator show?

This indicator shows we completed 89.39% of structure fire incident reports within the target timeframe, falling just short of the target of 90% by 0.61%.

This is an improvement on previous years, reflecting a renewed focus on the timely completion of incident reports and a concerted effort by responding crews.

94.08%

of responses to ESL 1 and ESL 2 incidents are within target timeframes

**Why is this an indicator of our performance?**

A rapid response to emergency incidents is a critical factor in minimising the impact on life, property and the community.

Our enhanced Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system accesses live Automatic Vehicle Location data, enabling it to identify and mobilise the closest response appliance (by road routing) to an incident.

This indicator aligns to our Strategy 2020–24 in delivering effective emergency management.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the number of incidents in which an emergency response appliance arrives on scene within the specified time by the total number of incidents.

Both career and volunteer responders attend emergency incidents.

Finalisation and lodgement of the incident reports can be delayed past the end of the year. This is why data for previous years has been updated to include all completed incident reports as at 30 June 2022.

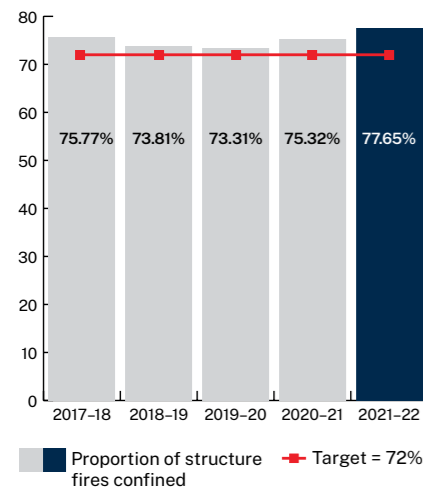
A higher than target result is desired.

What does this indicator show?

The result of 94.08% exceeds our target of 90%, reflecting a timely response from our crews.

77.65%

of structure fires were confined to the room or object of origin



Why is this an indicator of our performance?

This indicator aligns to our Strategy 2020–24 and measures the effectiveness of our emergency response crews and fire safety education programs.

The capability of our emergency response crews to rapidly confine a fire limits the damage it causes. That is why our education and awareness programs encourage an early call to emergency services.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the number of reported structure fires that stay within the space they started by the total number of reported structure fires.

A higher than target result is desired.

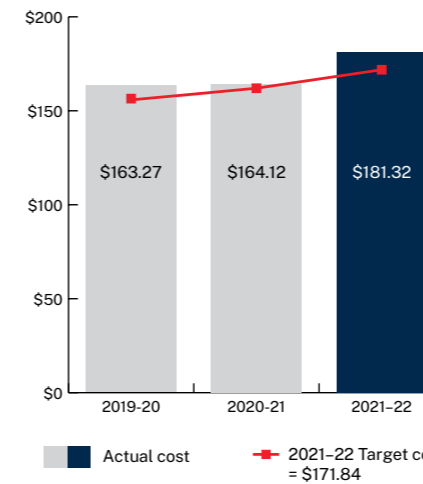
Finalisation and lodgement of the incident reports can be delayed past the end of the year. This is why data for previous years has been updated to include all completed incident reports as at 30 June 2022.

What does this indicator show?

The result of 77.65% is better than our target of 72%. This can be attributed to the effectiveness of our emergency response capability and fire safety education programs.

\$181.32

was the average cost to deliver frontline services



Why is this an indicator of our performance?

This indicator aligns to our Strategy 2020–24 and measures the cost of providing frontline (or community facing) services. These include:

- incident responders
- fit-for-purpose response appliances, equipment and facilities
- advice to the community and industry
- management or mitigation of risks to prevent incidents from occurring.

How is this indicator calculated?

This indicator is calculated by dividing the cost of service by WA’s population (as advised by the Department of Treasury).

The target for this indicator is set each year as part of the State Government’s Budget Papers #2 process.

A lower than target result is desired as it demonstrates our efficiency in managing allocated funding to deliver frontline services.

What does this indicator show?

Our result of \$181.32 per person to deliver frontline services was higher than our target of \$171.84 predominately due to:

- unforeseen costs in responding to major bushfires including the four concurrent Level 3 fires in February 2022
- additional costs associated with securing the Emergency Rescue Helicopter Service
- supporting the delivery of joint Commonwealth/State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

Independent Auditor's Opinion



Auditor General

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT 2022

Department of Fire and Emergency Services

To the Parliament of Western Australia

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (Department) which comprise:

- the Statement of Financial Position at 30 June 2022, and the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended
- Notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In my opinion, the financial statements are:

- based on proper accounts and present fairly, in all material respects, the operating results and cash flows of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services for the year ended 30 June 2022 and the financial position at the end of that period
- in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of my report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Responsibilities of the Commissioner for the financial statements

The Commissioner is responsible for:

- keeping proper accounts
- preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions
- such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Commissioner is responsible for:

- assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern
- disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern
- using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Western Australian Government has made policy or funding decisions affecting the continued existence of the Department.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements. The objectives of my audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website. This description forms part of my auditor's report and can be found at

https://www.augasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf.

Report on the audit of controls

Opinion

I have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on the design and implementation of controls exercised by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services. The controls exercised by the Commissioner are those policies and procedures established to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions (the overall control objectives).

In my opinion, in all material respects, the controls exercised by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services are sufficiently adequate to provide reasonable assurance that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions during the year ended 30 June 2022.

The Commissioner's responsibilities

The Commissioner is responsible for designing, implementing and maintaining controls to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property and the incurring of liabilities are in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 2006*, the Treasurer's Instructions and other relevant written law.

Auditor General's responsibilities

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility as an assurance practitioner is to express an opinion on the suitability of the design of the controls to achieve the overall control objectives and the implementation of the controls as designed. I conducted my engagement in accordance with Standard on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3150 *Assurance Engagements on Controls* issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. That standard requires that I comply with relevant ethical requirements and plan and perform my procedures to obtain reasonable assurance about whether, in all material respects, the controls are suitably designed to achieve the overall control objectives and were implemented as designed.

An assurance engagement involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the suitability of the controls design to achieve the overall control objectives and the implementation of those controls. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including an assessment of the risks that controls are not suitably designed or implemented as designed. My procedures included testing the implementation of those controls that I consider necessary to achieve the overall control objectives.

I believe that the evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Limitations of controls

Because of the inherent limitations of any internal control structure, it is possible that, even if the controls are suitably designed and implemented as designed, once in operation, the overall control objectives may not be achieved so that fraud, error or non-compliance with laws and regulations may occur and not be detected. Any projection of the outcome of the evaluation of the suitability of the design of controls to future periods is subject to the risk that the controls may become unsuitable because of changes in conditions.

Report on the audit of the key performance indicators

Opinion

I have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on the key performance indicators of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services for the year ended 30 June 2022. The key performance indicators are the Under Treasurer-approved key effectiveness indicators and key efficiency indicators that provide performance information about achieving outcomes and delivering services.

In my opinion, in all material respects, the key performance indicators of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the Department's performance and fairly represent indicated performance for the year ended 30 June 2022.

The Commissioner's responsibilities for the key performance indicators

The Commissioner is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the key performance indicators in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the Treasurer's Instructions and for such internal control as the Commissioner determines necessary to enable the preparation of key performance indicators that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the key performance indicators, the Commissioner is responsible for identifying key performance indicators that are relevant and appropriate, having regard to their purpose in accordance with Treasurer's Instruction 904 *Key Performance Indicators*.

Auditor General's responsibilities

As required by the *Auditor General Act 2006*, my responsibility as an assurance practitioner is to express an opinion on the key performance indicators. The objectives of my engagement are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the key performance indicators are relevant and appropriate to assist users to assess the entity's performance and whether the key performance indicators are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. I conducted my engagement in accordance with Standard on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3000 *Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information* issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. That standard requires that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements.

An assurance engagement involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the key performance indicators. It also involves evaluating the relevance and appropriateness of the key performance indicators against the criteria and guidance in Treasurer's Instruction 904 for measuring the extent of outcome achievement and the efficiency of service delivery. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the key performance indicators. In making these risk assessments I obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the engagement in order to design procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances.

I believe that the evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

My independence and quality control relating to the reports on financial statements, controls and key performance indicators

I have complied with the independence requirements of the Auditor General Act 2006 and the relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements. In accordance with ASQC 1 Quality Control for Firms that Perform Audits and Reviews of Financial Reports and Other Financial Information, and Other Assurance Engagements, the Office of the Auditor General maintains a comprehensive system of quality control including documented policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

Other information

The Commissioner is responsible for the other information. The other information is the information in the entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2022, but not the financial statements, key performance indicators and my auditor's report.

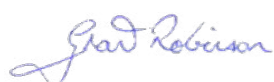
My opinions on the financial statements and key performance indicators do not cover the other information and, accordingly, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements and key performance indicators, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements and key performance indicators or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact. I did not receive the other information prior to the date of this auditor's report. When I do receive it, I will read it and if I conclude that there is a material misstatement in this information, I am required to communicate the matter to those charged with governance and request them to correct the misstated information. If the misstated information is not corrected, I may need to retract this auditor's report and re-issue an amended report.

Matters relating to the electronic publication of the audited financial statements and key performance indicators

This auditor's report relates to the financial statements, and key performance indicators of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services for the year ended 30 June 2022 included in the annual report on the Department's website. The Department's management is responsible for the integrity of the Department's website. This audit does not provide assurance on the integrity of the Department's website. The auditor's report refers only to the financial statements, controls and key performance indicators described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the annual report. If users of the financial statements and key performance indicators are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to contact the entity to confirm the information contained in the website version.



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Delegate of the Auditor General for Western Australia
Perth, Western Australia
30 August 2022

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