

Emergency Management Act Tip

6 June 2006

Local Emergency Management Committees

Part 3, 'Local arrangements', of the Act formalises the role of local government in emergency management, specifically in relation to:

- 1) Local emergency management committees;
- 2) Local emergency management arrangements; and
- 3) Managing community recovery.

1) Local emergency management committees;

Local governments shall establish one or more Local Emergency Management Committees (LEMC) for their district. Two or more local governments may combine for the purpose of emergency management.

Membership:

- Chairman (appointed by the local government)
- Local Government representative (if not chairman)
- Local Emergency Coordinator (if not chairman)
- A representative from each Hazard management agency, combat agency and support organisation in the local government district
- Other members as determined by the local government such as community groups, industry, education, welfare, indigenous

2) Local emergency management arrangements

The Act requires that a local government is to ensure that local emergency management arrangements are prepared and maintained for the local government district. The local emergency management arrangements contain the overarching emergency management arrangements relevant to that local government district.

The *Local Community Emergency Management Arrangements Guide* provides further clarification for the preparation and content of local emergency management arrangements. This document is available from FESA Emergency Management Services or electronically on the FESA website:

http://www.fesa.wa.gov.au/internet/upload/shared/docs/FESA-LocalComm_EMA_Gd-final.pdf

3) Managing community recovery

It is a function of local government to manage recovery following an emergency affecting the community in its district. Local emergency management arrangements are to include a recovery plan and the nomination of a local recovery coordinator.