SES NEWSLETTER

Newsletters will contain brief updates from relevant teams of EMQ. We welcome feedback via ses.support@dcs.qld.gov.au.

We hope that all SES members enjoyed the Christmas/New Year break and had the opportunity to spend quality time with family and friends.

The year has commenced with smaller weather patterns throughout the State in comparison to last year which we can all still recall very well. We congratulate all those who have responded to, and are still responding to, the calls for assistance across our state. The feedback from the affected communities has been intense gratitude. Well done!

Our immediate challenge is to continue to support the people of Queensland as we are affected by seasonal weather patterns.

Our longer term challenge is to remain ready and capable. Part of this will be to be able to respond quickly and consistently to the findings and recommendations of the Queensland Flood Commission of Inquiry (now due for release on 16 Mar 2012).

A Happy and safe New Year to all!!

POLICY & DOCTRINE

OPERATIONAL HOURS

July to December 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Total Hours Spent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BNE</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNR</td>
<td>9,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FNR</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCR</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SER</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWR</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>25,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECKS

Since June 2011, SHQ have received over 745* clear CHC results as detailed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Brisbane       | 291   | 39%
| Central        | 95    | 13%
| Far Northern   | 96    | 13%
| North Coast    | 92    | 12%
| Northern       | 32    | 4%
| South Eastern  | 61    | 8%
| South Western  | 82    | 11%
| Total          | 749   |    |

OPERATIONS DOCTRINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Business Management</th>
<th>Operational</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Draft/In progress</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identified</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reviews</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Published</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>238</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Draft/In progress means that these doctrines are at different stages of being developed (i.e. initial draft, consultation, awaiting approval).

RECRUITMENT & SELECTION

Since June 2011, SHQ have received over 2,300* recruitment enquiries via:

- the SES website;
- 1300 369 003; and/or
- 13 QGOV (13 74 68).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brisbane</td>
<td>1244</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Central         | 88    | 4%
| Far Northern    | 84    | 4%
| North Coast     | 160   | 7% |
| Northern        | 84    | 4%
| South Eastern   | 621   | 26%|
| South Western   | 67    | 3%
| Total           | 2348  |    |

*As at 29 January 2012
POLICY & DOCTRINE cont’d

HONOURS AND AWARDS UPDATE

A new medal has been established by Her Majesty The Queen in Australia’s honours system called the ‘National Emergency Medal’ for the purpose of according recognition for the unique contribution and significant commitment of those persons who have provided service in response to a nationally-significant emergency. The Queensland Floods 2010-11 and Cyclone Yasi have been declared a nationally-significant emergency.

EMQ has commenced collating nominations for this new award. The SES Operations Doctrine BMA 3.0 Honours and Awards doctrine will be updated in due course once the nomination process has been established.

For more detailed information in relation to eligibility/criteria of this medal refer to: http://www.gg.gov.au/content.php/category/id/41/title/national-emergency-medal-regulations

Please note that processing of any medals via the Australian Honours and Awards system can take in excess of 3 months (Canberra require up to 10 weeks for processing).

The 2010-2011 Queensland Flood and Cyclone Citation Disaster Medals are still being produced and presented to SES members. EMQ hopes to have all the citations received from the supplier by March 2012.

SES TRAINING cont’d

The Road Shows will clarify the following training issues:

- RTO compliance and a general view among SES membership that SES training is compliance rather than capability focussed.
- That the process of Recognition of Prior Learning and Challenge Assessment are too onerous and there are long delays in processing these.
- Inconsistent application of EMQ Training Policy and Procedures leading to delays in training and trainer appointments.
- Lack of training opportunities and resources to support training.
- Delays on processing training files and its follow on effects with regards to the timely issue of qualifications and certificates.
- Inconsistent application of training packages and the addition of barriers and personal opinion that impede the conduct of training or members becoming trainers.

The pilot Road Show is scheduled for 15th February 2012, 7pm to 9pm at the Burpengary Community Hall, 111 Station Road, Burpengary.

SES Training Road Show

The Education and Training Services (ETS) Unit of EMQ is piloting a SES Training Road Show in Brisbane Region in February. If successful the aim is to conduct a series of State wide Training Information Road Shows that will outline current and revised Training Policy and Procedures as well as providing an up-date on current initiatives and projects being undertaken by EMQ ETS. This will also provide an opportunity to directly engage SES members with a view to clarifying some of the current issues and to give SES members the opportunity to directly engage key members of EMQ ETS staff to provide ideas and feedback in order to inform and shape future SES training products and resources.

SES Trainer Opportunities

EMQ RTO has successfully added the Certificate IV in Training and Assessment qualification to its scope of registration. This will allow EMQ to build the trainer capability within the SES groups.

Our first priority is to conduct a Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) process for existing trainers who have BSZ or TAA trainer qualifications across to the new TAE trainer qualification. BSZ will no longer be valid as at 30 June 2012. This is currently in process and over 25 SES trainers have been given the new training qualification.

For more details, including details on how the RPL process works, please read the following ETS Bulletin TAE40110 - 29 11 11 on the Volunteer Portal.

The RPL documents can be found on the RPL page, they are at the bottom of the list.

Any enquiries can be directed to Sherri Noble on the following email sherri.noble@dcs.qld.gov.au

A pilot course for the new Cert. IV Training and Assessment qualification will be commencing April 2012 with further courses to be scheduled for later in the year.

Train Safe!
Call for New Recruits to the Cadet Program 2012

The Emergency Services Cadet Program introduces young people to forms of emergency services related training, which aims to better equip them for community life. The program helps to develop life skills that will enable young people to better participate in their local community. It builds initiative, leadership, self-discipline and loyalty. The skills and knowledge they learn in the program will enhance the safety of your community.

Adult Members are needed!! There are a number of roles that an adult member can undertake in the Emergency Services Cadet Program such as:

- Local Cadet Coordinator;
- Deputy Cadet Coordinator;
- Adult Administration Officer;
- Adult Stores Officer;
- Adult Instructor; and
- Adult Leader.

The Emergency Services Cadet Program supports the ongoing training and skill development of our adult members. In turn, adult members are required to have a commitment to participate in ongoing education and training to develop their knowledge and skills to work more effectively with the cadet group and young people.

If you are interested in joining the Emergency Services Cadet Program or have any questions, contact the Youth Development Officer in the Region closest to you.

- Far Northern Region (07) 4032 8668
- Northern Region (07) 4796 9042
- Central Region (07) 4938 4996
- South Western Region (07) 4616 1531
- North Coast Region (07) 5420 7567
- South Eastern Region (07) 5547 3106
- Brisbane Region (07) 5547 3106

Further information can be obtained from the Emergency Services Cadet Program website at [www.emergency.qld.gov.au/cadets](http://www.emergency.qld.gov.au/cadets)

North Coast Cadet Leadership Camp

The North Coast Cadets just completed a rigorous leadership camp that focused on developing assistant leaders to enable them to efficiently support Adult Leaders in the Cadet Program.

The cadets undertook challenging activities that developed their self-confidence, allowed them to use their initiative and gave them tools for their toolbox, with which to build their leadership skills. They were provided with many opportunities to build and enhance their teamwork skills and to learn new and improvised techniques in rescue activities.

Debriefs were provided at the end of each activity to provide cadets with feedback on their performance.

Activities ranged from fun free-for-all activities to gruelling rescues that certainly tested their metal.

The Cadets picked up three Statements of Attainment on the camp; Work in a Team, General Rescue and Briefings and Debriefings from the Public Safety Training Package.

The weather was not kind as we had extremely hot weather and a lot of the activities were held outside, regardless there were no complaints and all members fully participated in all the activities.

Our meals were prepared by a member of Cooroora Cadets who is a home economics teacher and I believe she tried out her culinary skills on us. I can guarantee everyone was especially happy with her performance; every meal was a work of art.

Feedback from the weekend was excellent and word of mouth from cadets is that they want another one this year so others can reap the benefits.
New Health and Safety Laws

Overview


The new legislation has been introduced to help establish the same health and safety standards and protection, throughout Australia, for workers, including volunteers. New Regulations and ‘Codes of Practice’ have also been introduced to support this new Act.

The safety legislation outlines certain duties and responsibilities that volunteers have to ensure their own health and safety, as well as, the health and safety of those persons that a volunteer may undertake their activities with, or around. The legislation also outlines what an organisation must do to ensure the health and safety of its volunteers.

Duties and Responsibilities for SES volunteers (which includes general SES members and SES Executives)

SES members have in the past had obligations to take reasonable care for their own personal safety and the safety of others.

The new legislation states that volunteers have a ‘duty of reasonable care’. Therefore all SES members, including SES Local Controllers and delegates, must —

- take reasonable care for their own health and safety; and
- take reasonable care so that their acts or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons; and
- ensure that any reasonable instruction or policy/procedure (e.g. Operations Doctrine) is understood and followed.

Impact on the Queensland State Emergency Service (SES)

The duties and responsibilities for SES members are largely the same as the previous legislation.

In addition, the Department of Community Safety (DCS), through Emergency Management Queensland (EMQ), has always been required to ensure SES volunteers were not exposed to risks to their health and safety. The new legislation confirms that DCS, through EMQ, is required to continue to ensure the health and safety of its SES volunteers.

In summary, there is no significant impact to the Queensland SES following the introduction of the new Act.

Further information

EMQ continues to remain committed to ensuring volunteers remain free from harm, and are supported within a culture that ensures safety is an absolute priority.

SES Operations Doctrine, Training and other policy/procedural information will continue to be reviewed and amendments made accordingly to reflect references to the new Act, Regulations and ‘Codes of Practice’.

Our safety mission…

ZERO harm — all injuries are preventable