

Bush Fire Control

Use of Shire Equipment and Resources for Firefighting Purposes

Objective

To confirm the Shire of Koorda's ("the Shire's") commitment to the provision of any available plant, equipment, and personnel during a fire incident necessary for community safety as approved by relevant Shire representative.

Policy

For the purposes of this policy, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Deputy Chief Executive Officer (DCEO) or Works Supervisor (WS) are responsible and authorised to determine if the situation requires Shire resources.

Scope

The policy applies to Shire employees and volunteer bush firefighters registered with a Shire of Koorda Bush Fire Brigade.

Definitions

TERM	DEFINITION
Bush Fire Brigade Volunteers	Any person not employed as a firefighter who is contributing to firefighting operations on an active fireground and is formally registered as a volunteer firefighter in a Shire Bush Fire Brigade.
Executive Management Team (EMT)	Any person currently employed by the Shire as the CEO, DCEO or WS.
Incident Controller	A person responsible and accountable for the management of all functions across an incident.

Shire Resources

The Shire commits, in principle, resources including plant, equipment and personnel which can be used for firefighting purposes to be made available for firefighting.

The operation of this equipment is to be conducted by a Shire employee, or in the case where a Shire employee is not available, an operator who has been approved at the time of the incident by the Shire Chief Executive Officer, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, or Works Supervisor.

The Incident Controller should alert the Works Supervisor, or a member of the EMT, as soon as the need is identified for plant, equipment or personnel and seek approval for mobilisation.

Standpipes and Water Tanks

The Shire will ensure that standpipes and water tanks in strategic locations throughout the Shire are well-maintained and fit for purpose for use by Bush Fire Brigade volunteers for the purpose of extinguishing fires.

Standpipes and water tanks shall be inspected at least once per year, with a report presented at a Bushfire Advisory Committee (BFAC) meeting before the annual bushfire season, typically in August.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Shire EMT are responsible for authorising mobilisation of plant, equipment and personnel when requested to provide support during a fire incident.

Emergency Management Resource Sharing

The Great Eastern Country Zone resolved in August 2022 to endorse a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for emergency management purposes for the provision of mutual aid during emergencies and post incident recovery.

Related Documents (Legislation/Local Law/Policy/Procedure/Delegation)

Bush Fires Act 1954

Review History

Date	Council Resolution	Description of review/amendment
24/03/2025	RES: 040325	Adoption of Policy

