



Sydney Metropolitan
Emergency Management Region



Sydney Metropolitan Region Emergency Management Plan January 2022



AUTHORISATION

The Sydney Metropolitan Regional Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN) has been prepared by the Sydney Metropolitan Regional Emergency Management Committee in compliance with the State Emergency & Rescue Management Act 1989.

AMENDMENTS

Proposals for amendment or addition to the contents of the Sydney Metropolitan Regional Emergency Management Plan are to be forwarded to:

New South Wales Police Force
Sydney Metropolitan Region Emergency Management Officer
Sydney Police Centre
151-241 Goulburn Street
Surry Hills NSW 2010

VERSION HISTORY

Version updates are recorded in the following table.

Version History	
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Version 3.0	August 2021
Version 4.0	January 2022

DISTRIBUTION

This plan may be distributed in electronic format and is available on the Emergency NSW website at www.emergency.nsw.gov.au.

Restricted access to this plan can be made available by the Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC) executive support.

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1. PURPOSE

This plan details arrangements for prevention, preparation, response and recovery to emergencies within the Sydney Metropolitan Emergency Management Region (SMEMR).

It encompasses:

- Emergencies controlled by a combat agency.
- Emergencies controlled by combat agencies and supported by the Regional Emergency Operations Controller (REOCON).
- Emergencies for which there is no combat agency.
- Circumstances where a combat agency has passed control to the REOCON.
- Demobilisation and transition of control from response to recovery.

2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this plan are to:

- Support Local Emergency Management Plans (EMPLANs) and augment them when required.
- Identify trigger points for regional level activation, escalation and demobilisation.
- Set out the control, co-ordination, support and liaison arrangements at the regional level.
- Detail activation and alerting arrangements for involved agencies at the regional level.
- Detail arrangements for the acquisition and co-ordination of resources at the regional level.

3. SCOPE

The plan describes the arrangements at regional level to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies. The plan also provides policy direction for the preparation of sub plans and supporting plans.

This Sub Plan operates within the context of, and should be read in conjunction with the:

- NSW State Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN)
- NSW State Recovery Plan
- Sydney CBD Safety Sub Plan
- Lucas Heights Emergency Sub Plan
- Botany Bay Precinct Sub Plan
- Local Emergency Management Plans (EMPLAN) and corresponding Consequence Management Guidelines (CMG), including:
 - o Bayside local EMPLAN and CMG's.
 - o City of Sydney local EMPLAN, Recovery Plan and CMG's.
 - o Georges River local EMPLAN and CMG's.
 - o Inner West local EMPLAN and CMG's.
 - o Randwick local EMPLAN and CMG's.
 - o Sutherland Shire local EMPLAN and CMG's.
 - o Waverley/Woollahra local EMPLAN and CMG's.

4. PRINCIPLES

The NSW EMPLAN 'Principles of Emergency Management' are applied to the plan throughout.

The following principles are applied in this plan:

- The Emergency Risk Management (ERM) process is to be used as the basis for emergency planning in New South Wales. This methodical approach to the planning process is to be applied by Emergency Management Committees (EMC) at all levels.
- Responsibility for preparation, response and recovery rests initially at Local level. If Local agencies and available resources are not sufficient, they are augmented by those at Regional level.
- Control of emergency response and recovery operations is conducted at the lowest effective level.
- Agencies may deploy their own resources from their own service from outside the affected region if they are needed.
- The Regional Emergency Operations Controller (REOCON) is responsible, when requested by a combat agency, to coordinate the provision of resources for support. An emergency Operations Controllers (EOCON) would not normally assume control from a combat agency unless the situation can no longer be contained. Where necessary, this should only be done after consultation with the State Emergency Operations Controller (SEOCON) and agreement of the combat agency and the appropriate level of control.
- Emergency preparation, response and recovery operations should be conducted with all agencies carrying out their normal functions wherever possible.
- Prevention measures remain the responsibility of authorities/agencies charged by statute with the responsibility.

5. CONTEXT

The SMEMR encompasses 8 Local Government Areas (LGA) with the following Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) representation:

LEMC	LGA
Bayside	Bayside
Georges River	Georges River
Inner West	Inner West
Randwick	Randwick
Sutherland	Sutherland Shire
Sydney	City of Sydney
Waverley / Woollahra	Waverley Woollahra

The EM Region is bounded by the following EM Regions:

- South West Metropolitan
- North West Metropolitan
- Illawarra South Coast

Detailed LGA profiles (including geography, demographics and risk profiles) are maintained within local EMPLANS.



5.1 Region Profile

Metropolitan Sydney and its surrounds are significant to state, national and global economic interests. It boasts major air and seaports as well as rail and road networks providing important social and economic links to other major economic and social infrastructure and services.

Across Sydney CBD there are multiple national and international corporate headquarters as well as the Australian Stock Exchange. Many foreign and domestic financial institutions have their Australian headquarters located in Sydney. These contribute to Sydney being Australia's main financial centre.

The Region has a rapidly growing professional services sector with focus on health, engineering, design, science, education, research, communications and technology.

The population that exists within S MEMR is not limited to residential. Sydney CBD and surrounding suburbs also boast daily increases due to visitor, workforce and student numbers. Sydney is the leading tourist destination for international travel in Australia so there are significant facilities, infrastructure and government interest to support tourism and accommodation requirements for visitors to the city.

There are several precincts and properties that have heritage significance within the region, with most listed under the NSW Heritage Act. These same properties also contribute to tourism and economic interests.

The region also boasts several registered conservation areas and National Parks. These contribute to tourism and are important to local community activities as well as environmental interests.

The major water bodies within the EM region include Sydney Harbour, Botany Bay, Port Hacking, Georges River and the lower part of the Parramatta River. The water ways are variously utilised for commercial shipping, fishing, transportation and recreation. There is also a high dependency on the water courses by commuter and tourist populations.

Significant working ports exist as well as heavy industrial precincts. The primary risk precinct is the Botany Bay precinct which boasts chemical storage and transfer as well as high quantity of vessel movements. The related vessel movements are important to the national and state economy.

Transport routes and facilities are an important part of the EMR regarding commuter, economic, tourism and social dependencies not just for the Sydney Metropolitan residential population but also for visitors and businesses. Many transport hubs within the region are amongst the most used in the country.

The Sydney Metropolitan area is reliant upon bridges for movement of people and responding agencies. There are several bridges within the region that connect major transport routes. Most road bridges have pedestrian area allocations as well as other modes of transport (rail and light rail).

There are numerous road and rail tunnels within the region. The ones of note are the Sydney Harbour Tunnel, Eastern Distributor tunnel, M8, M5 East and the rail network tunnels. There are also short distance pedestrian tunnels within the Sydney CBD that allow mass pedestrian movements.

There is continuous development of new tunnels and bridges occurring in and around the region. Emergency managers remain aware of and work with the operators/owners to develop and practice emergency plans.

Sydney Airport is located within the Bayside LGA. The airport is the largest and busiest airport in Australia. Sydney Airport is an International Airport with 3 major runways and terminals catering for International, Domestic, Regional and General aviation across several precincts.

Critical infrastructure within Sydney Metropolitan area are identified and registered as a part of a restricted annexure to this document. Response and recovery priorities include protection and/or reinstatement of critical infrastructure. Critical Infrastructure includes:

- Electricity infrastructure
- Water supply/storage infrastructure
- Sewerage treatment infrastructure
- Communications infrastructure
- Transport infrastructure

There are several Major Hazard Facilities (MHF) located within the Region. MHF's are sites like petroleum terminals, chemical processing plants, large chemical and gas storage depots that store or manufacture hazardous chemicals in amounts that exceed a threshold outlined within schedule 11. Most of the regions MHF's are located within the Botany Bay precinct (near Port Botany). It should be noted that these facilities are amongst a growing suburban population and the chemicals are transported using nearby popular transport hubs (rail, road, sea and air).

Due to the importance of Sydney, and its surrounds, to the economic and social context of NSW and Australia the emergency management arrangements applied and practiced within the EM region are diverse both in nature of application and stakeholder interest.

5.2 Hazard & Risk Summary

The following significant emergencies have occurred within the region over the last 10 years:

Occurrence	Hazard Type	Year	Control and/or Coordination Level
Mascot Towers	Structural collapse	2019	Combat Agency with Regional and State support
Holsworthy/Menai Bushfire	Bushfire	2018	Combat Agency with Local EOC. Regional support.
Wolli Creek Crane Collapse	Structural Collapse	2017	Local supported by regional resources
Barangaroo Crane Failure	Structural collapse	2016	Local supported by regional resources.
East Coast Low (June)	Storm	2016	Combat Agency with Local, Regional and State support.
Fuel Tanker roll-over	Transport Emergency	2016	Local supported by regional resources.
Broadway Crane Failure	Structural collapse	2015	Local supported by regional resources.
Kurnell Tornado	Storm	2015	Combat Agency with Local EOC. Regional support
Illawong Sinkhole	Subsidence	2015	Local supported by regional resources.
Red Imported Fire Ants	Biosecurity	2015	State with regional and Local supporting
Martin Place Siege	Terrorism	2014	State with regional and Local supporting
Rozelle Explosion & Fire	Explosion	2014	Combat Agency with Local EOC. Regional support
Barangaroo Crane Fire	Fire	2014	Combat Agency with Local and Regional support.
Bushfire Pollution Emergency	Environmental	2013	Combat Agency with Regional and State support
Kurnell Facility Emergency	Fire/Hazmat	2011	Combat Agency with Local EOC. Regional support

Each LGA within the region is responsible for conducting a local Emergency Risk Management (ERM) appraisal and the region supports this process. A coordinated review of the regions local ERM appraisals allows strategic priorities to be identified. The table below provides a Regional level summation and priority for identified hazards and risks. This is based on the hazards likelihood of involving the regional level at any stage of prevention, preparation, response and recovery. The trigger may result in the region taking an active role in supporting, controlling or coordinating an activity. The assessment used to identify the regions priorities is detailed in the annexures.

Hazard	Risk Description	Priority	Combat/Responsible Agency
Earthquake	Sudden impact event. Earthquake of significant strength that results in localised or widespread damage.	Critical	EOCON
Utilities Failure	Sudden impact event. Major failure of essential utility for unreasonable periods of time as a result of a natural or man-made occurrence.	Critical	EOCON
Building Collapse	Sudden impact event. Actual or imminent collapse or failure of structure owing to structural failure or impact from external/internal event of other hazards /incidents.	High	EOCON FRNSW (USAR)
Communicable Disease (Human)	Possible warning event Pandemic illness that affects, or has potential to affect, large portions of the human population.	High	NSW Health
Fire (Bush or Grass)	Possible warning event but can be sudden impact Major fires in areas of bush or grasslands.	High	NSW RFS
Flood (Riverine)	Warning event River flows exceed the capacity of normal river systems resulting in flood waters escaping and inundating river plains.	High	NSW SES
Heatwave	Warning event A sequence of abnormally hot conditions having the potential to affect a community adversely.	High	EOCON
Storm	Possible warning event but can be sudden impact Severe storm with accompanying lightning, hail, wind, and/or rain that causes severe damage and/or localised flooding.(includes tornado).	High	NSW SES
Terrorism	Sudden impact event. Terror attack in place or mass gathering or infrastructure.	High	NSW Police Force
Transport Emergency (Air)	Sudden impact event. Aircraft crashes in built-up area resulting in large number of	High	EOCON

	fatalities, injuries and/or damage to property.		
Tsunami	<i>Probable warning event but can be sudden impact</i> A tsunami wave of magnitude that presents a risk to land and marine elements.	High	NSW SES
Fire (Industrial)	<i>Sudden impact event.</i> Serious fire within an industrial, commercial or residential setting.	Medium	FRNSW
Flood (Flash)	<i>Possible warning event but can be sudden impact</i> Heavy rainfall causes excessive localised flooding with minimal warning time.	Medium	NSW SES
Hazardous Materials Release	<i>Sudden impact event.</i> Hazardous material released as a result of an incident or accident.	Medium	FRNSW
Landslip	<i>Sudden impact event.</i> Landslip/landslide resulting in localised or widespread damage. (Includes subsidence and 'sinkholes').	Medium	EOCON
Maritime Emergency (Oil Spill)	<i>Sudden impact event.</i> Major oil spill from any source that results environmental damage, disruption to marine based supply routes/facilities and major recovery operation.	Medium	NSW Port Authority Roads & Maritime Services FRNSW (When requested by NSW Port Authority)
Tornado	<i>Possible warning event but can be sudden impact</i> Tornado or water spout impacting land based elements causing localised but severe damage to property and infrastructure.	Medium	NSW SES
Transport Emergency (Maritime)	<i>Sudden impact event.</i> A major accident that involves marine passenger or supply vessels.	Medium	NSW Port Authority – Ports FRNSW – Inland Waters
Transport Emergency (Rail)	<i>Sudden impact event.</i> A major rail accident that disrupts one or more major rail routes that can result in risk to restriction of supply routes and/or protracted loss of access to or from the area.	Medium	EOCON

Agricultural Disease (Animal/Plant)	Possible warning event An agriculture/horticulture incident that results, or has potential to result, in the spread of a communicable disease or infestation with broad community impacts.	Low	Department of Primary Industries
Dam Failure	Possible warning event A dam is compromised that results in localised or widespread flooding. Woronora Dam failure resulting in flood response requirements along the Georges River. Kensington Ponds dam, Bellevue Hill Water Tower, Vaucluse Water - impacts will be localised with local level response and plan activation. Marrickville Dam failure resulting in flood response to the surrounding streets located within the vicinity of the dam.	Low	NSW SES
Transport Emergency (Road)	Sudden impact event. A major vehicle accident that disrupts one or more major transport routes that can result in risk to people trapped in traffic congestion; restricted supply routes and/or protracted loss of access to or from the area.	Low	EOCON

6. PREVENTION

Prevention measures remain the responsibility of authorities/agencies charged by statute with the responsibility. Prevention strategies for emergencies are expected to be managed by the relevant Combat Agencies, local EMPLANS and/or other hazard specific sub plans.

7. PREPARATION

7.1 Exercising & Review

The Sydney Metropolitan Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC) will review this Plan every three (3) years as a part of the continuous improvement cycle, or following any:

- Significant regional change such as boundary changes, Agency/Functional Area/Supporting organisation changes, region assets change, etc;
- Any emergency that required region level involvement;
- Legislative changes affecting the plan;

- Reviews, inquiries and lessons learned that are relevant to the purpose of the plan;
- Exercises conducted to test all or part of the plan.

A debrief will occur as soon as practicable following any emergency or exercise that requires region level involvement. This debrief shall be facilitated by the Region Emergency Management Officer (REMO) and all debrief documentation is to be presented to the wider REMC for their consideration. The REMC will record a lesson learnt register and endorse strategies to implement those lessons where appropriate. The REMC will consider SEMC support and endorsement as required.

The arrangements in this plan are to be exercised at least on a biennial basis or at the direction of the REOCON unless an activation of this plan has occurred within two years from the previous activation or exercise. For practical purposes, the REMC will lead the delivery of the exercise and identify appropriate exercise objectives.

7.2 **Local Emergency Management Planning**

It is inherent that the Regional EMPLAN has a strong link to the Local EMPLANS to ensure that the community requirements and major hazards and risks identified are catered for. The REMC have clear governance responsibilities to ensure that the standard of all Local EMPLANS meet the prescribed requirements and enable the Region to prepare for and provide support to LEMCs as anticipated.

The following Local EMPLANS detail key regional level planning considerations and address risks that are geographically located but likely to require at a minimum region level support.

LEMC	Plan	Region planning consideration
Bayside	Local EMPLAN	A major emergency within the LGA is likely to have an impact on one of the LGA's major critical infrastructures (ports, airport, MHF, etc). This will likely require region or state level support, as outlined within both the local EMPLAN and Botany Bay Precinct Emergency Sub Plan.
City of Sydney	Local EMPLAN	Major emergency situations that occur in the Sydney CBD may be escalated rapidly to Region or State management due to the possible significant numbers of people impacted or the economic/political nature of the area.
City of Sydney	Local Recovery Plan	The local recovery plan requires Region and State level support to both identify and prioritise recovery activities, given an emergency within the LGA will have an impact on the greater region, state and/or nation.
Georges River	Local EMPLAN	The LGA encompasses most of the regions underground tunnel networks. The LOCAL EMPLAN identifies these networks and applies a locally prepared ERM.
Inner West	Local EMPLAN	Many of the region major underground motorways pass through the LGA. The LGA contains a Dam, that elevates this hazards risk across the region.
Randwick	Local EMPLAN	The LGA hosts both one of the regions back bone EOC's and the Regions EOC. The Local EMPLAN details the EOC's triggers and activation requirements. The LGA contains a Dam, that elevates this hazards risk across the region.
Sutherland Shire	Local EMPLAN	The LGA hosts one of the regions back bone EOC's. The Local EMPLAN details the EOC's triggers and activation requirements. The Local EMPLAN also identifies the highest risk of bushfire within the region and the corresponding response strategies.
Waverley/Woollahra	Local EMPLAN	The LGA has a large coastline that spans most of the region. This coastline hosts many beaches that are popular with residents and tourist.

7.3 Sub Plans & Supporting Plans

Responsibility for the preparation and maintenance of appropriate sub and supporting plans rests with the relevant Combat Agency Controller (sub-plans) or the relevant Functional Area Coordinator (Supporting Plans). They form a critical element that outlines the arrangements that are in place to control or deliver support at a regional and local level as emergencies arise.

There are some specific regional sub and supporting plans that have also been developed to assist with delivering the outcomes of this EMPLAN. These sub/supporting plans are developed in consultation with the Sydney Metropolitan REMC and stakeholders. The sub/supporting plans below, have been endorsed by the REMC and are determined as compliant and

complimentary to the arrangements listed in this EMPLAN, that is they are likely to require region level involvement. Not all these plans are available to the public.

Sub Plan	Combat/Responsible Agency	Public Access Location
Sydney Airport Emergency Plan	Sydney Airport	Not accessible to the public
Sydney Harbour Marine Emergency Sub Plan	Defined according to hazard location	Emergency NSW
Botany Bay-Port Hacking Marine Emergency Plan	Defined according to hazard type	Emergency NSW
Region Flood Plan – Southern Region	NSW State Emergency Service	NSW SES Flood Safe Website
Region Flood Plan – Northern Region	NSW State Emergency Service	NSW SES Flood Safe Website

There are some plans that exist to address hazards or consequences that may occur specifically within the Sydney Metropolitan EM Region but are State level plans. As such Sydney Metropolitan EM Region is not responsible for the maintenance or review of these documents but may be required to do so at the request of the SEOCON or SEMC. These reviews may involve both the region and the LEMC that corresponds to hazard or risks location. These state plans outline strategies that may supplement those strategies outlined within this plan, however during any response phase the region should always compliment the current level of control.

The State level plans relevant to Sydney Metropolitan Region include:

- Botany Bay Precinct Emergency Sub Plan
- Lucas Heights Emergency Sub Plan
- Sydney CBD Safety Sub Plan

7.4 Training

Agencies involved in activities covered by this plan are responsible for the training of their personnel. Ensuring an appropriate level of skill and knowledge is maintained to fulfil their agencies roles.

For practical purposes, the REMC should identify training needs for the successful implantation of this plan.

8. RESPONSE

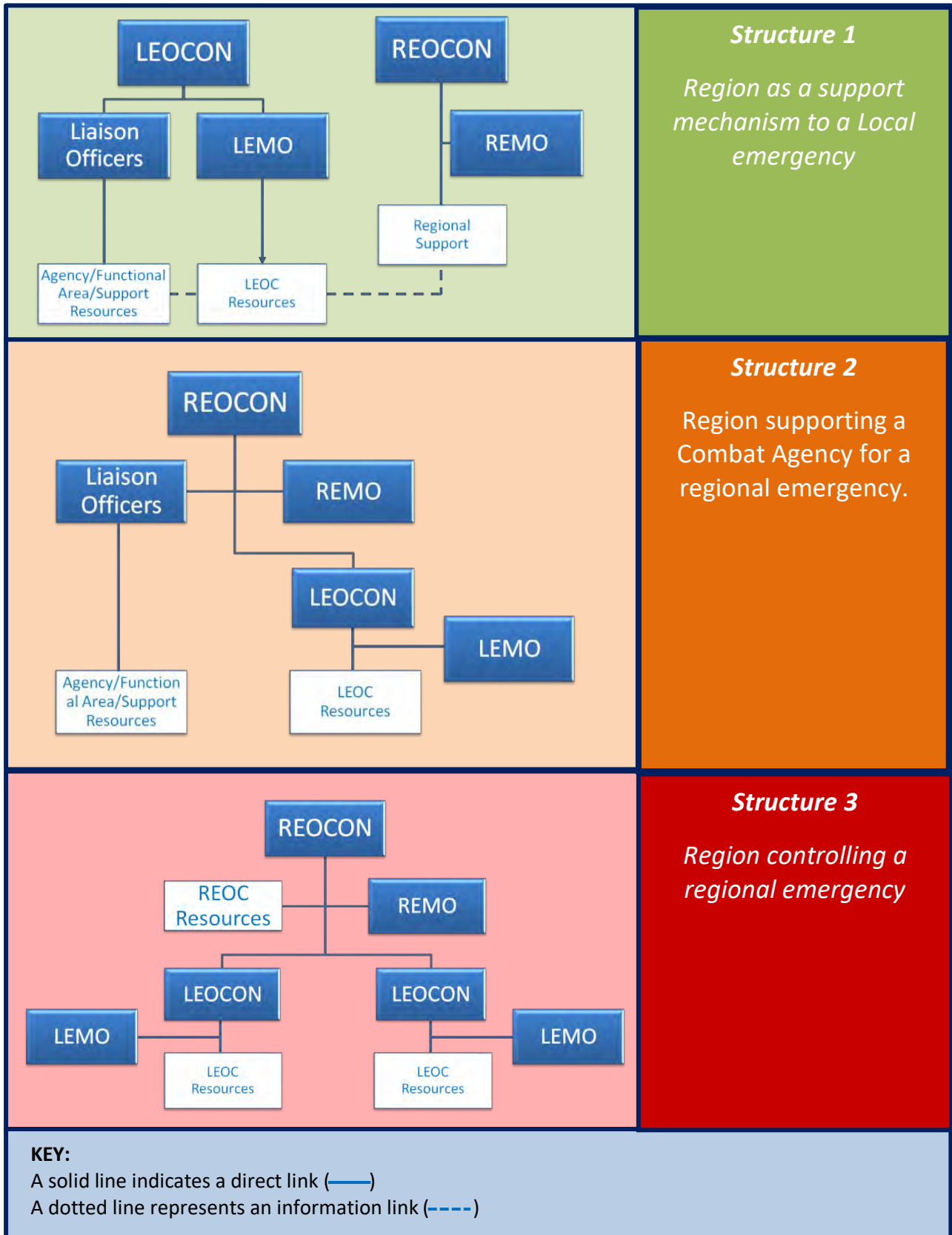
The response arrangements set out in this plan are always active and no formal declaration of an emergency is required for these arrangements to apply.

8.1 Command, Control and Coordination Structures

The Control, Command and Coordination (CCC) structure will vary according to the role that the regional level response is taking. There are three standard structures that typically arise according to the role taken by the REOCON and REMC:

1. The region acting as a support mechanism to a local emergency.
2. The region supporting a Combat Agency for a regional emergency.
3. The region controlling a Regional emergency.

The specific structure can vary according to the type of emergency and should be confirmed on each occasion between stakeholders with the standard arrangements considered.



9. RESPONSE PROCESS

9.1 Triggers – Region to coordinate support

- Designated Combat Agency has a regional level plan for emergency response that requires significant Regional contribution.
- Whenever there is an impending or unforeseen emergency operation and regional level support resources may be required.
- To assist with the coordination of recovery operations.
- Where it is necessary to coordinate two or more local level operations which are controlled by Emergency Operations Controllers.

9.2 Triggers – Region to control response

- Where there is no designated Combat Agency, and a regional level response is required.
- When the combat agency has requested or agreed for the REOCON to assume control.
- When directed by the SEOCON to take control of an emergency response.

9.3 Control escalation triggers

Local to Regional level

- When an emergency grows beyond the capability of a Local Emergency Operations Centre (LEOC).
- When the emergency crosses two or more local emergency management boundaries and the change in control level may improve the situation.
- When significant impacts are foreseen (i.e Political, Environmental, Social, Technological, Infrastructure or Economic).
- When directed by the SEOCON.

Regional to State level

- When an emergency grows beyond the capability of a Regional Emergency Operations Centre (REOC).
- When the emergency crosses two or more regional emergency management boundaries and the change in control level may improve the situation.
- When significant State level Political, Environmental, Social, Technological, Infrastructure or Economic impacts are foreseen.
- When directed by the SEOCON.

9.4 Trigger - Regional Emergency Operations Centre

The REOCON is responsible for determining the level of REOC activation (monitor, alert, operational or stand down) in consultation with the Combat Agency or relevant EOCON.

9.5 Triggers – Demobilisation & de-escalation

- When it is determined that the incident has scaled back to the extent a regional level response is no longer required.
- When the response has transitioned into a longer-term recovery process and an appropriate handover to a recovery coordinator or committee occurs.
- When it is determined that no further control or support is required for the emergency.

Any de-escalation of control or coordination from the regional to local level should be formalised by way of SITREP or briefing note from REOCON to LEOCON.

10. RECOVERY

The arrangements for recovery operations in New South Wales are outlined in the NSW State EMPLAN and further described in the State Recovery Plan. The New South Wales Recovery Plan outlines the strategic intent, responsibilities, authorities and the mechanisms for disaster recovery in New South Wales. The Recovery Plan, together with the EMPLANS, allow for the development and implementation of a planned recovery following a natural disaster or other emergency.

Following a significant emergency, the recovery process is overseen by the State Emergency Recovery Controller (SERCON) which is a statutory position appointed by the Minister for Police & Emergency Services and responsible for controlling the recovery from the emergency.

Following a regional emergency, the REOCON will first engage the SEOCON who will in turn liaise with the SERCON to discuss recovery arrangements as detailed in the State Recovery Plan.

This plan recognises that the above process may have an extended lead time. Recovery is a long-term concept that can often be slow to mobilise. As a priority the REOCON should consider the concept of emergency relief, as the response phase begins to transition towards recovery.

10.1 Emergency relief

The rapid mobilisation of multifaceted resources to enable immediate relief for impacted communities will be supported through the integration of relief coordination within the existing NSW Emergency Management arrangements. Relief is a strategy that can be applied within the confines of the comprehensive approach and should be a consideration for controllers as response activities decline and recovery begins to mobilise.

Upon emergency impacts being sustained, an initial impact assessment will be completed by the respective EOC. This assessment will inform the REOCON's decision to appoint suitable personnel to support the coordination and implementation of relief activities. Relief activities remain dynamic and largely guided by the local level.

Those appointed with relief coordination will work collaborative with Resilience NSW Recovery Officers to ensure overarching alignment with recovery activities.

10.2 Recovery and relief principles

Recovery is the process of returning an affected community to its proper level of functioning after an emergency. Recovery is often a protracted process and therefore requires an extensive amount of community engagement, with considerable timeframes on tangible outcomes. Effective recovery can be achieved by supporting affected communities in the reconstruction of the physical infrastructure and the restoration of emotional, social, economic and physical wellbeing.

The concept of relief focuses mostly on the physical/mental wellbeing of community members during and following emergency response. Relief may occur whilst the response phase is ongoing. Relief activities address those immediate humanitarian needs of impacted communities. Relief tasks may be the first steps within the holistic and integrated recovery

framework that encompasses the community environments (built, social, natural and economic).

Relief has several key principles that should be considered during the response and recovery phases of emergency management:

- Promote state principles of recovery. Affirm the role of the SERCON and recovery committees in long term recovery planning.
- Proactively identify and prioritise humanitarian and public safety activities in communities.
- Put affected people at the centre of humanitarian assistance, including when determining needs, in allocation and delivery of relief, and when assessing impact.
- Ensure the local level works to identify and address the specific needs of vulnerable groups in relief activities.
- Apply a 'do no harm' approach in engaging the community and delivering relief.
- Ensure relief activities do not lead to unintended consequences or creation/exacerbation of another risk.
- Work closely with local communities to initially manage donorship and volunteerism. This is to ensure the ongoing maintenance of public safety (limiting volunteer exposure) as well as positively managing the associated social and resourcing implications.

10.3 **Prioritising relief actives**

Priority must be given to humanitarian tasks that directly impact on the health and welfare of the community. These tasks may include the provision of medical (physical and mental) support, food and/or water. Other elements that guide the prioritisation of tasks include impact on public safety, restoration of critical utilities/infrastructure/services and political sensitives.

Public safety is always a primary consideration in emergency management. The relief concept separates public safety from the response phase. In response public safety is often achieved by implementing response strategies, such as evacuation. Relief manages public safety outside of the scope of response by addressing the direct and literal consequences of a hazard, such as coordinating the removal of now hazardous material or sourcing of personal protective equipment for community clean up. Relief also recognises the palpable requirement to expedite the restoration critical utilities/infrastructure/services to a community (such as power, water, communications, etc) to allow a basic level of community function prior to establishing long term recovery activities.

11. ABBREVIATIONS

CMG/s	Consequence Management Guide/s
EM	Emergency Management
EMPLAN	NSW State Emergency Management Plan
EOC	Emergency Operations Centre
EOCON	Emergency Operations Controller
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESO	Emergency Service Organisation
FAC	Functional Area Coordinator
FRNSW	Fire and Rescue NSW
LEMC	Local Emergency Management Committee
LEOC	Local Emergency Operations Centre
LEOCON	Local Emergency Operations Controller
LERC	Local Emergency Relief Coordinator
LO	Liaison Officer
NSWPF	New South Wales Police Force
PIFAC	Public Information Functional Area Coordinator
REOC	Regional Emergency Operations Centre
REMO	Regional Emergency Management Officer
REOCON	Regional Emergency Operations Controller
RERC	Regional Emergency Relief Coordinator
SEMC	State Emergency Management Committee
SEOC	State Emergency Operations Centre
SEOCON	State Emergency Operations Controller
SES	State Emergency Service
SERCON	State Emergency Recovery Controller

SERM Act	State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989
SMEMR	Sydney Metropolitan Emergency Management Region
TfNSW	Transport for New South Wales

12. GLOSSARY

Act

Means the State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989 (as amended)

Combat Agency

Means the agency identified in the State Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN) as the agency primarily responsible for controlling the response to a particular emergency. *(Source: SERM Act).*

Command

Means the direction of members and resources of an agency/organisation in the performance of the agency/organisation's roles and tasks *(Source: SERM Act).*

Authority to command is established by legislation or by agreement with the agency/organisation. Command relates to agencies/organisations only and operates vertically within the agency/organisation.

Consequence Management Guide/s (CMG/s)

Is a hazard specific document which provides agreed emergency management arrangements in a 'checklist' concept.

Control

Means the overall direction of the activities, agencies or individuals concerned. *(Source: SERM Act).*

Control operates horizontally across all agencies/organisations, functions and individuals. Situations are controlled.

Coordination

Means the bringing together of agencies and individuals to ensure effective emergency or rescue management, but does not include the control of agencies and individuals by direction. *(Source: SERM Act).*

Critical Infrastructure

Means those physical facilities, supply chains, information technologies and communication networks which, if destroyed, degraded or rendered unavailable for an extended period, would significantly impact on the social or economic wellbeing of the nation, or affect Australia's ability to conduct national defence and ensure national security.

Emergency

Means an emergency due to an actual or imminent occurrence (such as fire, flood, storm, earthquake, explosion, terrorist act, accident, epidemic or warlike action) which:

- (a) endangers, or threatens to endanger, the safety or health of persons or animals in the State, or
 - (b) destroys or damages, or threatens to destroy or damage, property in the State, or
 - (c) causes a failure of, or a significant disruption to, an essential service or infrastructure, being an emergency which requires a significant and co-ordinated response.
- (2) For the purposes of the definition of *emergency*, property in the State includes any part of the environment of the State. Accordingly, a reference in this Act to:
- (a) threats or danger to property includes a reference to threats or danger to the environment, and
 - (b) the protection of property includes a reference to the protection of the environment.

(Source: SERM Act).

Emergency Operations Centre (EOC)

Means a centre established at state, regional or local level as a centre of communication and as a centre for the coordination of operations and support during an emergency. (Source: SERM Act).

For this plan, the Local Emergency Operations Centre (LEOC) For City of Sydney Shire is designated as 126 Wilson Parade, Heathcote. The Regional Emergency Operations Centre (REOC) located 126 Cape Banks Road, La Perouse and State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC) are located at the Sydney Police Centre. The location of these EOC is determined by the situation, however, and will be located as directed by the relevant EOCON.

Emergency Operations Controller (EOCON)

The member of the NSW Police Force who has been appointed as Local, Regional or State Emergency Operations Controllers. (Source: SERM Act).

The Regional Emergency Operations Controller (REOCON) is the Sydney Metropolitan Emergency Operations Controller.

Emergency Services Organisation

Means the NSW Police Force, Fire and Rescue NSW, NSW Rural Fire Service, NSW Ambulance, NSW State Emergency Service, Surf Lifesaving NSW. (Source: SERM Act).

Evacuation Centre

Is a centre which provides affected people with basic human needs including accommodation, food and water (Australian Emergency Management Glossary).

It is a facility established outside the area at risk to meet the immediate needs of disaster affected people following evacuation from an emergency situation; this may include travellers (commuters and tourists) who are unable to complete their journey.

It may be needed for only a few hours, or may be needed for numerous days; it may or may not need to sleep people overnight. It also acts as a point of communication whereby affected persons are able to obtain up to date emergency information.

Functional Area

A category of services involved in preparations for an emergency, including the following:

- Agriculture and Animal Services
- Telecommunication Services
- Energy & Utility Services
- Engineering Services
- Environmental Services
- Health Services
- Public Information Services
- Transport Services
- Welfare Services

(Source: SERM Act).

Functional Area Coordinator (FAC)

Is the nominated coordinator of a Functional Area, tasked to coordinate the provision of Functional Area support and resources for emergency response and recovery operations, who, by agreement of Participating and Supporting Organisations within the Functional Area, has the authority to commit the resources of those utility. (Source: EMPLAN).

Liaison Officer

Means a person, nominated or appointed by an organisation or Functional Area, to represent that organisation or Functional Area at a control centre, emergency operations centre or coordination centre, a liaison officer maintains communications with and conveys directions/requests to their organisation or Functional Area, and provides advice on the status, capabilities, actions and requirements of their organisation or Functional Area.

Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC)

Means the committee, constituted under the State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989 (as amended) for each local government area, and is responsible for the preparation of plans in relation to the prevention of, preparation for, response to and recovery from emergencies in the local government area, for which it is constituted. In the exercise of its functions, any such committee is responsible to the relevant Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC) {Source: SERM Act}.

Local Emergency Management Officer (LEMO)

Means a person appointed, under the Act, as principal executive officer to a LEMC.

Local Emergency Relief Coordinator (LERC)

Means a senior police officer appointed by the REOCON to support the coordination and implementation of relief activities at a local level.

Preparation

In relation to an emergency includes arrangements or plans to deal with an emergency or the effects of an emergency {Source: SERM Act}.

Prevention

In relation to an emergency includes the identification of hazards, the assessment of threats to life and property and the taking of measures to reduce potential loss to life and property {Source: SERM Act}.

Public Information

Means the information and advice provided to the to the public in the lead up to or during an emergency to inform them of the response actions being taken and the specific actions that they should take, given the circumstances, to protect themselves.

Recovery

In relation to an emergency includes the process of returning an affected community to its proper level of functioning after an emergency. (Source: SERM Act).

Regional Emergency Operations Controller (REOCON)

Means the Region Commander of Police appointed by the Commissioner of Police, as the Regional Emergency Operations Controller for the emergency management region. (Source: SERM Act).

For this Plan, the Regional Emergency Operations Controller (REOCON) is the Sydney Metropolitan Emergency Operations Controller.

Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC)

Means the committee, constituted under the State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989 (as amended) for each emergency region, and is responsible for the preparation of plans in relation to the prevention of, preparation for, response to and recovery from emergencies in the local government area, for which it is constituted. In the exercise of its functions, any such committee is responsible to the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) {Source: SERM Act}.

Regional Emergency Management Officer (REMO)

Means a person appointed, under the Act, as principal executive officer to the REMC and the REOCON.

For this Plan, the Regional Emergency Management Officer is the Sydney Metropolitan REMO.

Regional Emergency Relief Coordinator (RERC)

Means a senior police officer appointed by the REOCON to support the coordination and implementation of relief activities at a region level.

Recovery

In relation to an emergency includes the process of returning an affected community to its proper level of functioning after an emergency {Source: SERM Act}.

Relief

Is a strategy that can be applied within the confines of the comprehensive approach and should be a consideration for controllers as response activities decline and recovery begins to mobilise. Emergency relief is the first stage and beginning of the emergency recovery process. It focuses on the provision of essential needs to impacted persons and communities immediately following an emergency. Relief should occur as response is occurring.

Response

In relation to an emergency includes the process of combating an emergency and of providing immediate relief for persons affected by an emergency. (Source: SERM Act).

State Emergency Operations Controller (SEOCON)

Means the person designated by the Governor, on the recommendation of the Minister as the person for the time being holding or acting in that position.

The SEOCON is responsible for controlling, in accordance with the SERM Act, the response to an emergency that affects more than one region or for which the SEOCON assumes responsibility.

State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC)

Means the committee constituted under the State Emergency and Rescue Management Act, 1989 (as amended), as the principal committee established under this Act for the purposes of emergency management throughout the State, and, in particular, is responsible for emergency planning at a State level {Source: SERM Act}.

State Emergency Recovery Controller (SERCON)

Means the Secretary of the Department of Justice or a senior executive of the Department of Justice designated by the Secretary.

The SERCON is responsible for controlling, in accordance with the SERM Act, the recovery from an emergency that affects more than one region or for which the SERCON assumes responsibility.

Sub Plan

A sub plan is an action plan required for a specific hazard, or event. Sub plans may be prepared when the management arrangements necessary to deal with the effects of the hazard, or the requirements due to an event differ from the general coordination arrangements. A sub plan may be required where the planning is more specialised or detailed than can be provided for in EMPLAN (Source: NSW EMPLAN).