

# SHIRE OF DALWALLINU

## LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

For the meeting held

**Meeting Date:** 4 May 2026  
**Location:** Shire Administration Centre, 58 Johnston St Dalwallinu  
**Time:** 3.30pm

*Emergency Management Act 2005 (Section 39) - Functions of local emergency management committees:*

- a) to advise and assist the local government in ensuring that local emergency management arrangements are established for its district.
- b) to liaise with public authorities and persons in the development, review and testing of local emergency management arrangements; and
- c) to carry out other emergency management activities as directed by the SEMC or prescribed by the regulations.

#### 1. MEETING OPENING & ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 3.34pm.

#### 2. ATTENDANCE RECORD

##### 2.1 Present

|                       |                                       |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Hanna Jolly           | Shire of Dalwallinu                   |
| Jemma Counsel (Chair) | Shire of Dalwallinu – Councillor      |
| Elize Pronk           | Dalwallinu Hospital (via Teams)       |
| Sam Dickins           | Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service       |
| David Hughes          | Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service       |
| Justin Burt           | Dalwallinu District High School       |
| Kate McCreery         | Kalannie Primary School (via Teams)   |
| Michael Phillips      | Department of Communities (via Teams) |
| Steve McCrea          | Dalwallinu Police                     |
| Duncan Astley         | Water Corporation (observer)          |
| Louise Hewings        | Water Corporation (observer)          |

##### 2.2 Apologies

|              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Aaron Mills  | Bushfire Brigade  |
| Angela Mills | One School Global |

##### 2.3 Leave of Absence Previously Granted

Nil

#### 3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

*Identify real, perceived, or potential conflicts of interest experienced by any member in relation to the items on the agenda. These should be declared now and if possible, raised with the Chair prior to the meeting to determine the appropriate way to manage the conflict.*

**4. GUEST PRESENTATIONS**

Nil

**5. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

Moved: Steve McCrea

Seconded: Justin Burt

That the Committee approve the minutes of the Shire of Dalwallinu LEMC meeting held on 9 February 2026 be confirmed.

**CARRIED**

**6. REVIEW OF ACTION LIST AND BUSINESS ARISING**

| Item | Owner | Status |
|------|-------|--------|
| Nil  | Nil   | Nil    |

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

**7.1 Correspondence In**

*Response from Telstra/Boyd Brown received 2 March 2026:*

*'I want to acknowledge at the outset the seriousness of the incidents you have described, including those on 23 October 2025 and 20 January 2026. Telstra recognises that continuity of communications, especially the ability to make 000 calls, is critical to community safety, and I understand the frustration and concern these outages have caused residents, businesses and essential services across the Shire.*

*Following your correspondence, we undertook a detailed review of power and equipment logs at the Dalwallinu Exchange. This review identified an underlying intermittent fault with the site's permanent backup generator. While the site has several hours of battery reserve, the generator was not consistently starting following some mains power failure events. This resulted in the batteries being depleted before field technicians could reach site with a temporary generator, particularly given the site's significant electrical load and the challenges in sourcing a suitably sized mobile generator at short notice. Our investigations indicate this issue contributed to the service disruptions experienced during the October 2025 and January 2026 outages.*

*I have since confirmed with our maintenance partner, Ventia, that a Cummins generator specialist attended site and replaced fuel system components that were identified as the root cause of the generator start failures. Post-repair testing has been undertaken, including a recent power routine during which the generator was run under load, and initial indications are that the generator is now operating as expected. We are continuing to closely monitor the site to ensure the effectiveness of these repairs is sustained.*

*In parallel, Telstra is reviewing contingency arrangements for high-load regional sites such as Dalwallinu to improve resilience during extended power outages, including the logistics of temporary generation support. We are also continuing our engagement with Western Power, recognising the role that prolonged mains power interruptions play in compounding service impacts across regional communities.'*

**7.2 Correspondence Out**

Nil

**8. REVIEW OF LEMC MEMBERSHIP AND CONTACT LIST UPDATES**

Hanna Jolly recently attended LEMC Executive Officers meeting. Discussion was held regarding LEMC membership. LEMC should be contributing to resilience building and knowledge of risks and vulnerabilities with local solutions. With that in mind, should the membership be extended to:

- Dalwallinu CRC
- Kalannie CRC
- Staying in place coordinator

**Action:** LEMC supported the proposal. Hanna Jolly to contact Dalwallinu & Kalannie CRCs and Staying in Place Coordinator.

**9. LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (Standing Items to be considered at each meeting)**

**9.1 Post Incident Reports**

- Planning and preparation for Tropical Cyclone Narelle.
- This cyclone was downgraded to a tropical low before it was due to impact Shire of Dalwallinu. No impacts were reported in the Shire of Dalwallinu.
- Despite the incident not eventuating the way predicted, I hope you can all see value in your preparatory activities and discussions as a great exercise.

LEMC felt like the preparedness was good. Further education required regarding different warning levels for natural disasters. Especially emergency warning.

**Action:** Hanna Jolly to send materials to EA to promote WA's warning system through Shire publications.

**9.2 Post Exercise Reports –**

Nil

**9.3 LEMC exercise**

Annual LEMC exercise to be undertaken at the conclusion of this meeting. Duncan Astley from Water Corporation will run a desktop exercise 'Western Tree Drella'.

Hanna Jolly has been in contact with Richard Powel at Wubin Site. He is still keen to deliver an exercise which we can hopefully schedule for 2026/2027.

**9.4 Review Local Emergency Management Arrangements**

Nil

**9.5 Risk Management Update - (Monitor and review, emerging risk, mitigation)**

Nil

**9.6 Review LEMC Business Plan**

To be reviewed. Sample requested to be used for Dalwallinu.

**9.7 Review Funding Opportunities**

Nil

**9.8 Any Incident Support Group (ISG) activations or incidents – debrief**

Nil

**9.9 Training – future dates**

Nil

## 10. AGENCY / MEMBER REPORTS & UPDATES

### 10.1 Agency

*Members to consider:*

- *Capability and limitations for the coming season (resources/staffing)*
- *Any known emerging risks*
- *Any scheduled exercises*
- *Outcomes or lessons learnt from any incidents or exercises.*

#### ***Shire of Dalwallinu – Hanna Jolly***

- Cyclone Narelle Planning and Preparedness. The group effort was greatly appreciated.
- Quiet season for the bushfire brigades. Truck maintenances to be done.

#### ***Dalwallinu Hospital – Elize Pronk***

- Cyclone Narelle: 3 community members stayed at the hospital
- Hospital has terminated the lease with the Shire to manage Pioneer House
- Hospital doing well and currently well-staffed

#### ***Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service – Sam Dickins***

- Very busy season. Attended 22 incidents
- Opening night for Juniors and their parents to be held 4 May 2026

#### ***Dalwallinu District High School – Justin Burt***

- Cyclone Narelle: School Closure on Friday when the Cyclone warning was moved to 'Watch and Act'. Delay with the opening as someone will need to inspect the site before all clear has been given
- Planned burning to be done at the school site

#### ***Kalannie Primary School – Kate McCreery***

- Cyclone Narelle: No impact and no school closure as Kalannie was just out the warning zone
- Thanked Fire and Rescue for the Junior open night initiative. Great to promote in Kalannie as well in the future.

#### ***Department of Communities – Michael Phillips***

- Cyclone Narelle: Multiple Evacuation Centres opened. Need to ensure evacuation centres are fit for purpose
- High threat season over however Department is still busy
- Full report attached to the minutes

#### ***Dalwallinu Police – Steve McCrea***

- Cyclone Narelle: Preparedness was good and communication worked well via WhatsApp group. No resources to send out during emergency warning.

## 11. GENERAL BUSINESS

### 11.1 Any General Business

Water Corporation desktop exercise. Presentation attached to the minutes.

**12. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING**

**12.1 LEMC Calendar**

| <b>Date</b>        | <b>Activity</b> | <b>Venue</b>                         | <b>Comment</b> |
|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| 3/8/2026 – 3.30pm  | LEMC Meeting    | Shire of Dalwallinu Council Chambers |                |
| 2/11/2026 – 3.30pm | LEMC Meeting    | Shire of Dalwallinu Council Chambers |                |
| 8/2/2027 – 3.30pm  | LEMC Meeting    | Shire of Dalwallinu Council Chambers |                |
| 3/5/2027 – 3.30pm  | LEMC Meeting    | Shire of Dalwallinu Council Chambers |                |

**13. MEETING CLOSURE**

There being no further business, the Chairperson closed the meeting at 4.38pm.