

# Municipal Emergency Management Planning

South Gippsland MEMPC



## South Gippsland Shire MEMP – Engagement and Resilience Plan

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## Overview

The South Gippsland MEMP plan recognises community engagement as a key component of mitigation to emergency risks in South Gippsland. Mitigation is the action taken to eliminate or reduce the incidence or severity of emergencies and minimise their effects. The aim of community engagement related to emergency risk in South Gippsland is to build resilience to and awareness of risks and promote protective actions.

The MEMP has developed a Risk Treatment Plan which identifies the need for the MEMPC to develop an engagement plan to integrate and coordinate communication and community engagement activities that build resilience to, and awareness of risks and promote protective actions.

Desired outcomes of the engagement planning are

- places the community at the centre
- shares key learnings and information
- represents diversity within the community, is respectful, inclusive and fosters trust
- seeks consensus and collective action
- encourages participation, as well as debate and independent thought

The focus of the engagement is identified as reducing impacts on the 4 recovery environments - helping the community to be prepared for and recovering from incidents across these areas:

- Social
- Natural
- Built
- Economic

The development of an Engagement and Resilience Plan by the MEMPC supports the REMPC activity which aims to identify opportunities for support to, or coordination of, engagement and educational programs to facilitate greater reach and build community resilience with a focus on vulnerable persons/sectors within the region (single/multi-agency).

The Engagement and Resilience Plan is linked to the CERA process for South Gippsland that recognises various risk mitigations associated with communications, engagement and resilience

The Engagement and Resilience Plan will be included as an Appendix of the MEMP.

## Communication and Engagement General Focus Timeline

This table outlines the general times when emergency risk communication and engagement activities take place. Some are season dependant and some take place through the year. Much of this information is provided broadly to the community and represents agencies business as usual communication and engagement activities.

Month	Urban Fire	Bushfire/ Grassfire	Storm inc. Thunderstorm Asthma	Flood	Extreme Temperatures (heat and cold)	Pandemic	Essential Services Disruption	Hazardous Materials Release	Outbreak - Food & Water Contamination	Outbreak – Emergency Animal Disease
January		<a href="#">Your Local Area - Info and Advice   CFA (Country Fire Authority)</a> <a href="#">Total Fire Bans &amp; Fire Danger Ratings   CFA (Country Fire Authority)</a>			<a href="#">Survive the heat - Better Health Channel</a>	As required	<a href="#">Your guide to power outages – Energy Safe Victoria (esv.vic.gov.au)</a> <a href="#">Power outages (energy.vic.gov.au)</a>	As required	As required	As required
February		<a href="#">VicEmergency App   CFA (Country Fire Authority)</a>			<a href="#">Heat health alerts</a>					
March	<a href="#">Home Fire Safety Checklist   CFA (Country Fire Authority)</a>									
April										
May	<a href="#">Smoke Alarms   CFA (Country Fire Authority)</a>						<a href="#">Outages (ausnetservices.com.au)</a> <a href="#">AusNet Services outage tracker</a> <a href="#">Preparing for an Emergency   Pantry List</a>			
June			<a href="#">Storms (ses.vic.gov.au)</a>							
July				<a href="#">Flood (ses.vic.gov.au)</a>						
August			<a href="#">Storms (ses.vic.gov.au)</a>							
September										
October			<a href="#">Thunderstorm asthma - Better Health Channel</a> <a href="#">Subscribe   health.vic.gov.au</a>	<a href="#">Flood (ses.vic.gov.au)</a>						
November		<a href="#">How to Prepare Your Property   CFA (Country Fire Authority)</a> <a href="#">VicEmergency App   CFA (Country Fire Authority)</a>	<a href="#">Epidemic thunderstorm asthma risk forecast (health.vic.gov.au)</a> <a href="#">Subscribe   health.vic.gov.au</a>		<a href="#">Heat health alerts</a>		See Above			
December		<a href="#">Fire Danger Period Restrictions   CFA (Country Fire Authority)</a>	<a href="#">Epidemic thunderstorm asthma risk forecast (health.vic.gov.au)</a> <a href="#">Thunderstorm asthma - Better Health Channel</a>	<a href="#">www.emergency.vic.gov.au</a>	<a href="#">Survive the heat - Better Health Channel</a>					

**General Emergency Planning/Preparedness – all year Red Cross RediPlan - [Emergency Preparedness Guide | Australian Red Cross](#) & VicEmergency - Alerts and Warnings - [www.emergency.vic.gov.au](#)**

## Engagement/Resilience Activities 2021-22

The following activities recognise where more specific engagement and resilience building activities have been rolled out by MEMPC members to the South Gippsland community. Wherever possible engagements are coordinated to reduce community engagement fatigue and to show a coordinated approach to resilience building activities. Wherever possible information on overlapping risks is included in engagements by each MEMPC member agency ie CFA Bushfire/Grassfire engagement would also support the sharing of Heat Health messages. Referrals for more information on specific topics is made to identified agency leads for further engagement ie passing on Red Cross information regarding RediPlan if appropriate. A key MEMPC engagement activity was the Venus Bay - Community Engagement Session 14/5/2022

Hazard Specific	Agency	Program	Target	Activity Planned for SGSC Area	When
<b>All Hazards</b>	Council Red Cross	Get Techy – Get Ready	Various locations – focus on Storm impacted locations	Engagement as part of Storm recovery	Leongatha Library - 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2022 Foster Library - 5 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2022 Korumburra Library - 6 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2022 Mirboo North Library - 12 <sup>th</sup> May & 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2022 Poowong Library - 13 <sup>th</sup> May & 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2022 Venus Bay Community Centre - 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2022
	Council	Community Planning – Key emergency information	All locations	Engagement as part of Storm recovery and introduction to EM planning.	22 January 2022
	MEMPC	the Venus Bay - Community Engagement Session	Venus Bay Residents	provide the community with information on local emergency risks, what different emergency agencies do and how the community can best prepare for emergency events.	15 May 2022
	Red Cross & Council	Red Cross RediPlan & Storm Recovery	Leongatha Christmas Market	Engagement as part of Storm recovery	11 December 2021
<b>Bushfire/ Grassfire</b>	CFA	Fire Safety Essentials	All locations	Engagement - Online delivery	November 16 & 18 2021
		Summer Roadshow	Mirboo North, Leongatha, Korumburra, Venus Bay, Sandy Point, Foster.	In person delivery	25 January 2022 26 January 2022 16 April 2022 (Venus Bay)
		Fire Safety Meeting	Venus Bay	In person delivery	13 February 2022
		Property Advice Visit Service (PAVS)	People, at the household level, identified in high bushfire risk areas	Engagement - Brigades would promote and register for a visit	October to Feb
		Bushfire Safety for Workers	Workers or Employees - Any person who finds themselves working in Bushfire areas over summer	Engagement - Online or sessions can be arranged <a href="#">E-learning for Workers and Carers   CFA (Country Fire Authority)</a>	October to Feb
		Bushfire Planning- how to support your clients	Clients and Patients: living in a high-risk bushfire location.	Engagement - Online or sessions can be arranged <a href="#">E-learning for Workers and Carers   CFA (Country Fire Authority)</a>	21 March 2022
<b>Flood &amp; Storm</b>	SES	Get Techy – Get Ready - pilot	Flood prone areas	November Foster	November 27 2021
	SES	Attendance at Community Events	Key flood and storm safety messaging Leongatha Christmas Market	As advised by South Gippsland Units throughout the year	11 December 2021
<b>Essential Services Disruption – Electricity Supply</b>	Ausnet	Localised Facebook posts	All locations - awareness	Include whenever possible. Lack of power links to loss of comms – radio and community connection.	Throughout the year

## Engagement/Resilience Activities 2022-23

The following activities have been identified as key engagement and resilience outcomes for the 2022/23 financial year.

- Improved understand local risk by communities and individuals (all)
- Improved knowledge of Vic Emergency App and how to use it (Get Techy)
- Roll out of new Fire Danger Ratings (CFA/EMV)
- Review and update of Tarwin Valley Flood Guide (SES)
- Improved community preparedness for power outage

Hazard Specific	Agency	Program	Target	Activity Planned for SGSC Area	When
<b>All Hazards</b>	Council Red Cross	Get Techy – Get Ready	Various locations – focus on Storm impacted locations and other areas at risk of emergency.	Roll out of Get Techy sessions with groups and individuals	Woorayl Probus Club - 4 July 2022 Halls Network Meeting 14 July 2022 Leongatha Community House 4 August 2022 Milpara Community House 10 August 2022 Toora Community Hall/Library 11 August 2022 Baromi Centre Mirboo North 24 August 2022 Milpara Community House 7 September 2022 Leongatha Community House 8 September 2022 Toora Community Hall/Library 15 September 2022 Mt Best Community Hall 26 October 2022 Walkerville CFA Open Station December 2022 Venus Bay CFA Session January 2023 Venus Bay CFA Session February 2023 Foster Show February 2023
	Council	Venus Bay Fire Preparedness Meetings	Venus Bay residents, non-residents and visitors	Attend CFA Fire Safety Meeting and provide information on Councils role in EM, Get Techy information and Emergency Information (Key contacts) flier.	January 2023 February 2023
	Council	Fire Danger Ratings	Internal staff and community	Internal communications in relation to changes to the Fire Danger Rating system. Sharing of social media information regarding fire danger ratings.	December 2022 January 2023
	Council Red Cross SES Vic Police	Disaster Resilient: Future Ready - Community Workshop	Korumburra working group and community	Identified anticipated 'future' challenges posed by hazards and other disruptive events.	January 2023
	Council	South Gippsland Coastal Strategy	Costal communities in South Gippsland	The Coastal Strategy will provide strategic direction for South Gippsland's coastal areas and guide sustainable land use and development	January 2023
<b>Essential Services Disruption – Electricity Supply</b>	Ausnet	Information included in Gert Techy Sessions	All locations - awareness	Include whenever possible. Lack of power links to loss of comms – radio and community connection. Included as part of Get Techy and Fire Safety Meetings (CFA).	Ongoing

<b>Flood &amp; Storm</b>	SES	Review and update of Tarwin Valley Flood Guide	Tarwin Lower and Venus Bay residents	Engagement to review and update Review and update of Tarwin Valley Flood Guide	TBC
	SES	Flood and storm preparedness	Foster community and show attendees	Flood and storm preparedness	Foster Show February 2023
<b>Bushfire/ Grassfire</b>	CFA	Roll out of new Fire Danger Ratings	Residents and visitors	Update FDR signage. Communications through brigades.	November 2022 to Feb 2023
	CFA	Property Preparation – 2 x Online Sessions	Residents and non-residents	CFA is running online educational sessions for South East Region residents. These sessions provide vital knowledge and advice on ways to prepare your property for fire season	November 2022
	CFA	Venus Bay Fire Preparedness Meetings	Venus Bay residents, non-residents and visitors	Fire Safety Meeting - Provision of fire preparedness information to residents of Venus Bay – CFA Engagement Trailer and CFA Engagement Bus	January 2023 February 2023

### Community Feedback

Community feedback to agencies that relates to this Communications and Engagement Plan or the work/activities of the MEMPC can be forwarded to [em@southgippsland.vic.gov.au](mailto:em@southgippsland.vic.gov.au) for collation and discussion at future MEMPC meetings.

### Key agency contacts

- **CFA** - Hayley King, Community Engagement Coordinator 0499 304 012 [h.king@cfa.vic.gov.au](mailto:h.king@cfa.vic.gov.au)
- **SES** – Ola Salako, Community Resilience Coordinator (03) 9256 9450 [ola.salako@ses.vic.gov.au](mailto:ola.salako@ses.vic.gov.au)
- **Red Cross** – Jay Jay Edmondson, Divisional Operations Officer 0411 311 742 [jayjay.edmondson@gmail.com](mailto:jayjay.edmondson@gmail.com)
- **South Gippsland Shire Council** – James Bremner, Senior Emergency Management Officer 0429 906 584 [james.bremner@southgippsland.vic.gov.au](mailto:james.bremner@southgippsland.vic.gov.au)

## Communication Channel Strategy (not for public distribution)

- **South Gippsland Shire Council** – James Bremner, Senior Emergency Management Officer 0429 906 584  
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