

# REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOYDER

 <b>GOYDER</b> South Australia's Heartland	<b>Organisational Emergency Management Policy</b>	<b>Department</b>	I&TS
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		<b>Responsibility:</b>	CEO

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Emergencies have the potential to disrupt the strategic and operational activities of council and adversely impact communities.

The roles of local government in emergency management are informed by the State Emergency Management Plan<sup>1</sup> (SEMP) and the Local Government Emergency Management Framework (LGEMF)<sup>2</sup>. They are enabled by the Local Government Act 1999, which outlines the requirement for councils to consider risks (including emergency risks) as follows:

- make informed decisions (section 6);
- take measures to protect their area from natural hazards (section 7);
- provide infrastructure for community and for development (section 7);
- ensure the sustainability of the council's long-term financial performance (section 8);
- assess the maintenance, replacement or development needs for infrastructure (section 122);
- identify anticipated or predicted changes in any factors that make a significant contribution to the costs of the council's activities or operations (section 122).

In addition, the Local Government Act requires council's to "give due weight, in all its plans, policies and activities to regional, state and national objectives and strategies concerning the economic, social, physical and environmental development and management of the community" (section 8). Emergency management in the Regional Council of Goyder is enabled and supported by a number of legislations and delegations as listed in **Annex 1**.

## 2. PURPOSE

The purpose of the policy is to:

- Define the Council's roles and responsibilities in emergency management
- Ensure that the Council maintains appropriate delegations and authority to undertake its emergency management responsibilities
- Ensure that the Council prepares and maintain appropriate emergency management documents
- Support the Council to maintain safe working practices during emergencies
- Support the Council to maintain effective protection for council workers, assets and liabilities associated with emergency management activities.

<sup>1</sup><https://dpc.sa.gov.au/responsibilities/security-and-emergency-management/state-emergency-management-plan>

<sup>2</sup>[https://www.lga.sa.gov.au/webdata/resources/files/ECM\\_672733\\_v18\\_Local%20Government%20Emergency%20Managment%20Framework%202019%20update.PDF](https://www.lga.sa.gov.au/webdata/resources/files/ECM_672733_v18_Local%20Government%20Emergency%20Managment%20Framework%202019%20update.PDF)

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## 3. SCOPE

This policy applies to the Council in exercising powers and functions under the various Acts and agreements to which it is a party in the State of South Australia. The scope of emergency management activities is limited to those listed in Section 4.

## 4. POLICY STATEMENT

Council will undertake the following roles and responsibilities in accordance with the SEMP and LGEMF.

### 4.1. Disaster Risk Reduction

In accordance with the LGEMF, the Council will:

- Understand and communicate current and emerging disaster risks
- Integrate disaster risk into existing plans and decision-making (e.g. strategic plans, risk frameworks, asset management plan, climate change plans)
- Partner with local stakeholders in addressing priority emergency risks
- Strengthen disaster resilience in communities through community development.

### 4.2. Incident operations

In accordance with the LGEMF, the Council will:

- Develop a locally relevant risk based suite of incident operational arrangements.
- Build capability of council to participate in the Local Government Functional Support Group (LGFSG)
- Participate in incident operations in accordance with the i-Responda operating platform.

### 4.3. Recovery

In accordance with the LGEMF, the Council will:

- Provide leadership, co-ordination and advocacy when the community is impacted by disasters
- Plan for recovery to establish the principles, structures, partnerships and approaches that will guide council
- Secure grants and other funding assistance to support disaster recovery.

## 5. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DOCUMENTS

In addition to this policy, the Council will maintain an Emergency Management Plan, and any other supporting documentation that:

- Describes the strategies and actions that council will take to implement this policy
- Identifies relevant local, regional and state emergency management plans and arrangements that impact upon council
- Responds to guidance for council provided by the SEMP and other emergency management plans, strategies, frameworks and guidelines
- Identifies linkages between emergency management objectives and the Council's strategies and business, financial and other plans.

Council will maintain its commitment to locally relevant plans developed in consultation with the Council. Where Council resource commitments are made in these plans they will be subject to normal strategic and business planning processes of council.

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## 6. MAINTAIN DELEGATIONS

Council will maintain relevant emergency management delegations as listed in **Annex 1**

## 7. FINANCIAL SPENDING DURING EMERGENCIES

Arrangements for financial spending during emergencies are as follows:

### Plant and Equipment – Charges

That Council seek reimbursement, , through the government agency requesting assistance for the full cost recovery of Council staff and plant deployed during an emergency incident at the EB rate and plant hire rate applicable at the commencement date of incident.

## 8. SUPPORT TO CONTROL AGENCIES AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Council works within the requirements of the Work Health and Safety Act 2012. Occasionally council staff and/or equipment will be requested to support control agencies and emergency services in managing an emergencies.

When council resources are made available to support control agencies and emergency services this will be in accordance with:

1. Council's incident operations arrangements
2. LGASA Mutual Protection guide for incident operations
3. The Local Government Incident Operations guide (including i-Responda)

### 8.1. Local Government Functional Support Group

Council is a participating organisation of the Local Government Functional Support Group (LGFSG). The LGFSG has the responsibility of "Coordinating response from local government during an emergency" in accordance with Section 2.2 of Part Two of the State Emergency Management Plan.

### 8.2. Protection

To maintain effective workers compensation and liability coverage, council when supporting the emergency services and control agencies in incident operations will:

- Apply appropriate risk management principles; and
- Have regard to the arrangements of the LGA Asset Mutual Fund, the LGA Workers Compensation Scheme and LGA Mutual Liability Scheme.

To achieve this, council resources will operate in line with the i-Responda operational platform and LGFSG operational arrangements.

## 9. ANNEX

### 9.1. ANNEX 1 – Legislation and delegations

Act or regulations	Delegations
<i>Local Government Act 1999</i>	Yes
<i>Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005 (bushfire)</i>	Yes
<i>Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005 (via State Emergency Management Plan)</i>	
<i>Public Health Act 2011, South Australian Public Health (Legionella) Regulations 2013,</i>	Yes

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<i>South Australian Public Health (Wastewater) Regulations 2013, South Australian Public Health (General) Regulations 2013</i>	
<i>Work Health and Safety Act 2012</i>	Yes
<i>Food Act 2001</i>	Yes
<i>Road Traffic Act 1961, The Road Traffic (Miscellaneous) Regulations 2014 and The Road Traffic (Road Rules – Ancillary And Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations 2014</i>	Yes
<i>Environment Protection Act 1993 and the Environment Protection (Waste To Resources) Policy 2010</i>	Yes
<i>Development Act 1993 and Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016</i>	Yes
<i>Burial and Cremation Act 2013 and Burial and Cremation Regulations 2014</i>	Yes
<i>Local Government (Stormwater management) Amendment Act 2007</i>	
<i>Coast Protection Act 1972</i>	
<i>Electricity (Principles of Vegetation Clearance) Regulations 2010</i>	
<i>Native Vegetation Act 1991</i>	

## 10. RECORDS

All records should be treated in accordance with Local Government GDS40.

## 11. REVIEW AND EVALUATION

This document shall be reviewed by the Council every three (3) years (or on significant change to legislation or aspects included in this policy that could affect the health and safety of workers).

## 12. REVIEW HISTORY

<b>Document History</b>	<b>Version No:</b>	<b>Issue Date:</b>	<b>Description of Change:</b>
	1.0	15.12.20	Adopted refer minute 244/20.