



Emergency management - DPI/LLS alliance

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Policy Statement

Provision of biosecurity, agriculture and animal emergency management involves an alliance between Department of Primary Industries and Local Land Services (the Alliance).

Scope

The Alliance applies to Department of Primary Industries (DPI) and Local Land Services (LLS) at the exclusion of all other agencies.

Requirements

Authority

1. Under NSW State Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN) NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) is the appointed combat agency for biosecurity (animal and plant) emergencies and also a support agency as the Agriculture and Animal Services Functional Area (AASFA) in natural disasters.
2. DPI authority and governance in emergency management are described in the policy Managing biosecurity and natural disaster emergencies.
3. LLS are legislated under the *Local Land Services Act 2013* Section 4 (1) (c) and Section 12.

Emergency Management

4. Agencies of the Alliance provide sufficient resources to organise and manage at local, region and State level:
 - a. Emergency prevention and preparedness including hazard identification, risk assessment, risk mitigation, emergency planning, training, exercising and community engagement
 - b. Emergency response including field operations and incident management
 - c. Emergency recovery including impact assessments, recovery centres, recovery committees and recovery activities.
5. Agencies of the Alliance provide representation (AASFA and DPI (biosecurity)) on local, regional, State and Commonwealth emergency management committees.
6. Agencies of the Alliance provide resources for interstate or Commonwealth controlled biosecurity or natural disaster emergency management activities.

Governance

7. When controlling, organising and managing biosecurity emergency management activities, agencies of the Alliance are performing duties on behalf of DPI.
8. When supporting a combat agency in natural disaster emergency management activities, agencies of the Alliance are performing duties as AASFA (DPI).
9. Following consultation, DPI may delegate responsibility to LLS for biosecurity and natural disaster (AASFA) emergency management activities.
 - a. In delegating responsibility, DPI retains accountability.

- b. LLS accept responsibility for organisation and management of local/regional emergency management activities with DPI support as required.
10. Expenditure associated with emergency management activities may be reimbursed under State and Commonwealth arrangements according to the policy Emergency management - Finance arrangements.

Emergency Operation Centres

- 11. DPI provides and maintains a State Coordination Centre.
- 12. Agencies of the Alliance identify and maintain Local Control Centres across NSW and Forward Command Posts within all LLS regions.

Communication

- 13. Agencies of the Alliance nominate officers to organise and manage communication across the Alliance.

Work Health and Safety

- 14. Agencies of the Alliance adhere to Department of Industry Work Health and Safety policy and procedures when organising and managing emergency management activities.
- 15. A person must comply with their own workplaces procedures when more restrictive.

Procedures

- [Emergency management procedures](#)

Roles and responsibilities

- AASFA Coordinator (DPI):
 - Represent AASFA on State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC).
 - Delegate, where appropriate, AASFA emergency management activities to LLS and Emergency Management Unit.
- DPI Emergency Management Unit:
 - Maintain a State Coordination Centre in conjunction with Corporate Operations.
- DPI Executive Emergency Management Committee:
 - Maintain oversight of State level emergency policy, response and resource allocation.
 - Provide a venue for a State Coordination Centre.
- DPI Regional Director(s):
 - Represent DPI/AASFA on Regional Emergency Management Committees (REMC).
 - Maintain Local Control Centres where located in DPI offices.
 - Implement emergency management policies and plans related to prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.
- DPI State Emergency Coordinator:
 - Deputy AASFA Coordinator
 - Delegate biosecurity emergency management activities to LLS.
 - Implement emergency management policies and plans related to prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.
- Director General DPI:
 - Directs Local Land Services in accordance with the *Local Land Services Act 2013*, Section 12.
- LLS Chair of Board of Chairs:
 - Complies with direction from Director General DPI.
- LLS Board of Chairs:
 - Review recommendations from the Emergency Management Unit quarterly Business Plan report and implement change where appropriate.
- LLS General Manager(s):
 - Make available LLS resources (human and physical) to organise and manage emergency management activities.
 - Accept delegation of biosecurity and AASFA emergency management activities from DPI.
- LLS Manager(s) Biosecurity and Emergency Services (or equivalent nominated by LLS GM):
 - Organise and manage LLS staff to represent DPI/AASFA on Local Emergency Management Committees.
 - Maintain Local Control Centres where located in LLS offices.

- Maintain Forward Command Posts.
- Implement emergency management policies and plans related to prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.

Safety considerations

Safety and wellbeing is enhanced by the requirement for personnel to comply with the emergency management policies, supporting documents, attendance at training and exercises, and assigned roles and responsibilities.

Delegations

- Financial delegations - emergency response delegations.
- Responsibility for organisation and management of emergency management activities at a local/region level may be delegated to LLS by DPI.
- Delegation may occur when:
 - AASFA Coordinator or DPI State Emergency Coordinator provides written or verbal instruction.
 - LLS General Manager(s) accepts the delegation.
 - Appropriate organisation delegations (financial, management etc.) exist to direct resources (physical and human).

Definitions

- **Accountability:** means acknowledgment and assumption of responsibility for actions, products, decisions, and policies, and to be answerable for resulting consequences.
- **Biosecurity emergency:** means an emergency due to an actual or imminent occurrence, affecting or threatening to affect, the economy, environment and public health, and associated with pests, animal and plant diseases (not human) and weeds.
- **Combat agency:** means the agency identified in NSW State Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN) as the agency primarily responsible for controlling the response to a particular emergency.
- **Control:** means the overall direction of the activities, agencies or individuals concerned.
- **Emergency:** means an emergency due to an actual or imminent occurrence which:
 - Endangers, or threatens to endanger, the safety or health of persons or animals in the State; or
 - Destroys or damages, or threatens to destroy or damage, any property in the State, being an emergency which requires a significant and co-ordinated response.
- **Emergency management activities:** means organisation and management of resources for dealing with all aspects of emergencies.
- **Local:** means a geographical area bound within reference of a Local Government Area or LLS region.
- **Natural disaster:** means bushfires, cyclones, earthquakes, floods and storms including hail. For the purposes of this policy, natural disaster also incorporates technological or human caused emergencies, controlled by a combat agency or emergency operations controller e.g. oil spills.
- **Regional:** the State is divided into such regions as the Minister may determine by order published in the Gazette. Any such order may describe the boundaries of a region by reference to local government areas, maps, or otherwise. (Source: *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act, 1989*)
- **Resources:** means physical, including facilities, and human resources.

Legislation

- [Local Land Services Act 2013](#)
- [State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989](#)
- [Work Health and Safety Act 2011](#)

Related policies

- Emergency management - Finance arrangements
- Emergency management - Recruiting personnel
- Emergency management - Working arrangements
- Managing biosecurity and natural disaster emergencies
- [NSW Department of Industry Code of Conduct](#)
- [NSW Department of Industry Records management policy](#)
- [NSW Department of Industry Work Health and Safety Policy](#)

Other related documents

- [DPI & LLS Emergency Management Strategic Plan 2015–2018](#)
- [LLS State Strategic Plan 2016-2026](#)
- [NSW Animal Biosecurity & Welfare Strategic Plan 2015-2018](#)
- [NSW Biosecurity \(Animal and Plant\) Emergency Sub-Plan](#)
- [NSW Biosecurity Strategy, 2013-2021](#)
- [NSW State Agricultural and Animal Services Functional Area Supporting Plan](#)
- [NSW State Emergency Management Plan \(EMPLAN\)](#)

Superseded documents

This policy replaces:

- Nil

Revision history

Version	Date issued	Notes	By
1	22/08/2016	For approval	Emergency Management Officer

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15/09/2019

Contact

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