

State Rescue Board of NSW - Meeting 128

The State Rescue Board of NSW held its second meeting of the year on Thursday 30 August 2018, at the Office of Emergency Management in Sydney.

State Rescue Policy

The Chair of the Capability Working Group provided an update on the status of the draft State Rescue Policy.

The Board agreed that until the full implementation of Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) and Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD), the existing business arrangements remain the same. There is no change to dispatch protocols, which are the responsibility of the NSW Police Force (NSWPF).

The Board also agreed there will no longer be Primary and Secondary General Land Rescue (GLR). Existing units will be recognised as either GLR or Road Crash Rescue (RCR) as appropriate, based on their current competencies. GLR units will be considered the most appropriate unit to respond to an incident, with the exception of MVAs in any of the 11 identified areas, once RCR units have been established and accredited. Any further changes to accreditation will follow the existing process through Local and Regional Rescue Committees, and be based on a robust risk assessment.

The Board endorsed the draft State Rescue Policy, and for it to be circulated to Local and Rescue Regional Committees for their validation. The Board also endorsed the State Rescue Policy Implementation Plan to support the roll-out of the reforms.

Road Crash Rescue – NSW Rural Fire Service

The Board endorsed an application from the NSW Rural Fire Service for pre-accreditation for RCR for its Ellerston Unit. Ellerston/Nowendoc is one of the 11 areas identified by the Capability Matrix Working Group (CMWG) that had rescue service delivery times outside the time limit of 60 minutes for remote and very remote areas.

Ellerston is the first unit to apply for RCR pre-accreditation and the application is a big milestone in progressing the work and recommendations of the CMWG.

General Land Rescue – State Emergency Service

The Board endorsed a request from the NSW State Emergency Service to withdraw from Secondary General Land Rescue for its Cootamundra Unit.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the State Rescue Board is scheduled for Wednesday 14 November 2018 at the Office of Emergency Management in Sydney.