



DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES REPORT

14th February 2006

DSS10 SES ANNUAL REPORT
FILE: * MKF

SUMMARY:

Reporting on the State Emergency Service Annual Report.



DESCRIPTION:

Council has received the Annual Report of the State Emergency Service (SES) for the financial year 2004–2005 and they have asked that the information be brought to the attention of Council.

SES has indicated that for the next three years their priorities will continue to be:

- To work with Councils to improve awareness of the community about how to protect themselves and their property from the effects of floods and storms.
- To work with Councils, where required, to upgrade the facilities and vehicles of the SES units.
- To work with Councils on Floodplain Risk Management Committees to assist in the development and implementation of a floodplain risk management plan for the Council area.
- Further upgrade our flood intelligence so that we may provide timely and accurate information to communities threatened by floods.
- Continue to improve the response capabilities of all SES units by providing:
 - Competency based training to nationally endorsed standards for all major skills;
 - Enhance communications and callout systems; and
 - Increased general support to SES units.

- To further improve the SES capability in Information Management to ensure we use modern technology to better exchange information within the Service and to provide a speedier response to the community.
- Continue to improve the public profile of the SES by working closely with local media, Councils and communities, and utilising our network of SES trained community liaison officers.

The full Annual Report has been provided on CD and is available from Shire Services for anyone who wishes to view it in full. The report is also available from the SES Website www.ses.nsw.gov.au.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- ***Environmental***

Nil

- ***Social***

SES volunteers help their communities cope with emergencies. More than 10,000 volunteers give up their time in over 230 locations throughout NSW to assist their communities during floods, storms and other emergencies.

- ***Economic (Financial)***

Nil

- ***Policy or Statutory***

Nil

- ***Directors Review***

The SES, through its volunteers, provide a vital service in times of crises and Councillors are encouraged to review the Annual Report and to make themselves aware of the Local SES members and their capabilities.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be noted.

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K J Finnie
DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES