

# Emergency Services Reform Office

## Newsletter

Welcome to the second edition of our regular newsletter.

Thank you to everyone that provided feedback and suggestions for this and future editions. Please keep your comments and questions coming in. We will do our best to address them.

### Reference Group

The Reference Group is made up of representatives from the association and unions that represent members within the sector. Members of the Reference Group are:

#### SES Volunteers Association

Susan Caracoussis and Warren Hicks

#### CFS Volunteers Association

Sonia St Alban and Andy Wood

#### United Fire Fighters Union

Barry Luke and Greg Northcott

#### Public Service Association

Kerrin Martin and Daniel Wasyluk

#### Youth Representatives

Scott Kennedy (CFS YAC) and SES (TBA)

The Reference Group is chaired by David Place, Chief Executive of SAFECOM and Chair of the SAFECOM Board.

The Reference Group will be considering their Terms of Reference at their next meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February. Once approved, it will be placed on the Sector Reform section of the SAFECOM website.

### Working Groups

The structure, application process and role descriptions for the working groups will be considered at the next Reference Group meeting. We plan to have the first of the working groups underway by mid-March. We have had a positive response from people wanting to be part of the working groups. These will be skills based, the 'subject matter experts' that will provide expert advice into the functional areas of the new organisation. Please register with the ESRO office to make sure you are sent information on the working groups if you wish to be considered for one (or more).

### Upcoming Dates

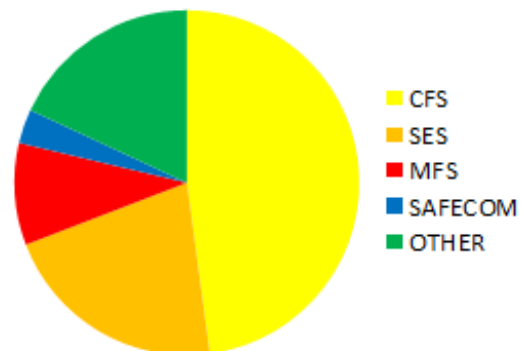
16th February - *applications for the Commissioner close*

23rd February - *Reference Group meeting*

### Submissions to the Discussion Paper

By now most people that provided a submission to the discussion paper should have received a response. We have had some enquiries about whether they will be released publically. To do this, we initially need to ask permission from the authors. We then need to consider whether some of the content needs to remain confidential, such as personal details or details of specific incidents. Once we have consulted with all authors, it is our intention to post the submissions to the Sector Reform section of the SAFECOM website.

We received 86 submissions to the discussion paper, the majority coming from the CFS. The breakdown of responses is represented below:



The key themes from the responses were:

- Training
- Retaining identity
- Zones and Boundaries
- Media and Communications
- Governance models and the Commissioner
- Importance of Volunteers
- Resourcing of the sector

It was obvious that people had spent a lot of time providing submissions and we are very thankful for that. We encourage you to continue to share your thoughts with us.

Please contact us at anytime. Our details are:

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of South Australia