

## **Emergency Services Reform Communiqué 1**

As part of the process of responding to the Holloway Review into the Fire and Emergency Services Act, 2005 and to ensure the emergency service sector is properly resourced to meet future challenges, the Minister for Police and Emergency Services has commenced a series of roundtable discussions with key parties involved in the Emergency Services Sector.

The roundtables are a forum to discuss ways to build upon the existing positive working relationships between the CFS, SES and MFS and the high level of services they deliver to the community.

The first in the series of roundtables, held on 12 June 2014, were very productive resulting in some key guiding principles that will inform any future reform process.

Some of the principles included (but were not limited to):

- One integrated organisation, delivering three services, with the ability to allocate resources and deliver a response on a state-wide basis, reflective of state-wide risks
- Acknowledge the important role volunteers play in the emergency services sector
- Maintain the existing high level of frontline services (and increase the opportunity for greater collaboration/cooperation)
- Retain a level of autonomy (and flexibility) at the local level for volunteers and ensure that they have representation at the highest level of decision making in any proposed sector reform.

These principles, as well as ideas for improvements and issues to be addressed are being further developed and refined through a set of regional visits with key members of the Sector through June, to early August.

The first three regional roundtables have been completed in the Riverland, Port Augusta and Clare. The roundtables were facilitated by the Minister for Emergency Services with over 200 volunteers and staff from the emergency sector in attendance.

So far, the roundtables have been well received with robust debate on how to improve the sector. Participants have expressed a wide range of views which have all been constructive.

Representatives from all organisations will be involved in the consolidation of stakeholder feedback, with the initial engagement process expected to be concluded in September this year. At this point in time no decisions have been made.

Organisations involved in the initial roundtable included representatives from:

- South Australian Police
- SAFECOM
- Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS)
- Country Fire Service (CFS)
- State Emergency Service (SES)
- South Australian Ambulance Service (SAAS)
- United Firefighters Union SA
- CFS Volunteer's Association
- SES Volunteer's Association
- Ambulance Employee Association
- SAAS Volunteer Ambulance Service
- Public Service Association

**An email address has been provided for people to provide their feedback and ideas. Submissions can be sent to: [SAFECOM.SectorReview@sa.gov.au](mailto:SAFECOM.SectorReview@sa.gov.au)**

**Dates of future roundtables area as follows:**

<p><b>Noarlunga</b>            South Adelaide Football Club, 1 Lovelock Drive, Noarlunga Downs            Wednesday 9 July 2014            7.00 – 9.00 pm</p>	<p><b>Hahndorf</b>            Hahndorf Bowling Club, 43 Church Street, Hahndorf            Thursday 24 July 2014            7.00 – 9.00 pm</p>
<p><b>Belair</b>            Belair Country Club, Upper Sturt Road, Belair            Thursday 10 July 2014            7.00 – 9.00 pm</p>	<p><b>Mt Gambier</b>            Lakes Resort, 17 Lakes Terrace, Mount Gambier            Sunday 27 July 2014            7.00 – 9.00 pm</p>
<p><b>Kangaroo Island</b>            Aurora Ozone Hotel, The Foreshore Commercial St, Kingscote            Tuesday 15 July 2014            7.00-9.00 pm</p>	<p><b>Maitland</b>            Maitland Area School (Performing Arts room), Junction Road, Maitland            Tuesday 29 July 2014            6.30 – 8.30 pm</p>
<p><b>Mawson Lakes</b>            The Watershed, 665 Salisbury Highway, Mawson Lakes            Wednesday 23 July 2014            7.00 – 9.00 pm</p>	<p><b>Port Lincoln</b> (note updated date)            Ravendale Community Sports Centre, 40 Stamford Tce, Pt Lincoln            Sunday 3 August 2014            11.00am - 1.00 pm</p>

*Please note: Additional information about venues will be provided closer to the roundtables*