

QUEENSLAND FLOODS COMMISSION OF INQUIRY
SES INFORMATION FOR CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REGIONAL COUNCIL

I [REDACTED] of care of Council Chambers, corner of Egerton Street and Borilla Street, Emerald in the State of Queensland, Chief Executive Officer, Central Highlands Regional Council, declare that:-

The following is a true statement containing my response to the queries raised by the Commission in its letter dated 19 August 2011:

1. The number of members in each State Emergency Service (SES) unit within the Council area.

Group	2009-2010	2010-2011	Total
Blackwater	40	+5	45
Duaringa	8	Steady	8
Emerald	32	+20	52
Gemfields	17	+1	18
Rolleston	18	+3	21
Springsure	7	+2	9
Capella	4	+3	7

2. The equipment, if any, that the Council provided the SES units.

- Computers, printers for all groups
- Mobile phones for all groups
- Satellite phones for Emerald, Springsure and Rolleston
- Electrical Test and Tag unit
- Ride on mower for Capella
- Upgraded printed maps for Emerald/Gemfields
- Chainsaw for Tieri
- Pole saw for Tieri
- Tools and general equipment (where not supplied through EMQ)

3. Whether the Council employed any staff in SES positions on a full-time basis or any other basis; and if so:

- a. The remuneration paid to each staff member; and

There were no staff employed in SES positions. Please note that Council does employ an Emergency Management Coordinator. Part of this role is to provide support to SES groups and the Central Highlands Regional Council.

- b. A copy of each staff member's statement of responsibilities; or, if a statement does not exist, a description of each member's responsibilities.

There were no staff employed in SES positions.

4. A description of the roles or tasks which each SES units in the Council generally performed.

- Flood boat operations
- General Rescue/Recovery Operations
- Rescue Helicopter refuelling
- Road accidents & rescue
- Traffic control
- Storm damage operations
- Welfare community support
- Land searches
- Agency support
- Crime scene searches
- Day, night & weekend training
- Administration
- Maintenance
- Chain saw operations
- Resupply
- Incident management teams (coordination centre)
- Fire Assistance operations
- Communications
- General community assistance at community events
- Fund raising to supplement equipment & facilities
- Community education
- Executive development

5. The form, amount & purpose of funding, if any, the Council provided to SES units.

Capital Works:

- Rolleston Emergency Services Unit (ESU), which is a new facility costing \$468,529.76 to date. The project is near completion with \$270,000 that is State funded. The remainder is to be funded by Central Highlands Regional Council.
- New Gemfields SES facility. \$65,801.72 has been expended to date. The project is due for completion at the end of 2011. The total estimated cost is \$172,700, \$20,605 of which is SES non recurrent funding and \$152,095 is funded by Central Highlands Regional Council.
- Upgrade to the Emerald SES facility (sewerage system). \$26,500 funded by Central Highlands Regional Council.
- Blackwater design work and soil tests for proposed new SES facility. \$70,000 funded by Central Highlands Regional Council.

Operational expenditure;

- Fire extinguishers – testing and maintenance
- Fuel/oils
- Grounds maintenance
- Vehicle expenses
- Pest control
- Insurance
- Waste removal
- Electricity
- Furniture and fittings
- Building maintenance
- Small plant maintenance and repairs
- Plant hire
- Telephones
- Computers

Total cost for financial year 2009/10 - \$50,397.15

Total cost for financial year 2010/11 - \$73,124.90

Central Highlands Regional Council will also cover all nominal rates and charges. For example, for the financial year 2010/11, the expected return from rates and charges would have been \$101,707.5 (waved).

Other committed funds for 2011/12 on going from 2010/11

- Capella SES facility upgrade costing \$20,000
- 4x4 high clearance truck (purpose built) for the Rolleston ESU costing \$97,971.56
- Upgrade of Road Accident Rescue Appliance at Rolleston – no final figure available at this stage
- Data Projector for the Gemfields SES

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the *Oaths Act 1867*.

[Redacted signature]

Declarer

Taken and declared at Emerald this 1st day of September 2011, before me

[Redacted signature]

~~Lawyer/Justice of the Peace/Commissioner of Declarations~~

