

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

30 September 2005

Hon Carmel Zollo MLC
Minister for Emergency Services
Parliament House
North Terrace
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Minister

I am pleased to present to you the Annual Report of the South Australian State Emergency Service for the year ended 30 June 2005 which has been prepared pursuant to Section 7[2] of the *State Emergency Service Act 1987*.

This report highlights our activities in achieving the organisation's vision of having a safe and prepared community. It also outlines the successful delivery of a range of initiatives that contribute to the government's priority under the March 2004 Strategic Plan of building communities by increasing the level of volunteerism.

Yours sincerely

David Place
Chief Officer
SA STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE

FOREWORD

HON CARMEL ZOLLO MLC
MINISTER FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES



This past year has been a challenging one for the State Emergency Service (SASES), with much-appreciated contributions by volunteers and career staff alike during significant events throughout the year. None were more prevalent than the cross-agency assistance provided during the fires of the 10th and 11th of January in the Lower Eyre Peninsula and the tremendous effort shown during and after the storm that struck Karoonda, and during several significant flood and storm damage events.

The SASES served the State proudly during these catastrophic events and the Government, along with all South Australians, are very appreciative of the efforts of all involved. If we didn't have this dedicated service to the community, the tragic results of these incidents could have been much worse.

The increased efforts of the SASES this past year can be seen in the figures collated on emergency activities. During the 2004/05 financial year the State Emergency Service experienced a 39% increase in taskings from the previous financial year. Volunteers and staff attended 4950 incidents totalling 74,736 operational hours. SASES personnel have risen to the challenge presented to them, which is indicative of the extra effort that Units have put into training for emergencies.

I was pleased to be able to witness several very important training events this year, including the Joint Emergency Services State Road Crash Rescue Challenge 2005 in April at the Wayville Showgrounds.

The SASES provides an environment in which training can take place in a safe and effective manner. It is through this learning that the volunteers and staff are best placed to assist their communities in time of need, and therefore the link between learning and response and recovery is a closely forged one.

The Government has been pleased to be able to increase funding for the State's Emergency Services steadily over recent years without the need to increase the amount of the Emergency Services Levy.

On behalf of the Government I would like to thank all the SASES volunteers and staff for their dedicated commitment, and of course their families for their support, to a much needed and worthwhile service that is provided to the South Australian community. Keep up the great work.

CHIEF OFFICER'S REVIEW

**DAVID PLACE
CHIEF OFFICER
STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE**



After commencing in the position of Chief Officer of the SA State Emergency Service [SASES] in July 2004, one of my key initiatives was to commence a strategic planning process to move the organisation forward. A realignment of the management structure was effected to provide more focus on frontline business and improve responsiveness to the community and volunteers and to meet government expectations.

An assessment of the organisational effectiveness of the SASES resulted in the report 'The Case for Change' in 2004 which was produced as an interim Strategic Plan. The key outcomes of this report were to:

- reduce the OHS&W risks through analysis of hazards and development of resources and programs to address them
- implement the mandated Government financial management framework
- raise the profile of the organisation to improve both retention and recruiting opportunities
- realign the organisation's management structure to provide more frontline support to volunteers
- introduce community safety programs to reduce community risk

With the new operational structure formally in place on 2 May 2005, the SASES is now in a position to provide effective emergency management planning services, including risk reduction strategies which will help build community capacity. The SASES operational Regions were reduced from nine to four, but the number of resources in the new Regions were increased to enable guaranteed operational response and better management of finances and OH&S issues.

The new structure also saw the appointment of a Business Manager, Corporate Communications Manager, Executive Project Officer and funding provided to SAFECOM for a dedicated SASES OHS&W Officer. These extra positions were created through efficiencies enabled by the organisational restructure.

With a large increase in the numbers of emergencies responded to by the SASES during 2004/05 from the previous financial year, our volunteers and staff were kept very busy. I thank them sincerely and their families, employers and particularly the self-employed, for the continued support and enthusiasm provided to the sector. I look forward to working with them in the coming year.

September 2005

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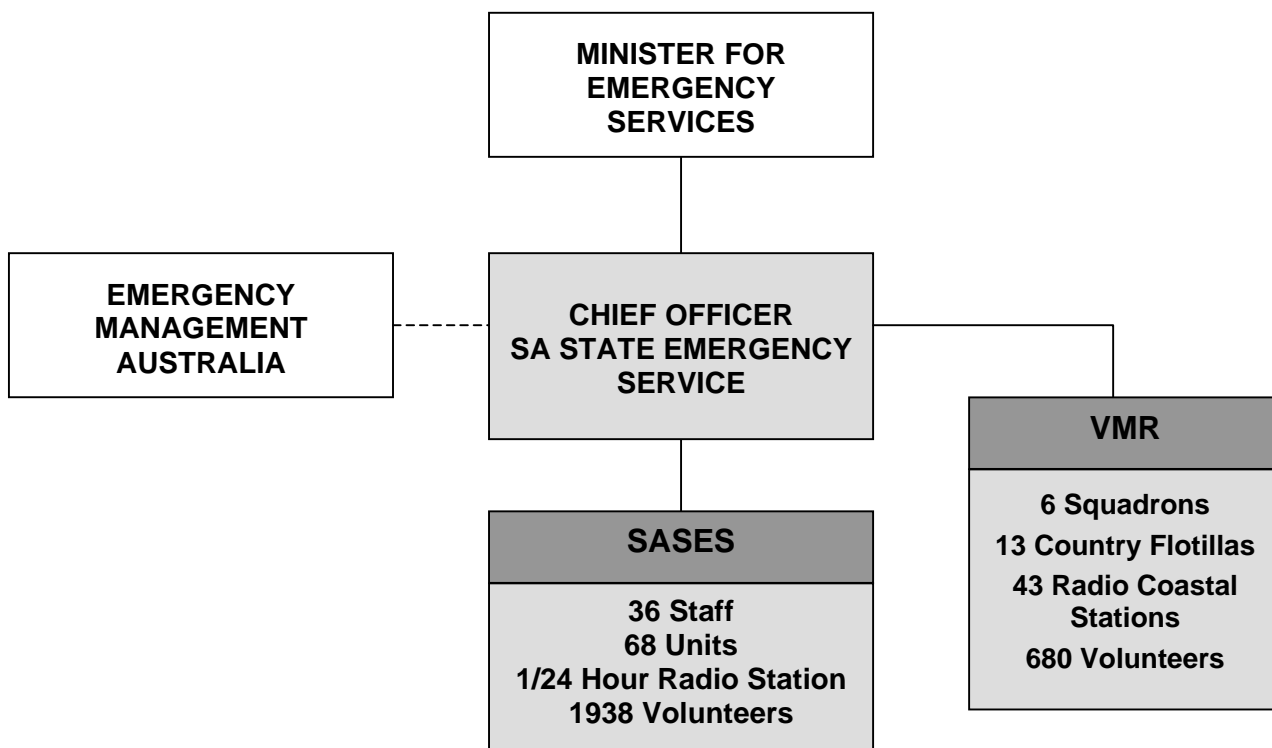
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HIGHLIGHTS

- The report 'The Case for Change' was produced in 2004 as an interim Strategic Plan for SASES. As a result, a realignment of the management structure was effected from 2 May 2005 to provide more focus on frontline business and improve responsiveness to the community and volunteers and to meet government expectations.
- The SASES operational Regions were reduced from nine to four, but the number of resources in the new Regions were increased to enable guaranteed operational response and better management of finances and OH&S issues.
- SASES initiated a program of re-establishing contact with all Local Councils to develop solid relationships and has been very pleased with the results of the meetings.
- A review of remote communications provided the allocation of satellite phones for Units and staff who respond to areas outside the GRN coverage area.
- Two more State training officers were added to the SASES training team.
- Development and implementation of a Road Crash Rescue Training Resource Kit, Induction and Basic Skills Training Resource Kit and Map Reading and Navigation Training Resource Kit, has been achieved.
- There was a 21% reduction of new injury claims, a 92% reduction in new claim financial costs and a 98.4% reduction in the average days lost through injury when compared to the 2003/04 financial year.
- In conjunction with the Bureau of Meteorology and Planning SA, SASES compiled a set of eight Flood Inundation/Flood Hazard Maps for the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges. These maps will be utilised for both flood mitigation and flood response planning purposes and will be updated on an annual basis.
- The new SASES logo was developed, approved and implemented via a new style manual provided to all staff and volunteers. New brochures, posters and display panels were produced showing a clean, modern image of the Service. A new media database, media release formats and background information was developed to provide improved services and information flow to media outlets.
- Funding was provided for the construction of a purpose built rescue vessel for Tumby Bay which was put into service in March 2005.
- The first Joint Emergency Services State Road Crash Rescue Challenge 2005 was held in April at Wayville Showgrounds at which 12 teams from SASES, SACFS, SAMFS and a visiting team from Werribee CFA Victoria, competed against each other in a spirit of friendly rivalry.
- A new headquarters and radio base for the Air-Sea Rescue Cowell Squadron was completed.
- A new Regional Headquarters was constructed at Pt Pirie to be occupied in August 2005. This new facility provides office accommodation and a Regional Coordination Centre for the North Region.

SA STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE

OPERATIONAL REPORTING CHART



VISION

- *A safe and prepared community*

MISSION STATEMENT

- To provide an effective rescue service for the community of South Australia by State Emergency Service Units rendering immediate assistance during emergencies and disasters.
- To provide management and support to the State Disaster Organisation by ensuring an effective and coordinated response capability at all levels and to maintain efficient measures for the delivery of disaster recovery programs for the community of South Australia.
- To assist the community to cope with natural, or other, emergencies.

VALUES

Service	We are committed to serving and protecting the communities in which we live.
Integrity	We promote honesty, trust, mutual respect and ethical behaviour.
Volunteer Ethic	Our peoples' commitment and willingness to give without expecting reward.
Teamwork	Our Service is enhanced by the strength of our teamwork and a unified sense of purpose. We value people as our most important resource.
Accountability	We are accountable for the resources we receive as a public emergency service.
Learning	We value and promote learning opportunities by sharing knowledge and skills, and learning from others.

BACKGROUND

The State Emergency Service [SASES] is a volunteer emergency service established to render immediate assistance during emergencies and disasters, and to assist the community to be prepared and to cope with emergency situations.

The *State Emergency Service Act 1987*, formalises the Service's identity.

The role of the Service falls into three main categories:

- Local Incident Role [day-to-day]
- Disaster role
- Disaster Management Planning and Training

The SASES cooperates closely with the other statutory emergency services to counter the effect of emergencies in South Australia. It attracts the combined support of State and Commonwealth, as well as commerce, industry, community groups and the general public.

Recent years have seen a much greater involvement by SASES Units in the mitigation of the effects of storm and flood. In the Fire and Emergency Services Bill 2004, to be proclaimed on 1 October 2005, SASES has, amongst its other responsibilities, 'to deal with any emergency - where the emergency is caused by flood or storm damage'. This legislation confirms what had previously been a presumed, but not legislated, role of SASES.

Whilst the SASES is an operational emergency service, State Headquarters staff and Regional Commanders also have a significant role in State and Zone Emergency Management planning. This is in addition to their responsibilities for operational matters directly related to SASES Units.

The SASES Headquarters is located at:

Level 7
60 Waymouth Street
ADELAIDE SA 5000
Telephone: [08] 8463 4171
Facsimile: [08] 8410 3115
Website: www.ses.sa.gov.au

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Emergency Planning and Management

- Emergency management and special contingency plans have been prepared, reviewed and validated.
- The State and Zone Emergency Operations Centres have been maintained in a state of readiness and assessments have been undertaken of the effectiveness of such Centres.
- Links between and within the Functional Services have been coordinated and enhanced.
- Community awareness programs have been developed and promoted.

Emergency Responses

- SASES response and operational management procedures have been refined during the 2004/05 financial year.
- The SASES has embarked on a program of enhancing capabilities towards a more comprehensive approach to incident management. The Service has adopted the Preparedness, Prevention, Response and Recovery [PPRR] concept in all incident planning and management.
- Accredited SASES rescue Units are strategically deployed in both urban and rural centres across South Australia and the current deployment has been validated by basic community risk assessment processes.

Key Principles

SASES has adopted a more vigorous community profile as a strong and viable rescue and planning service. The following key principles continue to serve as the cornerstone of SASES community involvement:

- The involvement of trained and disciplined SASES rescue personnel in the response to a broad range of emergency incidents.
- Planning for the State rescue response to disaster situations.
- The provision of community education and awareness programs across South Australia.
- The development of emergency management plans at all levels.
- The provision of expert advice to organisations, agencies and the community.

Standard of Emergency Response

The SASES Standards of Emergency Response [SOER] form the basis for measuring and assessing the response capability of the Service. These Standards ensure that the South Australian community is adequately protected from the dangers arising from certain emergency situations, and they provide for:

- Ensuring that SASES Units are staffed, equipped and trained to meet the roles and functions of the Service, as determined by the *State Emergency Service Act* and Regulations.
- Establishing minimum response times and performance levels.
- The future development of the Service in meeting its community responsibilities.
- The development of strategies for the most effective utilisation of resources.

The Standards address the issues of the geographic location, specialist roles and future placement of volunteer rescue Units, as well as setting the benchmarks for 'best practice' within which SASES Units operate.

SASES FUNCTIONS

Statutory Role

Under the *State Emergency Service Act 1987*, the functions of the SASES are to:

- assist the Commissioner of Police in dealing with any emergency;
- assist the State Coordinator, in accordance with the State Disaster Plan (now the State Emergency Management Plan), in carrying out counter-disaster operations under the *State Disaster Act 1980 (now the Emergency Management Act 2004)*.
- assist the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service [SAMFS] and the South Australian Country Fire Service [SACFS] in dealing with emergencies in accordance with the Acts under which those authorities are established;
- deal with an emergency where no other body or person has lawful authority to assume command of operations for dealing with the emergency;
- deal with an emergency until such time as any other body or person that has lawful authority to assume command of operations for dealing with the emergency has assumed command;
- respond to emergency calls and, where appropriate, provide assistance in any situation of need, whether or not the situation constitutes an emergency; and
- carry out such other functions as may be assigned to the Service by this Act or any other Act, or by the Minister.

Disaster Role

In addition to the above functions, the SASES is designated as a Functional Service under the State Emergency Management Plan. In a declared State of Disaster or Major Emergency Incident, the SASES has the following role:

- To provide reconnaissance, search and rescue and immediate sustenance within the disaster area and to provide a mitigation response to storms and floods.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Executive

5 July 04 – 30 June 05 Chief Officer	David PLACE
1 July 04 – 22 August 04 Deputy Director	Nathaniel COOKE
Acting 23 August 04 – 13 February 05 14 February 05 – 30 June 05 Deputy Chief Officer	Stuart MACLEOD, ESM
Acting Executive Personal Assistant	Mary NOORLANDER
31 January 05 – 30 June 05 Executive Project Officer	Robyn FARAGUNA

Functional Managers

7 February 05 – 30 June 05 Manager, Corporate Communications	Judith BLEECHMORE
29 March 05 – 30 June 05 Business Manager	Tony BOYS
Manager, Assets & Infrastructure	Richard COOMBE
Manager, Training and Development	April COOPER
Manager, Volunteer Marine Rescue	Alan CORMACK
State Disaster Management Training Officer	Allan McDOUGALL, ESM
State Disaster Management Planning Officer	Robert STEVENSON

Regional Commanders

Central	John THORNE, ESM
East	Greg REEDMAN
North	Matthew MAYWALD
West	Robert CHARLTON

SASES ADMINISTRATION

The Chief Officer is responsible for managing the SASES and for disaster management matters.

As State Controller [SASES] under the State Emergency Management Plan, the Chief Officer assumes full operational control of the SASES and its participating organisations, as listed in the State Emergency Management Plan, when major emergencies or disasters are declared, or at other times when the Plan is implemented.

The Deputy Chief Officer is responsible for day-to-day management matters and is directly responsible for the four Regional Commanders. In a declared major emergency or disaster, the Deputy Chief Officer assumes the role of Deputy State Controller [SASES] and acts for the State Controller [SASES] in his, or her, absence.

There are twelve Headquarters staff, and including SEOC and divisional personnel, a total staff of 36, equating to 34 full time equivalents.

STRENGTH OF THE SASES

The number of operational SASES Units stands at 68, including the State Headquarters Unit, which provides operational support at State Headquarters, and in the SEOC. All Units are registered under the *State Emergency Service Act 1987*. As at 30 June 2005, the SASES comprised:

Staff	Volunteers	Registered Units
36 [34 FTE]	1938	68 1 - 24 Hour Radio Station

The ratio of staff to volunteer members is 1:53. The variation in the membership data is as a result of the change of reporting criteria from 2003/04.

SASES INFRASTRUCTURE

Volunteer Units

The 68 Volunteer SASES Units provide a community-based emergency response service across most of South Australia. Units are particularly active in mitigating the effects of floods and storms, but also respond to a very broad range of rescue tasks. SASES Units support the activities of all other Emergency Services and the Service is one of the 14 Functional Services identified in the State Emergency Management Plan. The SASES forms an integral part of the South Australian Urban Search and Rescue Task Force currently being trained and organised.

The organisation is trained as a specialist Rescue Service, and SASES Units, depending on their geographic location and assessed community risks, provide a wide range of rescue and support services. These services include:

- Road Crash Rescue
- Storm Damage & Flood Mitigation
- Land Search

- Structural Collapse Rescue
- Animal Rescue
- Vertical Rescue of all forms [cliffs, caves & structures]
- Marine Search & Rescue [rivers, lakes and sea]
- General and Disaster Rescue

The volunteer members of the Service continue to enjoy the respect of members of other Emergency Services and the community. Morale is high and members exhibit great pride and loyalty in their Service. In 2004/05, the SASES performed 4950 operational tasks involving some 74 736 operational hours. This represents a 39% increase in taskings and a 21.4% increase in operational hours over 2003/04.

Permanent Staff

During 2004/05, the Service was realigned to more effectively manage its roles and functions. The previous organisational structure comprised a small staff at State Headquarters Adelaide, working to the volunteer Units through nine [9] Regional HQs, each staffed by a Regional Manager and an Administrative Officer.

Following a prolonged period of consultation, the Service realignment now comprises four [4] SASES operational Regions. Each of the Regions is staffed by a Regional Commander, with staffing levels appropriate to community size and risk. In three of the four Regions, the Regional Commander is supported by a Senior Regional Officer and each Region has a Business Support Officer, an Administrative Officer and at least one Training Officer. Realignment of the organisation structure was achieved by the re-deployment of existing Service personnel.

At State HQ level, the Chief Officer and Deputy Chief Officer are supported by a team of specialist functional managers responsible for Training and Development, Asset Management, Business Services, Volunteer Marine Rescue [VMR], and Corporate Communications/Media.

The primary function of all paid staff is the provision of direct support, advice and leadership to the volunteers of the Service. To this end, the management team has been entitled the Leadership and Support Team [LAST]. This development is a clear signal to the membership of the respective roles of both elements of the Service.

State and Regional operational officers manage significant operational incidents and coordinate the involvement of volunteer Units in the response to multi-Unit and multi-task incidents.

One of the specialist elements of the State Headquarters is the team of three personnel employed in Disaster Management Services. This team comprises specialist managers of emergency management training and planning, supported by an Administrative Officer. Located at the State Emergency Operations Centre, the team manages the centre on a day-to-day basis and, working through the Security and Emergency Management Office [SEMO], provides planning, training, exercise and operational support to the State Coordinator and State Emergency Management Organisation.

FINANCE

The SASES has been funded from monies collected through the Community Emergency Services Levy Fund. See Statement of Financial Performance.

The *Emergency Services Funding Act 1998* provides for collection of a levy on fixed and mobile property in place of the charging of contributions from insurance companies, local Government authorities and State Government. The SASES had not been a recipient of contributions from insurance companies but now benefits directly from the Fund. The change represents a more equitable distribution of the cost to the community for providing emergency services.

COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT FUNDING

The Commonwealth Government provides a Staff Salaries Subsidy Program as part of the State Support Package. In addition to that program, South Australia obtains benefits from the Commonwealth through:

- limited funding to assist the State Disaster Committee;
- nominations to training activities at the Emergency Management Australia Institute [the costs of which are met by Emergency Management Australia] and the conduct of extension disaster management training courses in South Australia; and
- the provision of public information material, including training manuals, pamphlets, brochures etc, which are distributed by SASES.

SALARIES SUBSIDY PROGRAM

The Commonwealth, through Emergency Management Australia, [EMA] continued to subsidise the State Government salaries of the nine Managers and the State Emergency Management Training and Planning Officers.

The Commonwealth subsidy received for these eleven positions in 2004/05 was at the rate of \$38 000 per position, a total of \$418 000.

SPONSORSHIP/DONATIONS

The SASES gratefully acknowledges the many sponsors and donors who have supported the Service through cash or material donations throughout the year.

FRAUD

There have been no incidents of fraud committed in the SASES during the 2004/05 financial year.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

	Energy Use [GJ]	Expenditure [\$]	GHG Emissions
Baseline	476		146 tonnes
Target	449		138 tonnes
Year Being Reported	444	16 659	137 tonnes

ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT

A review of SASES Units for the presence of asbestos was undertaken through the Asset Management branch of SAFECOM between February and May 2005. JTA Risk Management was awarded the contract for the review and inspections were conducted on twenty-eight stand-alone sites and nineteen shared sites across the State.

Warning labels were placed in Units where asbestos materials were located and testing samples were taken for laboratory analysis, where applicable. At present the asbestos registers, together with all necessary policies and procedures information, are being drafted by JTA Risk Management and will be placed into Units during the first and second quarters of 2005/06.

Following completion of the Asbestos Registers, an asbestos management plan and asbestos risk reduction program will be developed in accordance with obligations under the Occupational Health, Safety & Welfare Act.

(See Appendix 3 Table for Asbestos Priority & Removal Activities)



SASES OPERATIONS



STUART MACLEOD
Deputy Chief Officer

GOAL

- To provide an effective rescue service for the community of South Australia.

PRIORITISED STRATEGY

SASES Units, depending on geographic location and assessed community risks, provide a wide range of rescue and support services. These services include:

- road crash rescue
- storm damage and flood mitigation
- land search
- animal rescue
- vertical rescue of all forms [cliffs, caves and structures]
- marine search and rescue [rivers, lakes and sea]
- general and disaster rescue

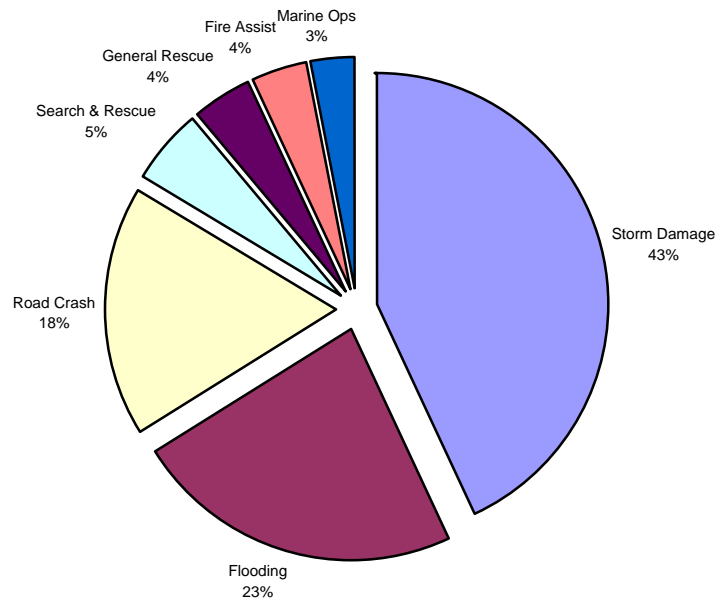
INCIDENT STATISTICS

A breakdown of major activities for the last six years is as follows:

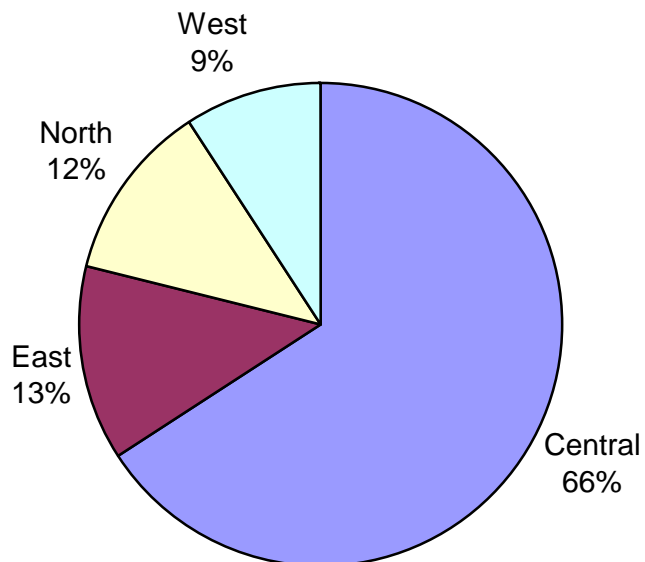
	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Vehicular Crash	553	580	655	630	653	720
Storm Damage	1490	1332	1487	2661	1657	1763
Assistance at Fires	67	333	75	104	68	161
Search & Rescue	213	125	143	418	213	218
Marine Operations	89	84	86	100	110	129
Flood	535	433	270	403	227	944
Miscellaneous/Other	1645	1328	1258	1175	1020	1015
TOTAL	4592	4215	3974	5491	3948	4950

NOTE: 'Miscellaneous' includes such incidents as aircraft emergencies, provision of first aid, animal rescues, assistance in evacuations, provision of power and lighting, assistance at HAZMAT incidents, provision of emergency feeding, provision of communications and assistance to Police such as crowd control at major functions.

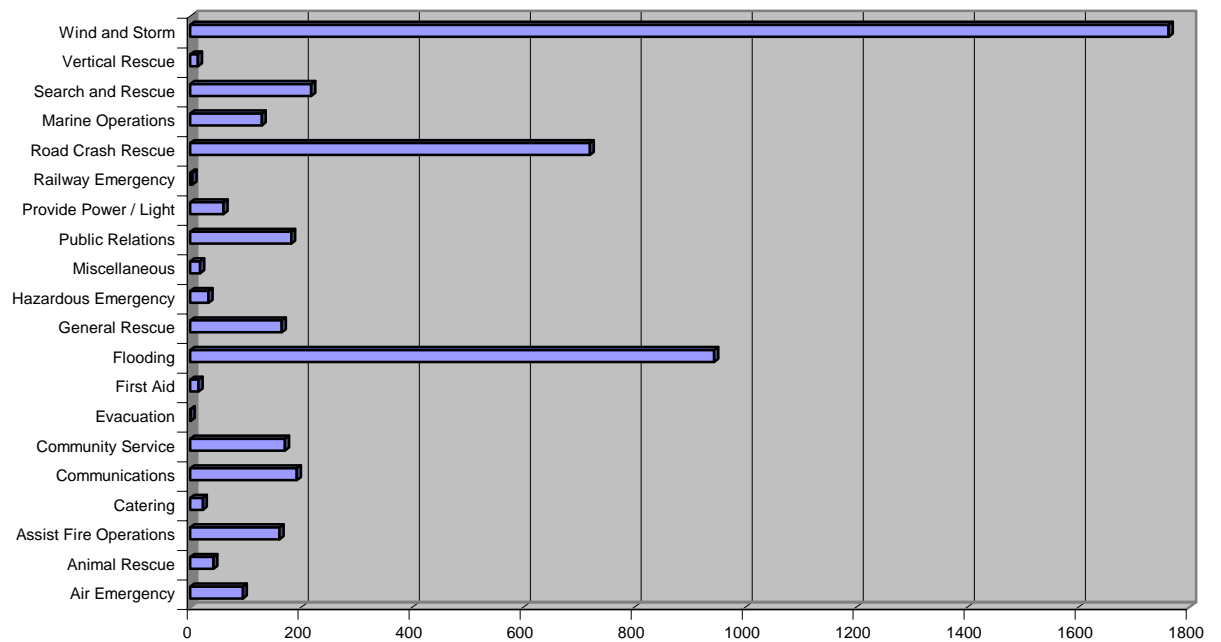
INCIDENTS FOR 2004/05



REGIONAL OPERATIONS RESPONSE 2004/05



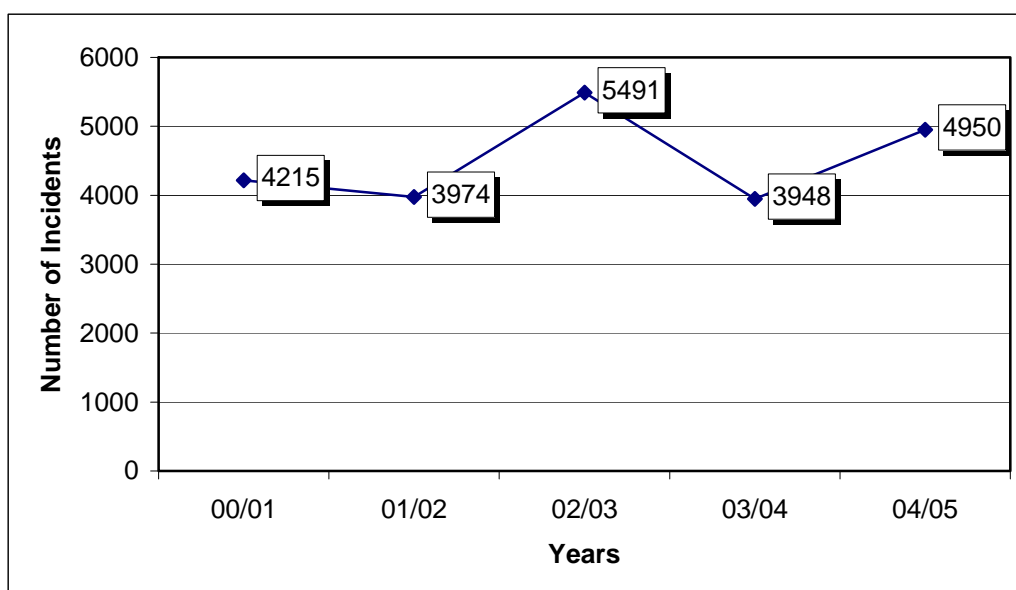
TOTAL NUMBER OF RESPONSES BY CATEGORIES



OPERATIONAL RESPONSE COMPARISON

	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Air Emergency	54	32	32	32	28	95
Animal Rescue	43	39	55	62	34	42
Assist Fire Operations	67	333	75	104	68	161
Catering	67	101	62	52	32	23
Communications	333	271	154	220	150	192
Community Service	512	267	298	261	223	171
Evacuation	8	7	13	11	2	1
First Aid	17	33	51	29	17	15
Flooding	535	433	270	403	227	944
General Rescue	102	108	112	136	138	165
Hazardous Emergency	33	41	28	38	26	33
Miscellaneous	143	132	171	184	101	18
Public Relations	251	203	210	220	189	182
Provide Power & Light	55	67	54	61	63	60
Railway Emergency	8	8	3	5	3	4
Road Crash Rescue	553	580	655	630	653	720
Marine Operations	89	84	86	100	110	129
Search and Rescue	213	125	143	255	213	218
Vertical Rescue	19	19	15	27	14	14
Wind & Storm	1490	1332	1487	2661	1657	1763
Total	4592	4215	3974	5491	3948	4950

CHART OF INCIDENTS 2000/05



SUMMARY OF UNIT RESPONSES - YEAR 2004/05

ADELAIDE HILLS	202	MINTABIE	10
ANDAMOOKA	19	MT GAMBIER & DISTRICT	195
BARMERA	59	MURRAY BRIDGE & DISTRICT	294
BERRI	120	NOARLUNGA	365
BLANCHETOWN	32	NORTHERN DISTRICTS	373
BOOLEROO CENTRE	20	NULLARBOR	1
BORDERTOWN	30	NUNDROO	2
BURRA	6	ONKAPARINGA	95
BUTE	14	PORT AUGUSTA	68
CAMPBELLTOWN	131	PORT BROUGHTON	31
CEDUNA	31	PORT LINCOLN	97
CLARE	35	PORT PIRIE	96
CLEVE	16	PROSPECT	199
COCKBURN	0	QUORN	12
COOBER PEDY	13	RENMARK – PARINGA	65
CUMMINS	32	RIVERLAND HQ	13
DOG OPERATIONS UNIT	90	ROXBY DOWNS	19
EASTERN SUBURBS	135	SADDLEWORTH & DISTRICT	15
ENFIELD	178	SNOWTOWN	23
EYRE HEADQUARTERS	53	SOUTH COAST	43
HALLETT	20	SOUTH EAST HQ UNIT	7
HAWKER & DISTRICT	17	SPALDING	14
KANGAROO ISLAND	16	STATE HQ UNIT	40
KAPUNDA	53	STRATHALBYN	66
KEITH	44	STREAKY BAY	1
KIMBA	17	STURT	286
KINGSTON SE	23	TEA TREE GULLY	251
LAURA	24	TUMBY BAY	36
LEIGH CREEK	0	WAROOKA	27
LOXTON	57	WATTLE RANGE	43
MAITLAND	26	WESTERN ADELAIDE	124
MARLA	0	WHYALLA	157
MENINGIE	30	WUDINNA	0
METRO SOUTH	201	YANKALILLA	31
WILLSDEN	7	TUMBY BAY VMR	100
TOTAL INCIDENTS		4950	

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

The total incidents attended this financial year are over a thousand more than the previous year. A significant number of storm or flood events required an enormous effort on the part of our volunteers, particularly in the Adelaide metropolitan area.

Significant storm or flood events resulted in the following responses to calls for help from the community:

DATE	TASKS
03/08/04	130
09/12/04	251
03/01/05	144
20-22/6/05	509

Storm and flood tasks form the majority of emergency work undertaken by the SASES.

CALL TAKING

The SASES provides specialist rescue services to the community of South Australia on a 24 hour basis.

The SACFS, through its 24 hour rostered Operations Centre, receives operational calls for assistance and deploys SASES Units State-wide.

In the event of major operational incidents, or highly specialised incidents such as search and structural collapse, the rostered SASES State Duty Officer works in concert with the SACFS Operations Centre Officers to coordinate response.

STATE DUTY OFFICER

At State level, one of the key paid operational officers acts as State Duty Officer on a weekly standby roster. It is the role of this officer to coordinate the activities of the SASES Units and of the SACFS Operations Centre Officers in their call receipt and dispatch role.

The State Duty Officer is available 24 hours per day, and manages incidents such as search, structural collapse, air operations and multi-Unit or multi-task operations.

In major operations such as wind storms, the State Duty Officer will activate the SASES State Control Centre, and move to the role of SASES Operations Commander to directly manage the response phase of the incident.

CO-LOCATION OF SASES AND SACFS STATE HEADQUARTERS

GOAL

- To maximise the delivery of emergency services to the community.

PRIORITISED STRATEGIES

In 1997, the decision was taken to co-locate the State Headquarters of the SASES and the SACFS so as to maximise the delivery of services to the community and to combine corporate services.

The SASES and SACFS headquarters co-location is working very well with enhanced interaction between Service personnel.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

An enhanced service to the community and the State of South Australia.



ASSETS AND INFRASTRUCTURE



RICHARD COOMBE
Manager, Assets & Infrastructure

GOAL

- To provide modern communications equipment and systems to deal with emergency situations.

PRIORITISED STRATEGY

Use modern communication technology to provide the Service with equipment and systems to enable its volunteers to respond to and coordinate emergency situations. This involves the use of a variety of systems, including fixed and mobile phones, pagers, the Government Radio Network and other long-range radio networks.

ACHIEVEMENTS THIS YEAR

The Government Radio Network is the backbone of the SASES communications network. The system provides a trunked radio network, as well as paging network.

The paging network provides a greater coverage than any commercially available systems. This year the SASES commenced the revision of the paging system to optimise use of the existing system. This revision was linked to operational changes with the development of Regional based pager groupings. The review will also provide pagers for all operational staff.

A review of remote communications also provided the allocation of satellite phones for Units and staff who would respond to areas outside the GRN coverage area.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

A review of remote communications to incorporate the most cost effective and user-friendly system to ensure volunteers and staff have reliable communications to meet our Occupational Health Welfare and Safety obligations into the future.

The SASES will maximise the opportunities that present by embracing the new South Australian Computer Aided Dispatch System.

VEHICLE & VESSEL PROGRAM

GOAL

- To provide SASES Units with vehicles and vessels that provide a timely, safe and reliable response to any emergency that may affect the communities they serve.

PRIORITISED STRATEGY

To manage the replacement program in order to provide modern rescue vehicles by replacing vehicles that are reaching the end of their useful life in the first instance. To maximise the return on capital by managing the fleet through relocating vehicles in accordance with usage patterns and the SASES Standards of Emergency Response criteria.

ACHIEVEMENTS THIS YEAR

This year new Standard Rescue Vehicles were commissioned for Adelaide Hills, Strathalbyn, Laura, Kapunda, Ceduna, Tumby Bay and Booleroo Centre SASES Units. A flat bed truck with a tailgate lifter was built as a dual logistics and rescue vehicle for Northern Districts SASES Unit.

Two Remote Response Vehicles were designed and commissioned primarily for road crash rescue at Nullabor and Ceduna. These vehicles were designed to be operated by minimal staff, taking into account the population in these areas.

Seven Heavy Towing Vehicles were purchased to meet the dual requirements of logistics and towing capability. These vehicles, designed to tow boats, horse floats and USAR trailers were deployed to Ceduna, Tumby Bay, Kapunda, Sturt, Noarlunga, Tea Tree Gully and Barmera.

In March 2005 a new purpose-built rescue vessel was put into service for Tumby Bay to meet community risk associated with the lower Spencer Gulf area.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The SASES is committed to the continual replacement of vehicles as they reach the end of their economic life. Further research and evaluation is being conducted to ensure that response vehicles meet the operational needs of Units. This may result in various types of vehicles being acquired in order that the SASES can effectively mitigate community risk.



BUILDING PROGRAM

GOAL

- To provide a supply and maintenance program for all SASES Unit buildings of a standard to deliver a 30-year life span. This will be applied to repairs and regular maintenance to lift the buildings to an acceptable quality for safety of personnel and storage of valuable equipment.

PRIORITISED STRATEGY

To work in cooperation with other Emergency Service organisations in order to maximise efficiencies by co-location of facilities, where appropriate and feasible.

To develop a building and maintenance program to provide facilities that meet the operational needs of the SASES.

ACHIEVEMENTS THIS YEAR

This year has seen funding focused on refurbishment of existing premises to extend the facilities' useable life. Projects completed this year include Strathalbyn building alterations, minor works at Noarlunga, Northern Districts, Barmera, Murray Bridge and Maitland.

An engineering review was conducted of most facilities to ensure that appropriate fixing points were rated for vertical rescue training. An asbestos review was conducted on all facilities to meet legislative requirements.

A new Regional Headquarters is being constructed at Pt Pirie which is due to be occupied in August 2005. This new facility provides office accommodation and a Regional Coordination Centre for the North Region.

Significant preliminary work has been conducted for next year's ambitious building program with new buildings and major renovations at Mt Gambier, Snowtown, Tea Tree Gully, Wattle Range, Hallett, Andamooka and Mt Barker, with all projects expected to be completed in the next financial year.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The priority has been to bring Units' buildings up to an acceptable standard to maximise their useable life. It has now reached a stage where it is no longer economic to refurbish some buildings and they need to be replaced.

The next few years will see a number of new buildings constructed. Where possible, co-located facilities will be pursued to maximise the use of buildings with shared facilities. This direction provides the most cost-effective solution, enabling funds for the replacement of more Units.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT PROGRAM



The Personal Protective Equipment [PPE] Program in the 2004/05 financial year, provided equipment for centralised issue to a total value of \$300 000 to SASES volunteers across the State.

The program provides for the centralised purchase and distribution of items of protective clothing and equipment essential to the safety of SASES personnel operating in the field during a wide range of hazardous tasks.

Close liaison has been maintained with SASES Units and Regions to ensure that the equipment acquired and issued meets operational requirements.

OVERSEAS TRAVEL 2004/05

Number of Employees	Destination/s	Reasons for Travel	Total Cost to Agency \$
1	Singapore	Urban Search & Rescue Conference	2135

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

As a requirement of the *Freedom of Information Act 1991*, Section 9, it is advised that no requests for access to documents pursuant to the *Freedom of information Act* were received in the reporting year.

CONSULTANCIES

Two consultancies were undertaken by the SASES during the reporting period, as follows:

Consultant	Service Provided	Cost \$
John Moroney	OHS&W audit of SASES Units [Adelaide Hills, Berri, Ceduna, Eastern Suburbs, Noarlunga, Pt Lincoln, Renmark, South Coast, Western Adelaide] Identified system deficiencies across SASES and localised safety issues that have been addressed.	11 141
SAI Global	Review of management systems	8 000
TOTAL		\$19 141

THE SASES STAFF WORKFORCE

GOAL

- To implement Human Resource Management strategies which address all personnel and industrial relations matters and results in employees being treated fairly and equitably.

PRIORITISED STRATEGY

To ensure that the organisation of the SASES meets contemporary standards to fulfil the roles and responsibilities of SASES under the State Emergency Service Act.

Stream	ONGOING			CONTRACT			TOTAL		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
ASO2		8	8					8	8
ASO3		5	5					5	5
ASO4		3	3					3	3
ASO5	2		2				2		2
ASO6	2	2	4				2	2	4
ASO7	5		5				5		5
OPS5	6		6				6		6
MAS3	1		1	1		1	2		2
EXE				1		1	1		1
TOTAL	16	18	34	2		2	18	18	36

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES BY SALARY BRACKET			
Salary Bracket	Male	Female	Total
\$0 - \$38 599		9	9
\$38 600 - \$49 999		7	7
\$50 000 - \$65 999	10	2	12
\$66 000 - \$85 999	7		7
\$86 000+	1		1
TOTAL	18	18	36

LEAVE MANAGEMENT

	2004/05	2003/04	2002/03
Average number of sick leave days taken per FTE	3.27	3.82	5.11
Average number of family carer leave days taken per FTE	0.06	0.24	0.06

No Special Leave With Pay was taken for the reporting period.

The SASES is covered by the Emergency Services Administration Unit's policies on voluntary flexible working arrangements.

State Headquarters and Regional Management Staff make use of flexible working arrangements in order to meet the requirement of SASES volunteers who are usually only available outside of normal working hours.

Two full-time administrative officer [ASO-2] positions are filled through job share arrangements between four members of staff.

STAFF TRAINING

\$51 445 was spent on training for paid SASES staff in the reporting period.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Phase 2 of the restructure is continuing with a review of the corporate position and a performance appraisal system for functional managers.
- The Education, Training and Development function of SASES focuses on the development of knowledge and ability to ensure we build our capability. SASES will support the organisation structure with a holistic 'people plan' that incorporates contemporary strategies and facilitates – effective recruiting to meet organisational needs, effective performance management, appropriate succession planning and effective career development. This includes the strategy to integrate and develop an aligned volunteer and staff development framework.

ROAD CRASH RESCUE OPERATIONS

GOAL

- To provide an effective road crash rescue service for the community of South Australia.

PRIORITISED STRATEGY

The response to road crash rescue incidents is a primary operational role of the SASES.

All 55 of the rural SASES rescue Units are committed to this role, and are listed in the multi-agency Road Crash Rescue Resource Directory. All but two of the rural Units are listed as the 'primary response' for road crash rescue in their geographic areas of operation.

The 13 SASES Units located in the Greater Adelaide Metropolitan Area do not have a recognised response role to road crash incidents. They are, however, trained in a broad range of rescue skills, and provide immediate rescue services at a number of incidents that they attend in the course of their other duties, pending the arrival of a SAMFS rescue response.

During 2004/05, SASES Units responded to 720 road crash rescue incidents. This response forms 14.5% of total SASES operations for the year.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

During 2004/05, the SASES upgraded the operational capability of the dedicated road crash rescue Units through the institution of a new Training Resource Kit, and the management of a series of developmental workshops. This thrust will be maintained in 2005/06 with a significant equipment upgrade, and the reinforcement of the Standards of Emergency Response governing this activity.



ROAD CRASH RESCUE WORKING PARTY

The Road Crash Rescue Working Party has been in operation for 18 years since the institution of the cooperative multi-agency road crash response system in August 1987. The Working Party reports to the Emergency Services Coordination Committee and works to ensure that an adequate and effective response is provided to all road crash incidents in South Australia, that response standards are maintained and that duplication of services is eliminated.

The Working Party comprises senior representatives of:

- SA State Emergency Service
- SA Country Fire Service
- SA Metropolitan Fire Service
- SA Ambulance Service
- SA Police

Regular meetings were continued throughout 2004/05, with the primary focus being the update and maintenance of the Road Crash Rescue Resource Directory.

STATE DISASTER STORE

GOAL

- To provide a stockpile of supplies of essential equipment for the SASES or other Emergency Services in time of disaster.

PRIORITISED STRATEGY

The SASES maintains small stockpiles of disaster equipment at strategic locations around South Australia.

The primary stock holding is at the SASES State store at Regency Park, with stocks of sandbags, plastic salvage sheeting, disaster casualty bags and folding stretchers. Smaller stockpiles are held at Port Augusta, Murray Bridge and Barmera.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

State disaster stockpiles will be maintained at Regency Park and other rural locations.

EMERGENCY SERVICES COORDINATION COMMITTEE

The Emergency Services Coordination Committee [ESCC] is a working party tasked to oversee multi-agency matters and to provide a liaison link between the Emergency Services. The Committee comprises senior managers of the key Emergency Services and SA Police.

The Committee continued to provide advice to the respective Chief Executive Officers of the member agencies on a range of matters of importance to Police and Emergency Services. The priority of focus has been on the elimination of overlap and duplication of services and common operational issues.

The Committee has developed a Memorandum of Understanding in relation to an Emergency Services Coordination Charter, the management of major multi-agency incidents and the management of road crash rescue responses.



TRAINING



APRIL COOPER
Manager, Training & Development

GOAL

- SASES volunteers and staff capability of fulfilling the roles to protect life and property will be maintained and enhanced.

PRIORITISED STRATEGY

- Development and implementation of the learning and development framework continued to be achieved, as follows:
 - Standardised assessment and training
 - Portability of skills
 - Skills recognition, including qualifications
 - Equity and diversity
 - Consistency of approach
- Competency-based training and assessment has been provided to SASES volunteers and staff to operate safely and efficiently in accordance with the learning and development framework and operational requirements.
- Development and implementation of a Road Crash Rescue Training Resource Kit, Induction and Basic Skills Training Resource Kit and Map Reading and Navigation Training Resource Kit, has been achieved.
- SASES Units have been maintained at operational readiness through the provision of training and assessment of:
 - general rescue, land search, storm damage operations
 - operations – reconnaissance, SA GRN and basic communications
 - specialist training – road crash rescue, marine [inland, inshore and offshore] structural collapse, vertical rescue, urban search and rescue category 2
 - leadership
 - nationally accredited training and assessment for SASES trainers and assessors.
- Provision of AIIMS training – Australasian Interagency Incident Management System.
- Awareness training was provided for operational staff.

Table 1 - SASES Training Activities Conducted 2004/05

Activity Types	State Training Program	Local & Regional Activities	Total Personnel Trained
Advanced Rescue 1 & 2	2	23	204
Advanced Rescue Shoring	2	-	34
Air Observing	2	1	40
Basic Communications	3	2	81
Basic Rescue	1	33	226
Chainsaw Operations	2	3	75
Chainsaw Safety [LITA]	3	-	45
Complaints Handling	0	1	17
Coxswain Offshore	1	-	8
Dropmaster	1	1	16
Effective People Skills	-	3	45
GRN Radio Operations	5	2	100
Land Search Operations	7	2	121
Leadership Courses [SASES/SACFS]	9	-	39
Map Reading & Navigation	5	3	77
Marine Radio Certificate of Proficiency	4	-	45
Occupational Health and Safety at Sea	6	-	80
Reconnaissance	4	-	45
Road Crash Rescue	11	1	88
Senior First Aid	-	35	255
Storm Damage Operations	3	2	36
Teambuilding	-	2	24
Train Small Groups	3	-	30
TRK Pilot Trainer Development & Review Workshops	4	-	16
Urban Search and Rescue Category One	1	-	29
Urban Search and Rescue Category Two	1	-	4
Vertical Rescue – all levels	6	-	49
Vertical Rescue Instructors	1	-	9
Workplace Assessment	2	-	12
Workplace Dignity	-	5	48
Totals	89	119	1898

Table 2 - Comparison of SASES Training Activities Conducted 2003/04 Against 2004/05 Totals

Activity Types	Activities		Personnel Trained	
	2003/04	2004/05	2003/04	2004/05
Advanced Rescue	6	25	107	204
Advanced Rescue Shoring	3	2	44	34
Air Observer	2	3	17	40
Basic Communications	3	5	30	81
Basic Rescue	28	34	275	226
Chainsaw Operations	2	5	22	75
Chainsaw Safety [LITA]	4	3	52	45
Complaints Handling	-	1	-	17
Conflict Resolution	2	-	19	-

Coxswain Offshore	-	1	-	8
Dropmaster	-	2	-	16
Effective People Skills	-	3	-	45
GRN Radio Operations	10	7	115	100
Land Search Operations	6	9	85	121
Land Search Team Leader	1	-	2	-
Leadership Courses [SASES/SACFS]	5	9	32	39
Map Reading & Navigation	10	8	85	77
Marine Radio Certificate of Proficiency	-	4	-	45
Occupational Health & Safety at Sea	-	6	-	80
Pump Operations	2	-	10	-
Reconnaissance	6	4	65	45
Road Crash Rescue	10	12	101	88
Senior First Aid	-	35	-	255
Storm Damage Operations	11	5	167	36
Teambuilding	2	2	41	24
Tetra Line Throwing Gun	3	-	28	-
Traffic Management	2	-	39	-
Train Small Groups	3	3	35	30
TRK Pilot Trainer Development & Review Workshops	-	4	-	16
Urban Search and Rescue Category One	4	1	76	29
Urban Search and Rescue Category Two	-	1	-	4
Vertical Rescue Instructors	-	1	-	9
Vertical Rescue – all levels	6	6	32	49
Workplace Assessment	4	2	33	12
Workplace Dignity	7	5	92	48
Totals	142	208	1604	1898

Table 3 - Summary of Training Activities 2004/05

Activities planned in State Training Program 2004/05	123
State Training Program activities actually conducted	89
Local and Regional training activities actually conducted	119
Activities conducted in the Adelaide Metropolitan Area	134
Activities conducted in Regional South Australia	74
Total personnel nominated for all activities	2364
Total personnel who actually attended activities	2090
Total personnel who attained 'Trained' status	1898

Table 4 - Summary of Activities by SASES Region 2004/05

Central	68
North	64
East	55
West	21
Total	208

ROAD CRASH RESCUE CHALLENGE

The 2005 State Road Crash Rescue Challenge, held in April 2005 at Wayville Showgrounds, saw 12 teams from SASES, SACFS, SAMFS and a visiting team from Werribee CFA Victoria, compete against each other in a spirit of friendly rivalry. The event was staged in conjunction with the Adelaide Motor Show, which provided the added benefit of showcasing the teams' road crash skills to the general public, as well as creating a heightened awareness of road crash situations and promoting the road safety message.

Laura, South Coast and Port Lincoln Units represented SASES. The Laura team proved superior in the Limited category, and will travel to Hamilton, New Zealand in October 2005 to represent the SASES at the Australasian Challenge.

URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE

South Australia, in line with the other States and Territories, is developing Urban Search and Rescue [USAR] capability. USAR capability involves a multi-agency taskforce of specially trained rescuers – using special cutting and rescue equipment able to dig beneath collapsed buildings – operating as an independent unit.

SASES has trained 300 of its members in USAR Category 1 over the last few years.

SASES is committed to providing up to 70 members for the South Australian [SA] USAR Taskforce. Currently the SA USAR Category 2 training program is under development. However, to start building the SASES team, four SASES members successfully completed the challenging USAR Category 2 training program at Whyte Island [Qld] in April 2005. The Queensland Fire and Rescue Service conducted this course.

The SASES taskforce will comprise a total deployment of around 70 SASES members, but this will require a total of around 210 trained multi-agency personnel to guarantee the SA taskforce response.

SASES MARINE

There are eleven [11] SASES Units who specialize in marine rescue in the category of inland waters, inshore waters and offshore waters and provide a number of functions in the marine environment, ranging from vessel recovery, assisting in search & rescue to medevac retrievals.

The focus of training this year was to ensure all SASES Marine Rescue operatives attended the two-day *Occupational Health & Safety at Sea* training course and to provide special communications training to enable SASES members to achieve competency in the use of marine VHF radio. The training courses, held at various regional country centres, were conducted by a registered training organisation, the Academy of Maritime Training, as listed in the previous tables.

SASES LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

Management support for the learning and development framework's continued development and implementation, has seen further investment of training human resources and funding during 2004/05.

Two more State training officers have been added to the SASES training team from 2 May 2005. There are now five State training officers covering all four Regions. One in each of the Central, West and East Regions and two State training officers for North Region.

The SASES organisational structure continues to support the importance of training by organising the role functionally – this enhances its opportunities to ensure consistency and quality assurance of the learning and development framework across the Service. This continues to emphasise SASES' commitment to support its volunteers with training and assessment.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

SASES will continue to develop and implement the learning and development framework to ensure that the main challenges of successful training and assessment are met, such as:

- Developing and supporting trainers and assessors
- Scheduling training to meet demands of a volunteer workforce and the tensions between prerequisite requirements and unpredictable attendance
- Maintaining quality and consistency in delivery and assessment standards and
- Managing the system [including needs analysis, curriculum maintenance] and administration [paperwork and course administration]

The learning and development function of SASES focuses on the development of knowledge and ability to ensure SASES continues to improve its volunteer and staff workforce capability.

SASES is an organisation built on the skills of its members. SASES skills are not common in the broader community, so the Service needs a strong learning and development culture to enable its members to operate safely and effectively. This includes developing skilled people as a key outcome of the learning and development system, which concentrates on supporting trainers and assessors who facilitate learning opportunities.

The SASES has adopted a competency-based learning and development system for its personnel, in line with national reform and State Government policy. SASES will become a Registered Training Organisation and comply with the Australian Quality Training Framework in the coming year.

In turn, SASES will be better positioned to fulfil its role in the community to protect life and property.



CATERING

During 2004/05, the role of the SASES in the provision of catering at major incidents such as bushfire operations was, to a large extent, handed over to the catering services of the Salvation Army.

The SASES maintains a limited capability, particularly in rural centres, to provide catering support, but this is no longer a primary role of the Service.

The State Disaster role of the provision of immediate welfare to affected persons in the disaster impact area will be maintained by SASES with the support of other agencies such as the Salvation Army.



AIR OBSERVERS

GOAL

- To provide personnel at strategic locations for Air Observer and Dropmaster activities to meet our obligation for the provision of agreed services to the Australian Maritime Safety Authority.

PRIORITISED STRATEGY

- To continue the required training and exercise regime as defined by AusSAR under the terms of the existing service agreement and in line with the newly developed national standard training resource kits. All funding for training and exercises is provided by AusSAR.
- To provide a safe working environment for Air Observer and Dropmaster activities with safe and reliable aircraft and aircraft charter services.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Air Observer services will be maintained for South Australia, with SASES Volunteer Observers operating from Adelaide, Port Lincoln and Mount Gambier.

Adelaide-based specialist SASES volunteers will continue to provide Dropmaster services into 2005/06.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH, SAFETY & WELFARE

GOAL

- To provide a safe work environment for our employees/volunteers and to provide an equitable workers' compensation claims management system for our employees/volunteers.

PRIORITISED STRATEGY

The Case for Change identified a number of deficiencies within the SASES. The report acknowledged that there were significant OHS&W risks to the organisation. Three key goals were established to address these deficiencies, as follows:

- **To ensure the SASES has a working environment that is safe and the organisation complies with all requirements.**
An external consultant was engaged to conduct an OHS Legislative Audit. Action Plans were developed for the nine Units involved in the process. Each of the nine has been visited for a second time and the high-risk areas have been addressed. Other issues have been transferred to the 2005/06 OHS&W Plan.
- **Financial risks are mitigated by ensuring its workers compensation mitigation strategy is based on a sound business case.**
The SASES has presented a business case to the SAFECOM Board regarding the incorporation of the SASES volunteers into the Workers Compensation and Rehabilitation Act. Since July 2004, the SASES has been responsible for all new workers compensation claims. While \$379 554 was spent on all claims, \$7574 was spent through the SASES budget on new claims. The remaining \$371 980 was incurred from existing claims that are managed by the Office of Public Employment, Workforce Relations.
- **SAFECOM has a dedicated resource ensuring potential risks and hazards are identified and appropriate treatments are in place.**
Hazard identification, risk assessments, incident/injury investigations are conducted when/where required. The re-establishment of numerous OHS Committees incorporating all levels of the SASES is underway. A restructure of the organisation has recently taken place and the nine Regions have now been incorporated into four new Regions [work groups]. Safety Audits have been expanded to include more Units of the SASES. An assessment of the general safety culture is also underway. A closer association with VMR Squadrons is currently being negotiated.

STRESS PREVENTION & MANAGEMENT [SPAM]

SASES volunteers participated in three critical incident stress debriefings and four critical incident stress defusing sessions. Overall, 167 people were present with a total of 387 hours of professional services being provided by individual follow-up after emergency incidents.

The specially trained volunteer Peer Support Group played a major role during the Eyre Peninsula fires by providing support to the local community and assisting mental health professionals at debriefs and defuses.

MECHANISMS OF INJURY

The most frequent causes [mechanisms] of injury were falls, trips and slips, representing 33% of new claims received for the 2004/05 financial year. However, when compared to the 2003/04 financial year, there was a 21% reduction of new claims, a 92% reduction in new claim financial costs and a 98.4% reduction in the average days lost through injury.

Table 1 – OH&S Legislative Requirements

	2004 / 05	2003 / 04	2002 / 03
Number of Notifiable occurrences pursuant to <i>Health Safety and Welfare Act</i> Regulations, Division 6.6	1	0	1
Number of notifiable injuries pursuant to <i>Health Safety and Welfare Regulations</i> , Division 6.6	1	0	1
Number of notices served pursuant to <i>Health Safety and Welfare Act</i> , section 35, section 39, section 40	1	0	0

Table 2 – Injury Management Legislative Requirements

	2004 / 05	2003 / 04	2002 / 03
Total number of employees who participated in a rehabilitation program	0	1	5
Total number of employees rehabilitated and reassigned to alternative duties	0	0	0
Total number of employees rehabilitated back to their original work	0	1	4

Table 3 – WorkCover Action Limits

	2004 / 05	2003 / 04	2002 / 03
The number of open claims as at 30 June 2005	6	4	6
Percentage of workers compensation expenditure over gross annual remuneration	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 4 – Number of Claims

	2004 / 05	2003 / 04	2002 / 03
The number of new workers compensation claims in the financial year	15	19	18
The number of fatalities	0	0	0
The number of lost time injuries [LTI]	2	7	2
The number of medical treatment only [MTO] injuries during the reporting period	13	12	16
Total number of whole working days lost	5	382	118

Table 5 – Cost of Workers Compensation

	2004 / 05	2003 / 04	2002 / 03
Cost of new claims for the financial year	\$7574	\$93 919	\$27 176
Cost of all claims excluding lump sum payments	\$379 554	\$407 268	\$318 933
Amount paid for lump sum payments [s42 of the WRC Act]	\$0.00	\$39825	\$15,649
Amount paid for lump sum payments [s43 of the WRC Act]	\$0	\$0	\$34 123
Amount paid for lump sum payments [s44 of the WRC Act]	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total amount recovered from external sources [s54 of the WRC Act]	\$0	\$236	\$0
Budget allocation for workers compensation	\$31 250	N/A	N/A

Table 6 – Trends

	2004 / 05	2003 / 04	2002 / 03
Injury frequency rate [calculated from Australian Standard AS1885] for new lost time injury/disease for each million hours worked	Unable to calculate	Unable to calculate	Unable to calculate
Most frequent cause [mechanism] of injury: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2004/05 - Falls Trips and Slips 2003/04 - Falls Trips and Slips 2002/03 - Being Hit by Moving Objects 	5 33.3% of new claim numbers	10 52% of new claim numbers	6 33% of new claim numbers
Most expensive cause [mechanism] of injury: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2004/05 - Falls Trips and Slips 2003/04 - Falls Trips and Slips 2002/03 - Falls Trips and Slips 	\$4053 53.5% of new claim costs	\$82 835 88% of new claim costs	\$20 376 75% of new claim costs

Table 7 – Meeting the Organisation's Strategic Targets

	2004 / 05
15% reduction in new claim numbers for the financial year 2004/05 compared to financial year 2003/04	21% reduction
15% reduction in new claim financial costs for the financial year 2004/05 compared to financial year 2003/04	92% reduction
15% reduction in gross financial costs for the financial year 2004/05 compared to financial year 2003/04	6.8% reduction
75% of claims determined within 10 working days.	100%
95% of new claims determined within 3 months	91.9%
70% of injured workers RTW within 5 working days	86.7%
95% of injured workers RTW within 3 months	90.9%
15% reduction in average days lost	98.4% reduction

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUNCTION

The SASES is an integral part of the State's overall emergency management system. The permanent officers of the SASES, in addition to dealing with all matters related to the Service, also provide support for emergency management training and planning for the State Emergency Management Organisation (SEMO). This includes assistance with the preparation and exercising of emergency management plans.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

GOALS

- Emergency response services and the need for community preparation and involvement before and during emergencies have been promoted.
- Emergency Management and other special contingency plans have been prepared, reviewed and validated.

PRIORITISED STRATEGY

The SASES has continued to foster the participation of all organisations and personnel involved in emergencies to ensure that all aspects of emergency management preparedness are fully coordinated.

The SASES involvement with the SEMO includes assistance in the preparation of exercises and consultation with regard to the *Emergency Management Act* and Strategic Plan.

PLANS

Divisional Plans

SASES Regional Commanders have been active in the development of Zone Plans. Exercises have been conducted in most Police Local Service Areas and plans amended or refined. All plans are reviewed and amended as necessary, normally, on an annual basis.

Local Plans

There is no legislative authority for Local Government to prepare incident or emergency management plans, whereas it is possible for Officers in Charge of Police Districts to be instructed to do so.

SASES Regional Commanders have been involved in the maintenance of Local Government area plans and Police District Plans. These plans relate to the Local Service Area Emergency Management Plans.

Contingency Plans

There continues to be a great demand on the SASES to be involved in special contingency planning.

Currently, State Officers and Regional Commanders are involved in the preparation of various Industrial Plans and have been called on to advise on Hospital Emergency Management Plans and Regional Airport Plans.

STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE (SEOC)

GOALS

- To maintain the State and Zone Emergency Operations Centres in a state of readiness and to undertake assessments of the effectiveness of such centres.
- Links between and within the Functional Services have been developed, fostered and coordinated.

PRIORITISED STRATEGY

The operational readiness of the SEOC is maintained by SAPOL Emergency and Major Events Section (EMES) personnel, and supported by:

- The State Emergency Management Training Officer, and
- The State Emergency Management Planning Officer.

The SEOC is the site from which, during declared identified major incidents, major emergencies or disasters or any other incident in which it is deemed necessary, all Functional Services of the State Emergency Management Plan are coordinated. In such circumstances, the SEOC is the operational headquarters of the State Coordinator, who is the Commissioner of Police.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

It is planned that the SEOC will continue to be equipped with a level of technology appropriate to enable it to interface with its operational environment.

An emphasis will be made on familiarisation training to ensure SEOC personnel are operationally ready, not only for the next fire season, but also for any hazard impact.

STATE DISASTER MANAGEMENT TRAINING OFFICER



ALLAN MCDUGALL
*Disaster Management
Training Officer*

GOALS

- To maintain the State and Zone Emergency Operations Centres in a state of readiness and to undertake assessments of the effectiveness of such centres.
- Links between and within the Functional Services have been developed, fostered and coordinated.

PRIORITISED STRATEGY

The operational readiness of the State Emergency Operations Centre [SEOC] is maintained by SAPOL Emergency and Major Events Section [EMES] personnel and supported by:

- The State Emergency Management Training Officer, and
- The State Emergency Management Planning Officer.

The SEOC is the site from which, during declared states of identified major incident, major emergency or disaster, all Functional Services of the State Emergency Management Plan are coordinated. In such circumstances, the SEOC is the operational headquarters of the State Coordinator, who is the Commissioner of Police.

With the proclamation of the *Emergency Management Act 2004* has come the mandate to activate the SEOC for lower-level emergencies than under the previous Act. This has enhanced the operational readiness of the SEOC by providing more opportunities to get 'hands-on' practice in real events.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

It is planned that the SEOC will continue to be equipped with a level of technology appropriate to enable it to interface with its operational environment. Investigations are underway to enhance its capacity to exchange information with stakeholder agencies via web-based technology.

A continuing emphasis will focus on familiarisation training to ensure SEOC personnel are operationally ready, not only for the 2005/06 fire season, but also for any hazard impact.

Efforts continue to be made to more closely engage Local Government in the emergency management planning process by offering and delivering training opportunities.

STATE DISASTER MANAGEMENT TRAINING ACTIVITIES

During the past year, some of the training activities undertaken have included:

- Training personnel in the Primary Industries / State Disaster Organisation exercises, Startled Goose, Intense Goose, Linking Goose, Adventurous Goose, Focussed Goose and Green Goose
- Facilitating the hypothetical Exercise 'Crouch Hill' in preparation for the bushfire season
- Lecturing in two Umpires' Courses for emergency service personnel
- Delivering Emergency Management course content at the Police Superintendents' Course
- Writing for, and directing the State Disaster Organisation's two-day 'Exercise Team Spirit' prior to the 04/05 bushfire season
- Writing and facilitating the Royal Adelaide Show Society's Exercise 'Ferris Wheel'
- Writing and directing Exercise 'Sopping Sponge' at Christies Beach Zone Emergency Operations Centre
- Delivering Introduction to Disaster Management Courses
- Delivering Introduction to Emergency Risk Management Courses
- Jointly conducting an Emergency Coordination Centre Course conducted in Adelaide, in conjunction with Emergency Management Australia
- Representing SASES in the preparations for the counter-terrorist Exercise 'Mercury 05'
- Presenting a paper at the 2004 Australian Earthquake Engineering Conference
- Delivering emergency management briefings to Transit Police
- Chairing and delivering two papers at the Institute of International Research Emergency Management Conference in Sydney June 2004



STATE DISASTER MANAGEMENT PLANNING OFFICER



*ROBERT STEVENSON
Disaster Management
Planning Officer*

GOAL

- To provide emergency management planning functions in support of the State Disaster Functional Services, including the SASES, and the preparation of special emergency management contingency plans.

PRIORITISED STRATEGY

In accordance with the planning provisions detailed in the Emergency Management Act, and in consultation and collaboration with the State Emergency Management Plan Functional Services, the Planning Officer has contributed to the review process and further development of Functional Service Plans. In addition, support to Zone Emergency Management Committees in emergency management planning, will ensure that the identified major incident/major emergency/disaster response and recovery arrangements are in place to deal with this level of emergency.

The State Emergency Management Planning Officer represents the State Emergency Management Committee and the SASES on the following committees:

- Emergency Services Major Event Coordination Committee
- Adelaide Airport Emergency Committee
- Catastrophic Disasters Emergency Management Capability Study Working Party – Mt Macedon
- SA Flood Warning Consultative Committee
- Patawalonga Lake System Advisory Group
- Patawalonga Lake Emergency Management Recovery Planning Committee
- Department of Health Emergency Management Committee
- Engineering Functional Service Planning Committee
- SAFESA [CERM] Steering Committee

SASES – LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT MEETINGS

Commencing in August 2004, SASES initiated a program of re-establishing contact with Local Councils in South Australia.

Since the establishment of the Emergency Services Levy, the previously excellent working relationship between SASES and Local Councils has been allowed to fragment. Many

Local Councils felt they no longer had a responsibility for emergency management and their networks with Emergency Services Organisations became much weaker.

The *Local Government Act 1999* requires Councils 'to take measures to protect its area from natural and other hazards, to mitigate the effect of such hazards' and to work collaboratively with State and Federal Governments and regionally in this objective. These are new requirements for Local Government that did not exist in the previous [1934] Act.

With this legislated responsibility for Local Government, and with the SASES responsibility as Control Agency for flood response under the new SAFECOM legislation, it was deemed prudent that SASES re-establish contact with Local Councils.

In 2004 the SASES Chief Officer and Planning Officer made introductory visits to West Torrens City Council, Unley City Council, Holdfast Bay City Council and Charles Sturt City Council. These visits have already resulted in some very positive initiatives between local councils and SASES. A Joint Emergency Flood Response Plan has been developed between Unley City Council and SASES and this model may well be used to develop similar cooperation between SASES and other Local Councils.

SASES has also been working with Holdfast Bay City Council and West Torrens City Council as members of the Patawalonga Lake System Advisory Group.

The second phase of these Local Council/SASES meetings began with introductory visits to the City of Port Adelaide/Enfield, Gawler Town Council, Salisbury City Council, The Barossa Council, the City of Onkaparinga and Campbelltown City Council.

SASES has been very pleased with the results of the meetings with Local Councils. The safety benefits to the community are enhanced by the development of solid working relationships between SASES and Local Councils and it is intended to expand these extremely positive networks throughout the State.

SAFESA COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RISK MANAGEMENT PROJECT

The SAFESA Community Emergency Risk Management [CERM] Project was designed to provide a process whereby Local and State Governments can work collaboratively to assist Councils in carrying out their community safety responsibilities.

The first CERM pilot was conducted in the Riverland and involved the Berri-Barmera, Renmark-Paringa and Loxton-Waikerie Councils. Results of this extensive project have been published and individual Councils are now in the process of examining them and implementing treatment options.

Mitcham City Council and the Nepabunna Aboriginal Community have also conducted SAFESA projects.

Further SAFESA projects are in the process of being implemented. One of these involves the Central Local Government group in the Mid North of SA.

SASES FLOOD MAPPING PROJECT

In conjunction with the Bureau of Meteorology and Planning SA, SASES has compiled a set of eight Flood Inundation/Flood Hazard Maps for the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges in a CD format. This set of current maps will be supplied to SASES Units, other flood response agencies and Local Councils in the Central Region. They will be utilised for both flood mitigation and flood response planning purposes and will be updated on an annual basis.

Ready access to these updated and specifically formatted maps will be a great asset to SASES as the lead agency for flood response and will contribute to a safer SA community.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The following have been identified as key future directions:

- Development of closer ties between SASES and Local Government in Emergency Management
- Implementation of the Emergency Management Act and development of the State Emergency Management Plan
- Development of the State Emergency Management Handbook
- Development/support for Zone Emergency Management Committees
- Development of Advisory Committees in support of the State Emergency Management Committee



VOLUNTEER MARINE RESCUE



ALAN CORMACK
Manager, Volunteer Marine Rescue

GENERAL

In 2004/05 the following organisations are accredited to provide VMR in SA:

- South Australia Sea Rescue Squadron Inc.
[operating flotillas at Adelaide Shores, Wirrina, Edithburgh and Wallaroo]
- Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Inc.
[operating flotillas at North Haven, O'Sullivan's Beach, Port Vincent, Port Augusta and Kangaroo Island]
- Victor Harbor-Goolwa Sea Rescue Squadron Inc.
- Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol Inc.
[operating flotillas at Port Victoria and Point Turton]
- Air Sea Rescue – Cowell Squadron Inc; and
- Air Sea Rescue – Whyalla Squadron Inc.

These organisations responded to over 500 incidents, with the majority of these being vessels in distress or requiring emergency service.

These organisations are independent, incorporated bodies and are affiliated with VMR SA Inc.

In December 2004, Mrs Cheryl Dalling of the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard and Messrs Peter Collins, Paul Brown and Dean Lomblat of the SA Sea Rescue Squadron were worthy recipients of commendations from the Minister for Emergency Services.

MANAGEMENT & COORDINATION

The management and coordination of operational and administrative functions is overseen by three committees which have met regularly during the year.

These committees are:

- Volunteer Marine Rescue Council of SA
- State Marine Rescue Committee; and
- State Marine Communications Management Committee

In his role, the VMR Manager provides executive support to these committees, including the development and implementation of agreed policies and procedures. He also

provides day-to-day support services to the VMR organisations and is part of the management structure within the SASES.

These committees work collaboratively with other key Government and non-Government bodies such as:

- Community Emergency Services Fund - Attorney-General's Department
- Water Operations Unit – SA Police
- Marine Operations – Transport SA
- Australian Communications Authority
- Boating Industry Association of SA
- Australian Maritime Authority
- National Marine Safety Committee

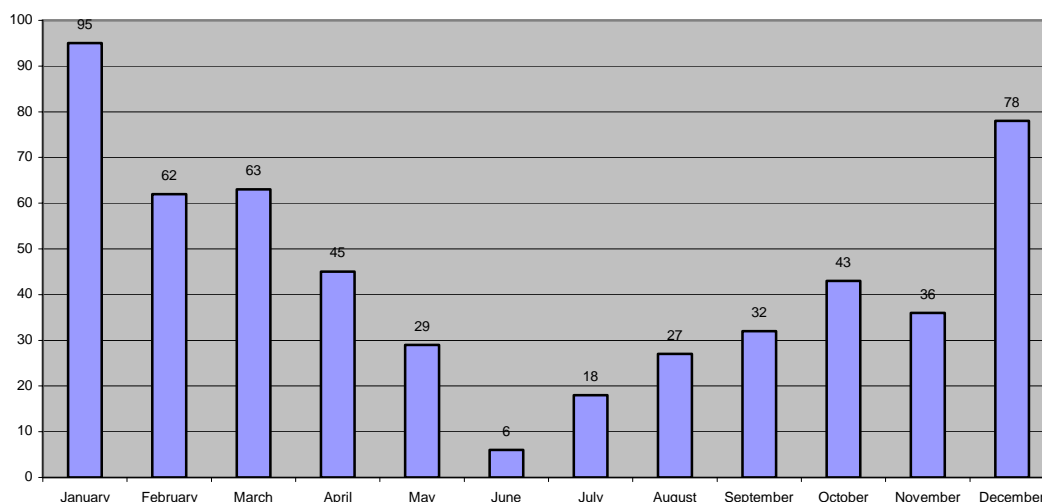
OPERATIONS

Collectively across the State, the VMR organisations have 95 vessels accredited to respond to emergency incidents, of which 18 vessels are Squadron owned.

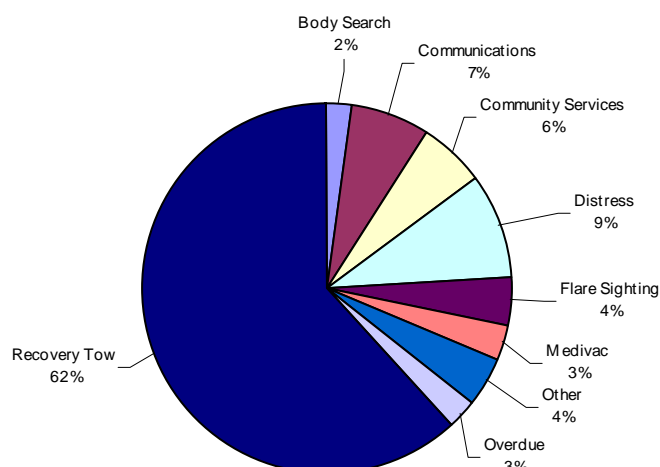
This 7 days a week – 24 hours a day volunteer service is provided by over 1000 active and support members, who train continuously to maintain the high skill required to operate the rescue vessels, sometimes in dangerous conditions and in the hours of darkness.

Marine operations is supported by approximately 55 Limited Coast Radio Stations and Squadron Radio Operation Centres stretched along the entire coastline of SA, monitoring the marine distress radio frequencies. In addition, many of the radio bases provide daily weather and marine safety information to both the commercial fishing sector and the recreational boating community. This service alone contributes in excess of 50 000 volunteer hours annually.

Total Incidents By Month



Incidents By Type Per Year 2004/2005



Following the tragic shark attack incident in December 2004, major VMR resources were mobilised and the SA Sea Rescue Squadron Operations Centre at Adelaide Shores was used as a Co-ordination Centre. In addition, the VMR resources carried out additional 'on water' safety patrols over the Christmas and school holiday period following the incident, and also in support to the VacSwim program.

FUNDING

In 2004-05, a total of over \$941 000 [ex. GST] was provided from the Community Emergency Services Fund for VMR. This included once-off payments of \$85 000 to establish a radio base and storage shed at Edithburgh, \$110 000 to establish a marine co-ordination centre within the headquarters of the Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol at Port Victoria and \$60 000 to expand the use of the Government Radio Network within VMR associations to support their primary VHF marine radio network.

Funding was also provided to enable the construction of a new 7.4m offshore rescue vessel, built by local boat builder Clayton Marine. The vessel, commissioned by the former Minister for Emergency Services in March 2005, has been issued to the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard flotilla at Port Vincent and will primarily operate between Stansbury and Ardrossan. In addition, funds were provided to construct a new storage shed for the vessel, and to purchase a tow-vehicle.



New rescue vessel for the Port Vincent flotilla of the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard

In March 2005, the previous Minister for Emergency Services opened a new radio base and headquarters for the Air-Sea Rescue Cowell Squadron. The new headquarters building has been accredited as a Marine Search and Rescue Coordination Centre, and can be used by the Squadron or other agencies, such as the Police, to coordinate resources and rescue operations.



The former Minister for Emergency Services, the Hon Patrick Conlon MP opens the new radio base and headquarters for the Air-Sea Rescue Cowell Squadron, pictured above with Mr Phil Fletcher, Squadron Commodore.

OTHER KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- The development of an Occupational Health, Safety & Welfare Policy;
- The development of a common mobilisation call out system based on the SA-GRN pagers;
- Continued support to the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard VHF Marine Radio Repeater network, including the replacement and upgrading of the 'Greenpatch Repeater' near Port Lincoln, damaged in the Eyre Peninsula bushfires;
- The completion of a headquarters and radio base for the Air-Sea Rescue Cowell Squadron; and
- Continued development of flotillas at Wallaroo [Copper Coast] and Kangaroo Island.

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS



*JUDITH BLEECHMORE
Manager, Corporate Communications*



The SASES's first Corporate Communications Manager was appointed in February 2005 and produced the first Corporate Communications Plan for the organisation.

In five months, the SASES logo has been developed, approved and implemented through a new style manual to all staff and volunteers. New brochures, posters and display panels have been introduced showing a clean, modern image of the service. The orange chequered image used by other State Emergency Services has been adopted to help the SASES achieve this image."

All promotional materials were produced for the new SASES website www.ses.sa.gov.au and the new emergency telephone number 13 2 500. A good supply of promotional materials was developed ready for distribution to Regional Headquarters.

A cooperative promotional display undertaken with SACFS, SAMFS, Ambulance and the SASES Volunteers Association for the 'Only Way to Live Expo' at the Adelaide Convention Centre was very successful.

A new media database, media release formats and background information was developed to provide improved services and information flow to media outlets.

Significant storm events in June 2005 resulted in a dramatic increase in media coverage for SASES with 309 media items monitored in the month of June [compared to four in June 2004]. This increase in profile gives recognition to the organisation and particularly to the efforts of the volunteers.



SASES VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION

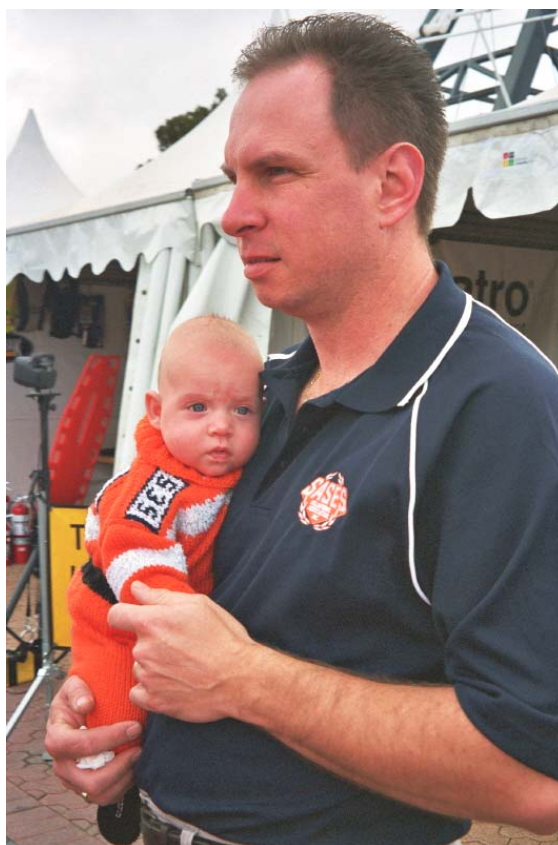
The SASES Volunteer Association has had an extremely busy and productive year. The aim of the Association is to protect the interests of the SASES volunteer.

The Association has full representation from all Regions in the State and an active Committee that provides information and concerns to the Executive Team and Chairman. The Chief Officer and Government have heard these concerns with beneficial results for all parties.

The Association has implemented the appointment of an Executive Officer on a part-time basis, to action the increasing workloads. Much of this workload has been during the successful negotiation process undertaken for the passage of the Fire and Emergency Services Legislation. It is anticipated this workload will be maintained or increased with the implementation of the Act.

The promotional vehicle has been utilised in many of the Regions with great success and positive feedback.

The Association is looking forward to the responsibility incurred in the involvement of the Ministerial Advisory Board and the role on the Governance Board. Its continued positive relationship with the Minister and State Headquarters will maintain the fruitful outcomes over the next year.



AWARDS - RECIPIENTS 2004/05

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL [ESM]

In the Queens Birthday List of 2004 and the Australia Day List of 2005, the Emergency Services Medal [ESM], awarded for distinguished service, was presented to 4 members of the SASES, two permanent staff and two volunteers.

	Surname	Given Names	Position
01	Cormack	Alan Forsyth	SASES Permanent Staff
02	Macleod	Stuart Millar	SASES Permanent staff
03	Ward	David Warren	SASES Volunteer
04	Klemm	Robert Andrew	SASES Volunteer

NATIONAL MEDAL AND CLASPS

The National Medal is awarded on application to those members of the Service who have completed fifteen years of diligent and effective qualifying service. Clasps to the medal are awarded for each additional ten years of such service.

During 2004/05, one award of the third clasp to the National Medal, recognising forty-five years of qualifying service, was made:

	Surname	Given Names	Position
01	Overton	Dean Stanley	SASES Volunteer

During 2004/05, six awards of the second clasp to the National Medal, recognising thirty-five years of qualifying service, were made:

	Surname	Given Names	Position
01	Barrett	Stuart Gregory	SASES Volunteer
02	Dyett	John Leslie	SASES Volunteer
03	Murdoch	Roger Kenneth	SASES Volunteer
04	Overton	Beverley Maeling	SASES Volunteer
05	Reynolds	Louise	SASES Volunteer
06	Schulz	Lyall Grant	SASES Volunteer

During 2004/05, fifteen awards of the first clasp to the National Medal, recognising twenty-five years of qualifying service, were made:

	Surname	Given Names	Position
01	Barrett	Stuart Gregory	SASES Volunteer
02	Berkhuizen	William	SASES Volunteer
03	Bethune	Malcolm Ross	SASES Volunteer
04	Darling	James William	SASES Volunteer
05	Lambert	William Stuart	SASES Volunteer
06	Leedham	Shane Terry	SASES Volunteer
07	McGregor	Peter John	SASES Volunteer
08	Muir	Paul Bruce	SASES Volunteer
09	Murdoch	Roger Kenneth	SASES Volunteer
10	Pycroft	Robert William	SASES Volunteer

11	Radeka	June Isabel	SASES Volunteer
12	Rawnsley	Peter Dean	SASES Volunteer
13	Reed	Bruce Darrell	SASES Volunteer
14	Surman	David Ian	SASES Volunteer
15	Wheaton	Philip	SASES Volunteer

During 2004/05, twenty-eight awards of the National Medal, recognising fifteen years of qualifying service, were made:

	Surname	Given Names	Position
01	Abbott	Denis Gerard	SASES Volunteer
02	Barrett	Stuart Gregory	SASES Volunteer
03	Bott	Timothy William	SASES Volunteer
04	Brook	Jonathan Felix	SASES Volunteer
05	Buckle	Andrew Douglas	SASES Volunteer
06	Butler	Gregory John	SASES Volunteer
07	Court	Terre	SASES Volunteer
08	Daniel	Thomas	SASES Volunteer
09	Dolling	Charles	SASES Volunteer
10	Ebsary	Allan	SASES Volunteer
11	Goldsmith	Trevor Robert	SASES Volunteer
12	Hewett	Beverley	SASES Volunteer
13	Hewett	Paul Anthony	SASES Volunteer
14	Jones	Brendon John	SASES Volunteer
15	McCourt	Brian Lawrence	SASES Volunteer
16	McDonald	David Neil	SASES Volunteer
17	Morelli	Peter Robert	SASES Volunteer
18	Murdock	Donald Charles	SASES Volunteer
19	Palmer	Wayne David	SASES Volunteer
20	Peel	Megan Taylor	SASES Volunteer
21	Pycroft	Wendy Ann	SASES Volunteer
22	Rodgers	Jamie Stewart	SASES Volunteer
23	Rodgers	Joyce Marie	SASES Volunteer
24	Rodgers	Norman John	SASES Volunteer
25	Spronk	John Joseph	SASES Volunteer
26	Spronk	Yos Anthony	SASES Volunteer
27	Wait	Clinton Ralph	SASES Volunteer
28	Wood	Donald Albert	SASES Volunteer

MINISTERIAL MEDALS AND COMMENDATIONS

South Australian Emergency Service Medals and Commendations are awarded by the Minister for Emergency Services on an annual basis to recognise outstanding and/or courageous service to the community.

During 2004/05, two Ministerial Emergency Service Medals were presented for extraordinary and courageous service:

	Surname	Given Names	Position
01	Muir	Paul Bruce	SASES Volunteer
02	Radeka	June Isabel	SASES Volunteer

During 2004/05, six Ministerial Emergency Service Commendations were presented for outstanding service:

	Surname	Given Names	Position
01	Bolton	Matthew	SASES Volunteer
02	Fahlbusch	Anthony	SASES Volunteer
03	Graetz	Gavin	SASES Volunteer
04	Ortmann	Paul	SASES Volunteer
05	Reedman	Gregory	SASES Permanent Staff
06	Smith	Keith	SASES Volunteer

MERITORIOUS SERVICE CERTIFICATES

Meritorious Service Certificates are presented by the SASES Chief Officer to recognise blocks of ten years of diligent and effective service.

During 2004/05, eight Meritorious Service Certificates, recognising twenty years of qualifying service, were made:

	Surname	Given Names	Position
01	Bethune	Malcolm Ross	SASES Volunteer
02	Geue	Andrew Robert	SASES Volunteer
03	Goodrich	Colin Thomas	SASES Volunteer
04	Hundertmark	Pamela	SASES Permanent Staff
05	McDonald	David Neil	SASES Volunteer
06	Poel	Antonie 'Tom'	SASES Volunteer
07	Poel	Simon Phillip	SASES Volunteer
08	Reed	Bruce Darrell	SASES Volunteer

During 2004/05, ten Meritorious Service Certificates, recognising ten years of qualifying service, were made:

	Surname	Given Names	Position
01	Allert	Robert Walter John	SASES Volunteer
02	Arbon	Raymond Michael	SASES Volunteer
03	Carver	Benjamin James	SASES Volunteer
04	Goodrich	Patricia Ann	SASES Volunteer
05	Halleday	Derren John	SASES Volunteer
06	Hopper	Neil Roy	SASES Volunteer
07	Kidd	Shane Matthew	SASES Volunteer
08	Reed	Heather	SASES Volunteer
09	Rossiter	Raymond Gordon	SASES Volunteer
10	Tate	Mark	SASES Volunteer

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

SASES Certificates of Appreciation were presented to all SASES volunteers and permanent staff who provided outstanding and prolonged service to communities at risk during the West Coast Bushfire of January 2005, and the Karoonda severe wind storm event of June 2005.

Special Certificates of Appreciation were also awarded by the Chief Officer for outstanding service to the community.

Certificates of Appreciation were also provided to the following businesses and organisations for support to the SASES during this financial year:

- Nippy's Natural Fruit Juices
- Ingham Enterprises Pty Ltd
- Golden Grove Bakers Delight
- Cadbury Schweppes



Angela Travis of the Loxton Unit receives a special Certificate of Appreciation from the Chief Officer for her outstanding voluntary support to the victims of the tsunami in Indonesia.



CENTRAL REGION

UNITS

- Adelaide Hills
- Campbelltown
- Dog Operations Unit
- Eastern Suburbs
- Enfield
- Kangaroo Island
- Meningie
- Metro South
- Murray Bridge
- Noarlunga
- Northern Districts
- Onkaparinga
- Prospect
- South Coast
- State HQ Unit
- Strathalbyn
- Sturt
- Tea Tree Gully
- Western Adelaide
- Yankalilla



*JOHN THORNE
Regional Commander*

GOALS

- To provide an efficient and effective emergency response to the Community of South Australia.
- To maintain and exercise the Zone Emergency Operations Centres with the aim of a coordinated management of Emergency Operations.

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Central Region has been in operation since the 2 May 2005 as a result of the realignment of the SASES. The Region covers an area from the Barossa Valley in the north and through Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island in the south and from Gulf St Vincent in the west to the vicinity of Karoonda in the east.

There are twenty Volunteer Units in the Region that respond to emergencies involving Flood, Storm, Road Crash Rescue, Vertical Rescue, Search, General Rescue, Marine Rescue and attend major events in the community to provide an immediate response to emergency incidents should they arise.

During the year, the volunteers and staff of the Region have attended many incidents involving flood and storm events, several searches for missing people and assisted the Police with searches for evidence at crime scenes. In addition, there have been responses to numerous road accidents requiring the rescue of people from wrecked vehicles. Major incidents that have involved multiple Unit responses have included the Karoonda Wind storm, flooding at Murray Bridge, and storm damage in the Seafood area.

As in past years, this Region has been active in providing service at major community events such as the Clipsal 500, The Royal Adelaide Show, The Australia and New Zealand Police and Emergency Services Games, Credit Union Pageant. This has required the involvement of large number of volunteers and staff over lengthy periods of duty time. The potential risks to the community at these events are mitigated by the attendance of a dedicated and efficient team of SASES Rescuers.

Community awareness and Education has been enhanced with lectures and information sessions to Community Groups such as schools, Service Organisations, Neighbourhood Watch groups and other sections of the community.

The relationship between the SASES and Local Government has been improved greatly by visits to the Councils in the Region by the Chief Officer, State Planning Officer and Regional Commander to strengthen the cooperation between Local Government and the SASES. A positive result is the ongoing liaison between the organisations in emergency planning and resource sharing during times of emergencies.

STRATEGIES

Strategies being developed to achieve the goals are:-

- Encouraging Units to train together for a greater sense of team work and a better understanding of the different roles undertaken by rural and urban Units;
- Review of the Standards of Emergency Response with consideration to activity based costing, supported by the appropriate acquisition of vehicles and equipment;
- Recruitment designed to attract people for daytime response;
- The development of Strike teams within the Region for response to any area;
- Conduct a Regional Disaster Exercise to encourage Inter-Unit activity.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

There will be a requirement to consider dedicated Regional Headquarters for the Central Region in the next two years due to expansion of the regional staff of this organisation and the SACFS.

Training is still an important feature of the planning for the forthcoming year in order that we can provide a professional, efficient and effective response to emergency incidents, making South Australia a safer community.

The reviewing of all Emergency Plans will be an ongoing process during the year, with the continued liaison with the Functional Services, taking into account Prevention, Preparation, Response and Recovery in all planning. This will include an annual exercise for Zone Emergency Operations Centres.

EAST REGION

UNITS

- Barmera
- Berri
- Blanchetown
- Keith
- Loxton
- Mt Gambier & District
- Renmark – Paringa
- Riverland Headquarters
- South East Headquarters
- Wattle Range



*GREG REEDMAN
Regional Commander*

GOALS

Emergency Management

- Emergency Management and special contingency plans will be prepared, reviewed and validated and continually updated.
- Emergency Operations Centres will be maintained in a state of readiness and assessments will be undertaken of the effectiveness of such centres.
- Links between and within the Functional Services will be developed, fostered and co-ordinated on a continual basis.
- Continue to develop and promote Community awareness programs.

Emergency Responses

- The capability of the SASES to deal with emergency situations will be maintained and improved.
- Emergency response services and the need for community preparation and involvement before and during emergencies will be promoted.

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

On 2 May 2005 the East Region was formed by the amalgamation of the former Riverland and South East Regions. Consequently it covers the Riverland, Mallee and South East communities.

Two exercises have been conducted in conjunction with the Department of Primary Industries to examine and test the operation of the Regional Operation Centre (REOC) and the alternate REOC in the South East.

The CERM project in the Riverland 'Our Community, Our Risk, Our Management' (OCOROM) has been completed and endorsed by the three Riverland Councils and other participating agencies. This has resulted in a number of actions being taken across the

region to mitigate community risk. For example, the first pilot of the National Rural Property Identification scheme was conducted in the Loxton Waikerie Council area as a prelude to rolling it out across the State. The results of the OCOROM project are being incorporated into the planning of all of the participating agencies.

A National Earthquake Engineering Conference was held in Mount Gambier. This has raised the consciousness of services and the community to nature of this hazard.

The 'Art, Volunteers and Lives' road trauma project has been completed and launched by Minister Maywald. It is to feature in the State Country Arts Conference to be held in Renmark in October 2005. It is intended that the project will be toured throughout the State.

The inadequacy of the current REOC in Berri was highlighted through the year when operation centre training was undertaken. This problem is currently being addressed in the design of the new Berri Police Station and Court House complex.

Implementation of 'The Case for Change' has continued in the Region with significant implications for the quantity and quality of support to volunteers and the communities comprising the East Region. Of particular note is the start now being made on a comprehensive review of the operational capability of SASES services within the Region.

STRATEGIES

Strategies employed in the achievement of the goals include:

- Supporting the establishment of a regional Unit Manager forum which facilitates the provision of advice to paid staff in an integrated manner
- Detailed review of the Road Crash Rescue operational capability of the Units in the Region
- Encouragement for the support of specialist support roles for strategically placed Units
- Review of the strategic placement of resources to better match likely community risks
- Promotion of the OCOROM project and its results to the entire community to raise the level of awareness of Emergency Management practice within the participating agencies.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Emergency Risk Management will continue to have a high profile. The implementation phase of the action plan resulting from the 'Our communities, Our risk, Our management' project will continue throughout 2005/06. Community risks will be the primary driver for the development of planning for the whole of the Prevention, Preparation, Response and Recovery cycle.

NORTH REGION

UNITS

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| ▪ Andamooka | ▪ Maitland |
| ▪ Booleroo Centre | ▪ Marla |
| ▪ Burra | ▪ Mintabie |
| ▪ Bute | ▪ Pt Augusta |
| ▪ Clare | ▪ Pt Broughton |
| ▪ Cockburn | ▪ Pt Pirie |
| ▪ Coober Pedy | ▪ Quorn |
| ▪ Hallett | ▪ Roxby Downs |
| ▪ Hawker | ▪ Saddleworth |
| ▪ Kapunda | ▪ Snowtown |
| ▪ Laura | ▪ Spalding |
| ▪ Leigh Creek | ▪ Warooka |



*MATT MAYWALD
Regional Commander*

GOALS

- Continuous improvement in the provision of effective rescue services to communities of the North Region during all types of emergencies.
- Provision of management and executive support to the emergency management committees within the North Region.
- Strategies developed and implemented for transition to a new Region and administrative structure.

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

Combining the previous SASES Regions of Flinders, Mid North and Barossa Yorke, the North Region is an outcome of the organisation's 'Case For Change' realignment. Covering an area of approximately 75% of the State, the North Region extends from Two Wells in the south, north to the Northern Territory border, east to Cockburn, 40 kilometres from Broken Hill, and to the West Australian border along a line above the Transcontinental railway line.

Regional offices at Kapunda and Port Augusta have been decommissioned, and all Regional management activities have been centralised to Port Pirie. Whilst the new Region is significantly larger, support to volunteers, local disaster committees and the community in general has been strengthened through positional responsibilities of Regional staff, and through the ongoing development of alternative communication strategies.

Throughout the year volunteers again gave many hundreds of hours time attending to a variety of emergency situations both within and out of the Region. Road crash rescue, search and rescue, marine rescue and storm damage operations accounted for the majority of taskings. In January volunteers and staff from the North Region provided operational support to the West Region for the duration of the Wangary bushfires.

Outside of operational duties, Regional Units actively participated in numerous SASES training courses held throughout the year, and as a result, competency levels measured against the SASES Standards of Emergency Response have significantly improved.

Many Units were also involved in local recruiting initiatives to which there was a healthy membership gain.

STRATEGIES

- Develop Regional response plan to ensure adequate emergency response coverage.
- Implement Regional Duty Officer roster to provide reliable incident and welfare support to volunteers.
- Undertake Regional Unit health check and provide support and strategies to overcome deficiencies, particularly with recruitment.
- Implement a broad range of communication strategies to facilitate information flow, operationally, administratively and with external parties such as local government.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The Region must now aim to conduct business and its operations in a reliable and strategic manner. With the opportunities presented through realignment, a holistic and consultative approach will be used to develop strategies in the following areas:

- Regional Incident Management
- Regional Incident Response
- Emergency Risk Management
- Public Relations and recruitment
- Regional people plan
- Regional training development plan
- Regional asset management system

Strong Regional commitment toward training and development of core SASES skills will continue. This year will also see the introduction of volunteer development opportunities in non-traditional volunteer areas such as incident management and emergency risk management

There will be an emphasis on rapport building with key stakeholders ensuring that SASES is represented in all facets of emergencies – Prevention, Preparation, Response and Recovery. Regular meetings will be scheduled to discuss issues as they arise and a collaborative review of emergency plans will be conducted and exercised.

WEST REGION

UNITS

- Ceduna
- Cleve
- Cummins
- Eyre HQ
- Kimba
- Nullarbor
- Nundroo
- Pt Lincoln
- Streaky Bay
- Tumby Bay
- Whyalla
- Wudinna



ROBERT CHARLTON
Regional Commander

GOALS

- To provide an efficient and effective emergency response to the community of South Australia.
- To maintain and exercise the Zone Emergency Operations Centres with the aim of a coordinated management of Emergency Operations.

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

The West Region has been in operation since 2 May 2005 as a result of the realignment of the SASES. The Region covers an area from Spencer Gulf in the east, to the Western Australia border, from the Great Australian Bight in the south to the East West Railway Line in the north.

There are twelve volunteer Units in the Region that respond to emergencies involving Flood, Storm, Road Crash Rescue, Vertical Rescue, Search, General Rescue & Marine Rescue at sea. They also attend major events in the community to provide an immediate response to emergency incidents should they arise.

As in past years, this Region has been active in providing service at major community events such as the Tunarama at Port Lincoln, Oyster Fest at Ceduna and field days at Cleve. The volunteers have provided their services over lengthy periods of duty time. The risks presented at these community events are minimised by the attendance of dedicated and efficient teams of SASES rescuers.

All volunteers and staff from the Region were involved in activities during the Black Tuesday fires on lower Eyre Peninsula in January 2005. Volunteers from Eyre Headquarters Unit, Port Lincoln, Cummins, Tumby Bay, Streaky Bay and Whyalla worked tirelessly alongside other emergency service organisations and the community, performing duties involving traffic management, reconnaissance, chain saw operations, marine rescue, road crash rescue and staffing the Zone Emergency Operations Centre. These operations continued over a period of many months to assist the community during the recovery stage after the fires.

Units from across the State also responded to assist during the response and recovery operations.

STRATEGIES

- The development of Regional Strike Teams and a back-up response capability.
- Regional Headquarters Unit to be an intelligence gathering Unit for warning systems as the leading edge for the State.
- Regional Headquarters to be utilised as a promotions, public relations and information Unit.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

As the Regional Headquarters staffing and operational requirements grow over the next few years, there will be a need for a dedicated SASES Regional Headquarters. This will be an excellent resource for the operational, training and administration management of the Region.

Training will continue to be an important function during the coming year in order to provide a professional, efficient and effective response to emergency incidents.

West Coast and Mid West Zone Emergency Management Committees are meeting quarterly, with plans being reviewed and amended as required.

The West Coast Zone Emergency Operations Centre was activated in response to the Black Tuesday Bushfires. It operated for several days and was staffed by volunteers from Eyre Headquarters Unit. During this time a Major Emergency was declared under the *Emergency Management Act 2004*.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

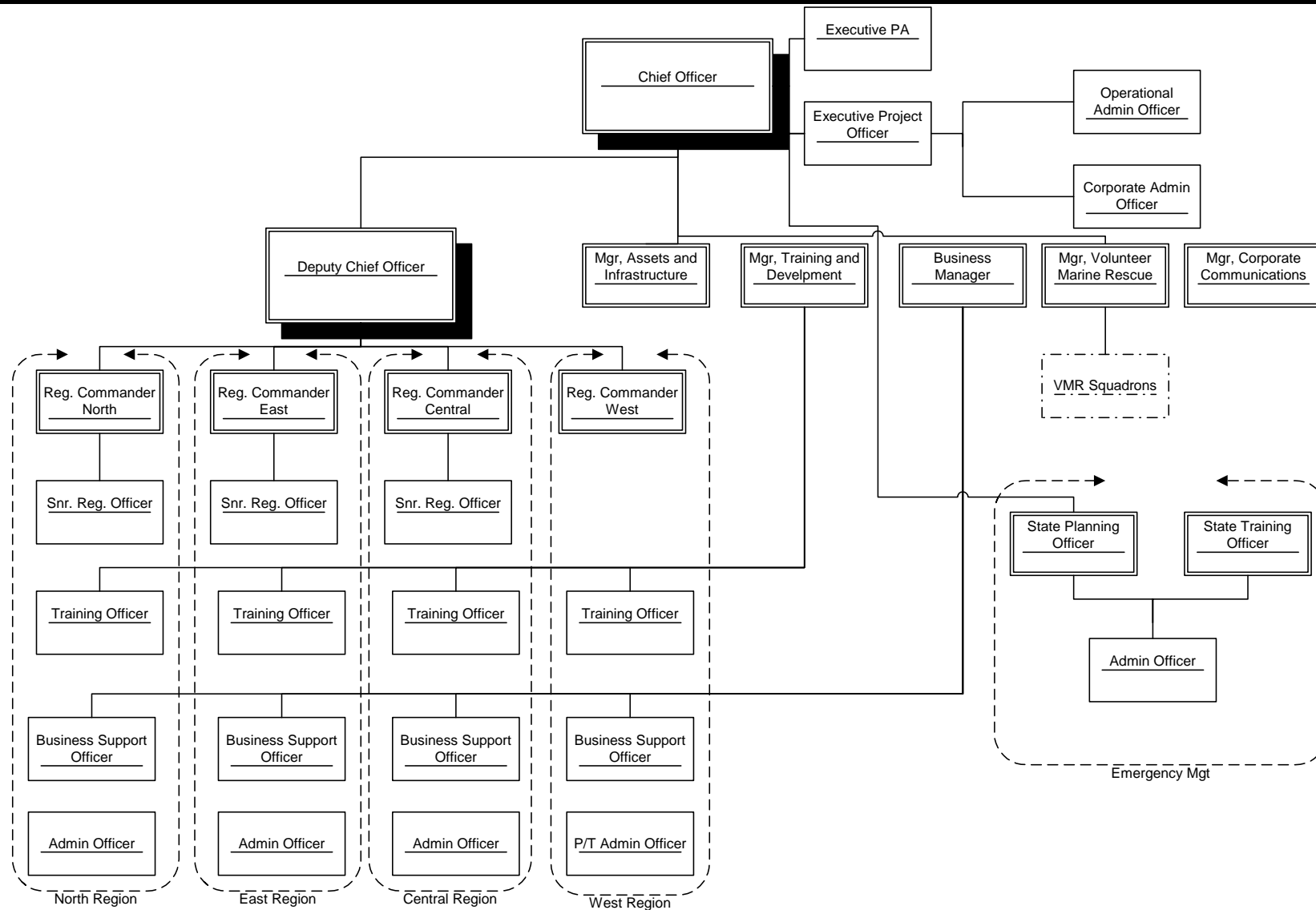
YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2005
ABN 520 569 703 07 [SASES STATE HQ]

REVENUE	\$'000	\$'000
Contributions from the Community Emergency Services Fund [Operating]	8,314	9,534
Volunteer Marine Rescue	12	13
Commonwealth Grants	545	503
Net Revenues from Disposal of Non-Current Assets	27	39
Interest on Investments	81	77
Fundraising Revenue by SASES Units	83	21
Donations to SASES	17	6
Resources received free of charge	0	0
Sundry Revenue	46	227
Total Revenues	9,125	10,420
EXPENSES FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES		
Employee Entitlements	2,302	3,074
Communication and information	458	614
Vehicle Leasing	261	241
Vehicle Maintenance	360	553
Minor Plant Purchases	219	251
Property Management	465	587
Training	207	213
Travel and Accommodation	122	257
Personal Protective Equipment and Uniforms	109	338
Professional Fees	137	100
Entertainment and Catering	85	67
Insurance	63	64
Printing and Stationery	133	151
Office and Miscellaneous	634	101
Minister's Grant Program to Introduce Emergency Risk Management	18	
Depreciation	0	
Marketing, Publications and Promotions	20	155
Operational Costs	370	500
Fundraising Expense by SASES Units	71	
ESAU Administration	1,120	1,227
Government Radio Network	1,621	1,642
Total Expenses *	8,775	10,135
<u>OPERATING SURPLUS [EXCLUDING DEPRECIATION]</u>	<u>350</u>	<u>285</u>
ADD: CAPITAL FUNDING		
Contributions from the Community Emergency Services Fund [capital]	2,510	2,823
LESS: CAPITALISATION EXPENSE		
Depreciation	2,215	1,448
OPERATING AND CAPITAL SURPLUS	645	1,660
EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS		
Add: Resources received free of charge **	1,788	1250
Add: Equity contribution from ESAU	5,000	0
OPERATING RESULT AFTER EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS	7,433	3,195

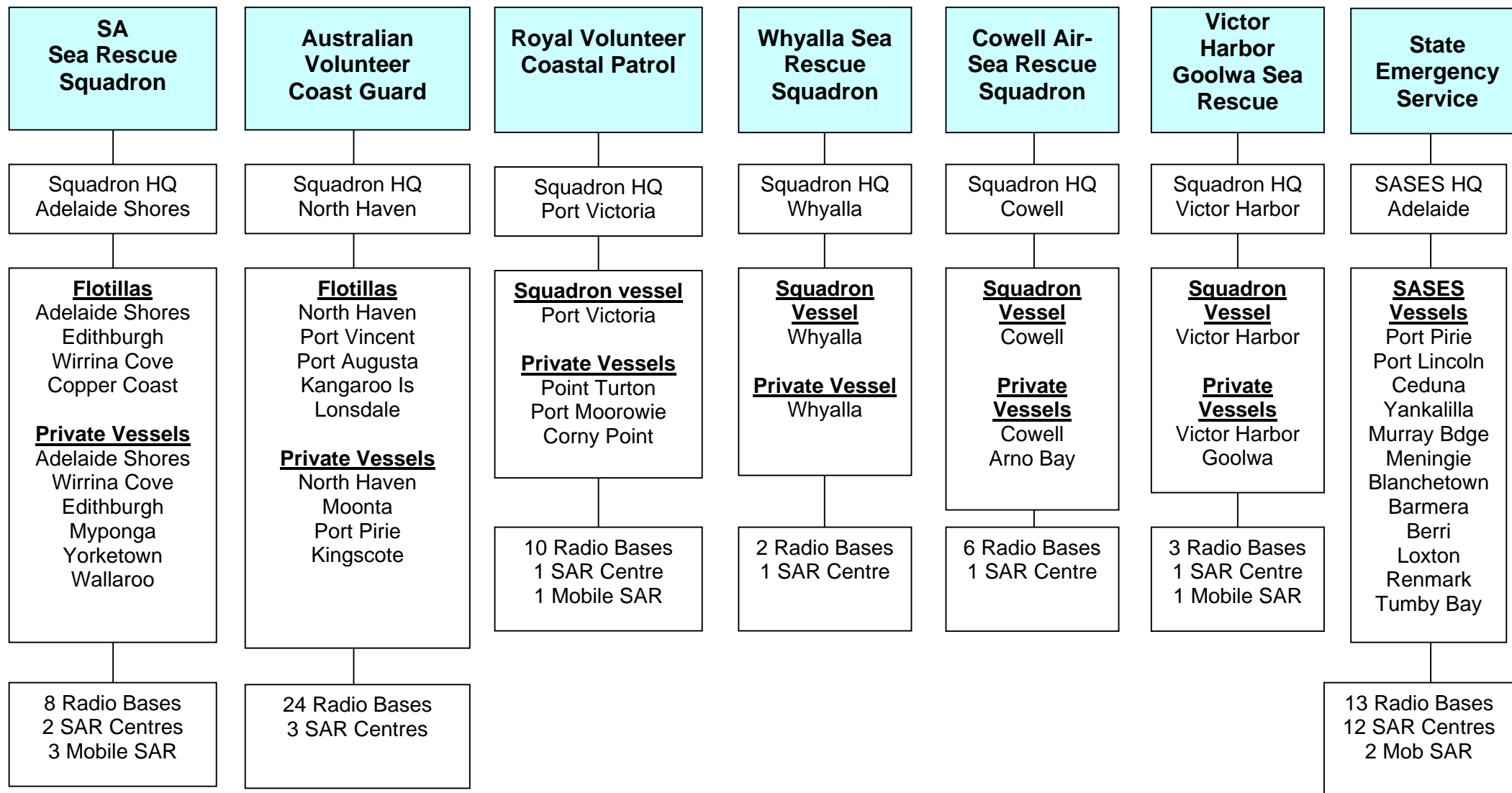
Notes: * Excludes equity contribution

** Includes land & buildings from Local Government brought to account

APPENDIX 1 - STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE ORGANISATION CHART



APPENDIX 2 - VOLUNTEER MARINE RESCUE ORGANISATION CHART



APPENDIX 3 - ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT

SECTION 1: ANNUAL REPORT – PRIORITY AND REMOVAL ACTIVITIES

Site Asbestos Presence Status	Priority for Risk Assessment	No of sites in Priority for Assessment category (45 includes shared sites with CFS)	Risk Reduction Program: Activities conducted during 2004/05	Quantification of Activities (By item / By Area / By \$)
Insufficient data	Urgent	0		
Unstable, Accessible; or Unstable, Damaged or Decayed	Urgent	3	Asbestos Inspection completed 2004/05 – removal to be undertaken 2005/06	
Unstable, Inaccessible; or Unstable, Partly Accessible	High	0		
Stable, Accessible; or Stable, Accessible, Initial Signs of Decay	Medium	17	Asbestos Inspection completed 2004/05 – investigate 2005/6 and activities to be determined	
Stable, Inaccessible; or Stable, Partly Accessible	Low	4	Asbestos Inspection completed 2004/05 – investigate 2005/6 and activities to be determined	
Asbestos Free	Not applicable	21		

SECTION 2: ANNUAL REPORT – RISK REDUCTION

Site category Scale	Site Performance Score	1	2	3	4	5	Not assessed
	Site Risk Level	Severe	Major	Moderate	Minor (threshold category)	No risk (target category)	
	% of Sites in Category at Year's Commencement	0	8.9%	35.5%	8.9%	46.7%	0
	Adjusted % After Annual Reduction Activity	0	8.9%	35.5%	8.9%	46.7%	0

APPENDIX 3 - ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT

Description of Annual Asbestos Reporting Template

SECTION 1: ANNUAL REPORT – PRIORITY AND REMOVAL ACTIVITIES

Site Asbestos Presence Status

- Indicates what types of asbestos containing materials (ACMs) can be present at each site, as recorded in the Asbestos Register.

Priority for Site Risk Assessment

- Indicates the associated priority for further whole of site risk assessment, based on type of ACM present at each site.

No. of Sites in Priority Group

- Indicates how many sites have at least one item of ACM of that type present.
- This provides an initial summary of what ACM items are present over a portfolio, and how further whole of site risk assessment should be prioritised.

Risk Reduction Program: Activities Conducted During 2004 / 05 (Commentary)

- A brief, qualitative description of planning/analysis and removal works undertaken over the elapsed year, indicating: analysis work being, or to be undertaken, what ACMs have been targeted (such as roofing/eaves, equipment fittings such as insulation or gaskets, or damaged cladding on walls, partitions or ceilings).
- Site names can be used, but are not mandatory.

Quantification of Activities: ACMs Removed (By Item / By Area / By \$)

- Quantitative totals of how many items (as recorded in the Asbestos Register), and/or how many square metres (or linear metres, cubic metres etc), and/or level of expenditure for removal of ACMs over the elapsed year.

SECTION 2: ANNUAL REPORT – RISK REDUCTION

Site Category Scale: Site Performance Score

- Site Performance Score based on risk assessment of ACMs present at that site, using a 1 to 5 numeric scale (also allows a category for sites that are being assessed but yet to be categorised).

Site Category Scale: Site Risk Level

- The assessed level of risk for a site as a whole, based on a detailed risk assessment of the ACMs and the associated removal and management plan at that site.

% of Sites in Category at Year's Commencement

- The percentage of sites in the portfolio assessed at the associated site risk level, at the commencement of the elapsed year.

Adjusted % After Annual Reduction Activity

- The adjusted percentage of sites in the portfolio assessed at the associated site risk level, at the completion of the elapsed year and completion of reduction activities for the year.

DEFINITIONS

- ACM: Asbestos Containing Material
- Unstable: Denotes Non-Friable ACMs of Poor Condition, or Friable ACMs of Medium or Poor Condition, as recorded in the Asbestos Register
- Stable: Denotes Non-Friable ACMs of Good or Medium Condition, or Friable ACMs of Good Condition, as recorded in the Asbestos Register