

updated Attachment B as at 27 May 2011

DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL AUSTRALIA - DETAILED RESPONSE TO CHRISTMAS ISLAND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

Item	Response	Current status
1. Throwable grenade life jackets/ inflatable life rings	Yes. Department to source and fund	ORDERED 100 rescue grenade life rings have been ordered from Stormy Australia, the grenade manufacturer. There are currently no grenades currently in stock, but supplies of a safer grenade, requiring less frequent maintenance, will be available by mid June. Arrangements for transfer to Christmas Island are being settled (transport by air may not be possible).
2. Hand-held radios	Yes. Department to source and fund	ORDERED Five floating, waterproof marine VHF radios have been ordered and are expected on Island in the first week of June. The proposal for a fully equipped rescue trailer below includes additional radios.
3. Rescue trailer containing life jackets, inflatable rescue rings, ropes, lighting, generator, fire extinguishers, first aid kits, flares, radios, megaphones, blankets, rope ladder	Yes. Department to source and fund	UNDERWAY WA FESA is advising us on the trailer and contents. VMR is currently finalising the specifications for a purpose built fully equipped rescue trailer. Construction of the trailer is being managed by FESA WA. Equipment will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a communications base using two VHF radios, a HF radio and a UHF radio (this caters for all rescue scenarios where communications to vessels and shore stations is required);

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a control centre facility using fold-down desk and chairs, communications facilities, lighting and separate shelter; • equipment necessary for coastal based search and rescue activities, including lighting, shelter, refreshments, PPE, first aid, triage equipment, tools and other miscellaneous items necessary for either a brief or extended shore-based search and rescue operation. <p>The trailer is anticipated to arrive on Christmas Island in July/August 2011.</p>
4. VMR rescue kits (miniature version of rescue trailer)	Yes. Department to source and fund	<p>UNDERWAY</p> <p>See proposal for a fully equipped rescue trailer above. The equipment includes grab bags containing miniature rescue kits.</p>
5. Waterproof mobile phone bags	Yes. Department to source and fund	<p>ORDERED</p> <p>DRA has ordered 50 waterproof mobile phone bags from OverBoard Products Pty Ltd, a Queensland company. The bags are expected to arrive on Christmas Island on Saturday 4 June 2011.</p>
6. Mats that do not hold water for people to lie on when recovered from the sea	Yes. Department to source and fund, IOTHS to store with other emergency equipment	<p>COMPLETED</p> <p>DRA has ordered and received 10 high density foam mats that can be used for patients to lie on in wet conditions or where beds are unavailable.</p>
7. Incident management tabards	Yes. Department to source and fund	<p>ORDERED</p> <p>DRA has ordered two incident management tabard packs from WA FESA's preferred supplier, Stewart and Heaton</p>

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		Clothing Co Pty Ltd. Goods are anticipated to arrive on Christmas Island in mid June 2011.
8 9 Body bags and coffins	Yes. Department to source and fund, IOTHS to store and maintain	COMPLETED Contingency reserves of 60 body bags and 10 coffins are on site. IOTHS advise that this will be adequate for their needs for the medium to long term assuming normal levels of activity.
10. Dedicated chiller container with racks for the morgue	Yes. A dedicated chiller container is unnecessary. Department to source and fund chiller racks. As occurred during SIEV 221, a local chiller could be hired as required.	UNDERWAY Suitable shelving has been located to fit inside a standard chiller container. The shelving must be rust proof, able to be cleaned easily and able to be erected and dismantled easily. We expect to order soon.
11. Toyota Landcruiser PC troop carrier (to be used as an ambulance)	Yes. Department to source and fund.	COMPLETED The replacement fully equipped all terrain ambulance arrived on Christmas Island in mid May 2011 and is currently being commissioned.
12. Life rings placed at strategic places on shoreline	Yes. Department to work with Parks Australia and VMR to identify suitable locations. Department to source and fund.	UNDERWAY DRA, AFP, VMR and Parks have identified 13 suitable locations for the life rings. These are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nui Nui (site of the Nui Nui crane) • Sitting room (off Triadic Circuit) • Rocky Point shoreline (off Rocky Point Road) • Police Padang shoreline • Golden Bosun/Sunset accommodation shoreline • Flying Fish Cove • Smith Point mooring pin • Smith Point lighthouse • Smith Point ANZAC memorial

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lily Beach • Ethel Beach • Blowholes • Martin Point <p>FESA is developing specifications to construct multiple use holders for the life rings which would incorporate defibrillators (these are additional to EMC report recommendations) and rope rescue anchor points in these locations, to reduce maintenance costs.</p>
13. Life saving devices at Ethel Beach	Yes. Department to source and fund. To be included as part of the recommendation above.	<p>UNDERWAY</p> <p>DRA, VMR and Parks have identified 13 suitable locations for the life rings. Ethel Beach is one of the identified locations.</p>
14. Emergency lighting at Ethel Beach 15. Toilet facilities at Ethel Beach 16. Secure shelter at Ethel Beach	No. Ethel Beach is a dangerous area and neither the Emergency Management Committee nor the Department support its use in anything other than daylight emergency conditions.	<p>RECOMMENDATIONS REJECTED</p>
17. Ramp improvements at Ethel Beach	Yes. The Ethel Beach community boat ramp is the responsibility of the Shire of Christmas Island. The suggested improvements relate primarily to repairs and maintenance of the existing boat ramp (filling potholes and cracks, installing stanchions for a safety rope along the edge of the ramp)	<p>COMPLETED</p> <p>The Shire of Christmas Island has advised that cracks and potholes have been repaired and tie down bolts installed. The ramp has also been cleaned using high pressure hoses. Collapsible halvyard rails have been ordered and are anticipated to be installed once by mid June 2011.</p>
18. Surf jet ski	Possible. Department to work with W/A FESA to determine if use of a jet ski like vessel for search and rescue would be feasible in	<p>UNDERWAY</p> <p>DRA is consulting with W/A FESA and AMSA on the feasibility of personal rescue water craft adding to local</p>

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	Christmas Island conditions and whether it would meet AMSA survey requirements.	rescue capability and its viability in local conditions.
19. Surf RHIB	No. The Department does not support purchasing a surf RHIB as the planned upgrade of existing boats or purchase of new boats for the AFP and VMR render it unnecessary. Also, an interim capability is in place.	<p>UNDERWAY</p> <p>The AFP is considering as a matter of urgency how best to address survey issues with its boats. This could include upgrading existing boats or tendering for new boats. The AFP and VMR boats (the same type of vessel) were funded by, belong to, the Department, but are managed by the AFP and VMR respectively. Once a way forward is determined, a funding proposal will be submitted to the Department.</p>
20. Accident/incident familiarisation course for members of the community	Yes. Administrator to source appropriate training.	<p>UNDERWAY</p> <p>Under a Service Delivery Arrangement (SDA) with the Commonwealth Government, Western Australia Fire and Emergency Services (FESA) plays a critical role in the delivery of public awareness in consultation with the Christmas Island Emergency Management Committee. In particular, FESA has responsibility for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • community awareness programs about hazards of natural disasters; • assistance with prevention and preparedness programs and measures to mitigate risks from these hazards; • promotion of the installation and maintenance of smoke alarms in private dwellings; and • support for school safety education programs about natural disasters.

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		<p>Such community awareness activities may include, but are not limited to, distribution of publications (including those prepared by FESA or EMA), public meetings or articles in local newspapers.</p> <p>At its 28 April 2011 meeting the Christmas Island Emergency Management Committee resolved to engage FESA WA to undertake recovery and management training on behalf of the Committee. The Administrator has held informal discussions with FESA staff to develop appropriate arrangements. Once an approach and dates have been settled, additional public information will be disseminated.</p>
<p>21. General upgrade of VMR headquarters and facilities, e.g. boat shelter, air conditioning for meeting room, emergency generator.</p>	<p>Yes. VMR to develop a proposal for Departmental consideration.</p>	<p>UNDERWAY</p> <p>Funds have been raised locally by the VMR to install air conditioning for the meeting room and this work will commence soon, engaging local contractors.</p> <p>A separate project to provide emergency power for the Emergency Operations Centre located in the nearby Christmas Island Courthouse will also supply emergency power to the VMR. The generator has been ordered and is expected to arrive on Christmas Island in June 2011, and work is anticipated to be completed by July/August 2011.</p> <p>VMR is currently scoping a proposal for a new boat shed and undertaking some concrete repairs, but detailed design work cannot be completed until final decisions are taken on the boat to be used by the VMR in future.</p>