



BUSHFIRE ADVISORY GROUP

TERMS OF REFERENCE December 2018

These Terms of Reference are to read in conjunction with Council's Advisory Group Operation and Conduct Policy

BACKGROUND

The Adelaide Hills Council area contains extensive areas of high bushfire risk. The Council recognises the extent of the threat to lives and property that is created by that Bushfire risk.

Over many years Council has undertaken works on its land to reduce the bushfire threat to the assets on that land and the adjoining community. It has also worked with government agencies and the community to manage the overall bushfire threat in the Adelaide Hills Council area.

In the past a key component of the coordination of these activities has been via the District Bushfire Prevention Committee. This committee was made up of Council staff, CFS brigade representatives, representatives from government agencies and was formed pursuant to powers in the *Fire & Emergency Services Act 2005*.

The Act was amended in 2010 and the requirement to convene these committees was removed. Since that time the groups that made up that committee have continued to meet to discuss bushfire mitigation issues.

Council recognises the expertise and knowledge that lies within such a committee and has decided to maintain a Bushfire Advisory Group to assist it with its bushfire mitigation responsibilities.

ROLE

The Bushfire Advisory Group provides advice to the Executive Officer on bushfire mitigation issues. This will include issues such as local bushfire risks, threat assessment and knowledge of other organisations' bushfire mitigation plans.

The Bushfire Advisory Group will provide links to other member organisations' bushfire knowledge and skills and will be consulted by staff during the preparation and implementation of Council's bushfire mitigation programs and activities.

STRATEGIC LINKS

Strategic Plan

<i>Prosper - People and business prosper</i>	1.12	We will seek opportunities to increase the wellbeing and resilience of our community to withstand, recover and grow in the face of challenges
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FUNCTIONS

The Bushfire Advisory Group provides advice to the Executive Officer on:

- Bushfire mitigation issues on Council land and roads.
- Potential bushfire hazards on private or public land.
- Fire mitigation activities being undertaken on government land.
- Opportunities for coordination of bushfire mitigation activities.
- Preparation and implementation of Council's bushfire mitigation programs and activities
Networking opportunities so that Council maintains links with experts, community groups, organisations and skilled individuals in the areas of bushfire mitigation.

MEMBERSHIP

The Bushfire Advisory Group shall comprise up to two (2) Council Members and up to eleven (11) independent representatives.

The eleven (11) independent members shall be organisation representatives nominated by the following:

- Up to two representatives each from CFS Groups:
 - Onkaparinga Group
 - Gumeracha Group
 - East Torrens Group
 - Mt Lofty Group
- One representative from a Bushfire Region
- One representative from DEWNR
- One representative from SA Water

The following Council Officers shall also attend:

- One AHC Fire Prevention Officer

The Team Leader Regulatory Services (or nominee) or other officer appointed by the Chief Executive Officer shall act as Executive Officer for the Bushfire Advisory Group.

Nominations for organisation representatives will be sought from member organisations in writing not less than two (2) months prior to the expiry of members' terms of office.

Where a representative of an agency or department or stakeholder group is able to designate a proxy, the details of that proxy shall be forwarded to the Council at the time of appointment of the substantive representative.