

# SES NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS ASSOCIATION



## Leading and Influencing Change

The National State Emergency Service Volunteers Association was established in 2015 to provide a collective voice on nationally significant issues for the State and Territory associations which represent over 43,000 State Emergency Service volunteers.

This, our first strategic plan, aims to build a sustainable organisation that will represent and advocate on behalf of volunteers.

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## DOCUMENT CONTROL

Version	Date	Author	Summary of changes
0.1	13 July 2016	Andrew Edwards	First draft
0.2	14 July 2016	Working Group	Second draft
1.0	14 July 2016	Andrew Edwards	Web version
2.0	19 October 2019	Gordon Hall	Updated Web Version

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## Message from the Directors and Councillors

We are extremely proud and honoured to have been involved in the establishment of the National State Emergency Service Volunteers Association.

By working together as a unified group over a short period of time, the individual State and Territory Emergency Service Volunteers Associations, have been able to come together to form a collective voice on volunteer issues that impact State and Territory Emergency Service members nationally.

This strategic plan is the first step in our journey as a National Association representing more than 27,000 Volunteers.

In this plan we are considering our future. We are planning on building a sustainable organisation that will be delivered across three (3) key business areas:

1. Profile Growth
2. Governance
3. Advocacy

The strategic plan is linked to our constitution and is underpinned by strong governance, ethical decision making and beyond everything else, it is driven by the leaders of passionate volunteers.

We want the State and Territory Emergency Service Volunteers that we represent to have the respect, support, recognition and representation that they deserve so they can focus on doing what they do best – supporting their local communities before, during and after disasters.

On behalf of the Directors and Councillors of the National State Emergency Service Volunteers Association.



***Gordon Hall*** *ESM*

***Chair, NSESVA***

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## INTRODUCTION

This initial plan is instrumental in building a sustainable National State Emergency Service Volunteers Association as a collaborative voice of the State and Territory Associations which represents over 28,000 State Emergency Service Volunteers in the Emergency Management domain.

This plan sets achievable goals, strategies and actions to be delivered over the years to build a financially viable organisation that is actively supporting and representing its members on matters of National importance.

The three pillars of the plan focus our priorities.

### **Profile Growth**

Establish an Engagement Plan on how we will effectively communicate with a diverse audience to increase awareness of the National State Emergency Service Volunteers Association's role within the volunteering community across Australia.

### **Governance**

Build rules and operating procedures that provide transparency in all activities that the Association undertakes so that our stakeholders have confidence in all that we do.

### **Advocacy**

Develop nationally consistent positions on matters that are relevant to all the State and Territory associations and communicating to our stakeholders.

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## THE NATIONAL STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE VOLUNTEERS ASSOCIATION

The National State Emergency Service Volunteers Association was established in 2015 after years of work and negotiations between each State and Territory State Emergency Service Volunteers Association. The National State Emergency Service Volunteers Association is an incorporated association established as a not for profit entity that is registered with the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission.

The Association is actively working to achieve nationally consistent goals that represent the interests of its members, advocating for them when appropriate.

The Association also provides a forum for national cross jurisdiction communication, collaboration and coordination on common issues in the emergency management arenas that affect State Emergency Service volunteers.

As a peak body the Association provides financial and administrative support to each State and Territory Association.

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## OUR STRUCTURE

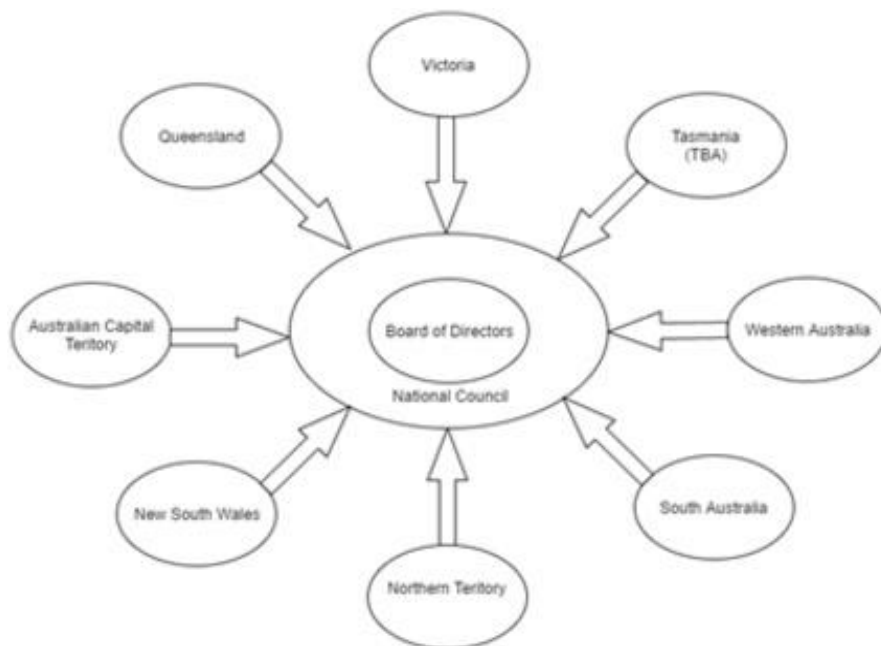
The National State Emergency Service Volunteers Association is a coalition of each State and Territory Volunteers Association.

A Board of Directors oversees the operation of the organisation. The President (or equivalent) of each State and Territory Volunteers Association is appointed as a Director of the organisation. The positions of Chair, Deputy Chair and Secretary/Treasurer of the National Association provide leadership to the Board in formulating strategy, policy, risk and financial management.

Each State and Territory may also nominate an independent representative from their own State Association to become a member of the National Association. The Board and the Members form the National Council. The National Council considers, researches and makes recommendations to the Board on issues that are relevant to State Emergency Service Volunteers.

The Chair, Deputy Chair and Secretary/Treasurer are elected on rotation by the National Council. No person may serve for more than six (6) years in a position.

The following diagram provides a high level view of the structure of the National Association:

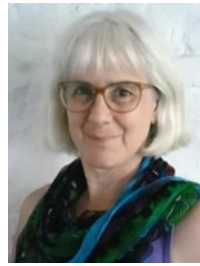


## OUR LEADERS



**Gordon Hall ESM  
Chair**

Gordon Hall is the  
President of the WA SES  
Volunteers Association



**Dr Faye Bendrups  
Deputy Chair**

Faye Bendrups is the  
Secretary of the  
Victorian SES  
Volunteers Association



**Doreen McEncroe ESM  
Secretary/Treasurer**

Doreen McEncroe is the  
President of the ACT SES  
Volunteers Association

**Warren Hicks  
Director  
South Australia**

Warren Hicks is the  
President of the South  
Australian State  
Emergency Service

**Sharon Kearney  
Director  
Northern Territory**

Sharon Kearney is the  
President of the Northern  
Territory State Emergency  
Service Volunteers  
Association.

**Greg Cook  
Director**

Greg Cook is the  
President of the  
Western Australian  
State Emergency Service  
Volunteers Association.

**Eddie Cowie  
Director**

Eddie Cowie is the  
President of the  
Queensland State  
Emergency Service  
Volunteer Association

**David Rowlands**

**Director**

David Rowlands is the President of the Victorian State Emergency Service Volunteers Association.

**Chris Draffin ESM**

**Director**

Chris Draffin is the President of the Tasmania State Emergency Service Volunteers Association

**Kim Davis ESM**

**Director**

Kim Davis is the President of the NSW State Emergency Service Volunteers Association

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## OUR MISSION

Advancing SES Volunteers through National Representation and Advocacy.

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## OUR VISION

To lead and influence change.

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## OUR OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the National State Emergency Service Volunteers Association are to:

- Provide a collective voice on issues of common interest to SES volunteers
- Enable national collaboration and coordination of responses on matters of national importance
- Assist State and Territory Volunteer Associations
- Provide a collective voice on issues of common interest

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## OUR VALUES

### **Trust**

To provide effective stewardship of the organisation for the benefit of our members

### **Respect**

To accept everyone and appreciate them for their differences and points of view

### **Volunteering**

To give, without benefit or gain, to our organisation in order to support and represent other volunteers

### **Leadership**

To make decisions for the benefit of our members

### **Integrity**

To apply moral and ethical standards to all decisions that we make

### **Professionalism**

To use our skills and experience to grow and build a sustainable organisation

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## OUR STRATEGIES

### **Profile Growth**

Establish an Engagement Plan on how we will effectively communicate with a diverse audience to increase awareness of the National SES Volunteers Association's role within the volunteering community across Australia.

### **Governance**

Build rules and operating procedures that provide transparency in all activities that the Association undertakes so that our stakeholders have confidence in all that we do.

### **Advocacy**

Develop nationally consistent positions on matters that are relevant to all the State and Territory associations and communicating to our stakeholders.



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## OUR PLAN

### PROFILE

Action	Description
Engagement Plan	Establish an Engagement Plan on how the association will engage with key stakeholders.
Communications Plan	Develop a draft Process and Procedure document for internal and external communications.
Marketing Plan	Develop a plan to promote awareness of the association through effective marketing.

### GOVERNANCE

Action	Description
Financial Management	Develop relevant policies and procedures.
Board Roles and Responsibilities	Develop relevant policies and procedures.
Risk Mitigation Strategy	Develop a Risk Assessment which identifies potential risks and a plan to manage each.

### ADVOCACY

Action	Description
Position Statements	Develop Position Statements outlining what we are advocating.
Advocacy Methods	Develop techniques to communicate our key messages.
Strategic Partnerships	Identify key stakeholders with whom to engage with and/or form strategic partnerships.

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## CONTACT

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### FOLLOW US

Web: [www.nesva.org.au](http://www.nesva.org.au)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NationalSESVolunteersAssociation/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/nationalesva>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/national-ses-volunteers-association>