

Australia-New Zealand Emergency Management Committee

Monday, 15 September 2025

COMMUNIQUÉ

A meeting of the Australia-New Zealand Emergency Management Committee (ANZEMC) was held in Canberra on 15 September 2025.

Higher Risk Weather Season Update

Members discussed preparations for the 2025-26 Higher Risk Weather Season (HRWS), focusing on key priorities across preparedness, response and recovery. Members were provided with an update on the HRWS Preparedness Program and the Operational Review of the 2024-25 HRWS.

Hazard Insurance Partnership Update

Members received an update on the ongoing work of the Hazards Insurance Partnership and the work underway to put downward pressure on insurance premiums.

More information on the [Hazards Insurance Partnership](#) is available on the National Emergency Management Agency website.

Mental Health for Emergency Services Workers

Members discussed opportunities for strengthening integration of mental health initiatives across governments.

Emergency Management Strategic Improvement Programme

Members received a briefing from the New Zealand National Emergency Management Agency on New Zealand's Emergency Management Strategic Improvement Programme. Members discussed the shared insights and experiences from disaster events and highlighted the importance of systems evolving to meet the current needs of communities in the face of increasing frequency and complexity of disaster events.

Review of ANZEMC Sub-Committees, Time-Limited Working Groups and Reference and Advisory Boards

Members discussed the restructure of ANZEMC governance arrangements to ensure the work of ANZEMC Sub-committees is aligned to the themes in the ANZEMC Work Plan. Members agreed to engage in providing input into possible refreshed governance options.

ANZEMC Work Plan Refresh – Forward Pathway

Members discussed ANZEMC's strategic direction for the next 3 years and agreed to engage in the refresh of the ANZEMC Work Plan. The refresh will ensure ANZEMC continues to focus its effort on driving national outcomes that strengthen Australia's resilience to natural disasters, alongside investment in response and recovery. Members agreed to consider the final ANZEMC Work Plan out-of-session prior to seeking NEMMM endorsement.

Public Safety Mobile Broadband – Revised Pathway to Shared Commitment to Progress the PSMB Capability

Members received an update on the Public Safety Mobile Broadband (PSMB) program highlighting that some jurisdictions have committed to a revised negotiated pathway forward to progress the PSMB program. All Members reaffirmed that PSMB remains a priority for ANZEMC.

National Emergency Volunteering Strategy

Members agreed to progress a National Emergency Volunteering Strategy for 6 priority areas through a coordinated approach to strengthen emergency volunteering across Australia.

National Messaging System

The National Messaging System (NMS) is on track for community use 1 October 2026. The NMS timelines have been accelerated, and Emergency Management Victoria on behalf of jurisdictions, continues to engage with Telstra in relation to the continuation of Emergency Alert as a capability during transition.