



Media Release

Implementation of ESA budget savings

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Today, I have written to all ESA staff members to advise them of actions to ensure the Territory's emergency services continue to deliver services to the community within the ACT Government's budget allocation for the ESA.

Consultation with employee representatives, which cover the ESA workforce, will be critical to the strategies to be developed to achieve the required outcomes.

In the 2012-13 Budget Review, which was presented by the Chief Minister in the Legislative Assembly on 14 February 2013, the ACT Government has forecast deficits over the 2013-14 and 2014-15 financial years, with a return to surplus not forecast until 2015-16. The return to surplus requires a focused effort to restrain growth in expenditure.

All ACT Public Sector agencies need to deliver services within the constraints of a tight economic environment. This includes the ESA.

The ESA is required to contribute to this target and has been working toward identifying strategies to be implemented, which will reduce costs of operation and contribute to the budget savings.

The ESA is a complex organisation, its size and co-location of functions provides an opportunity for me, as the Commissioner, to consider how the Services work in an innovative and prudent way.

The capability of ESA to undertake its role in protecting the ACT community will not be affected by these strategies.

As ESA Commissioner, I will examine a range of areas including aligning current practices with the broader public sector.

Be assured that the strategies will not involve a reduction in response capability of the ESA to the ACT community and will be the subject of consultation with employee representatives who cover the ESA workforce.

Dominic Lane AFSM
Commissioner
ACT Emergency Services Agency
31 May 2013