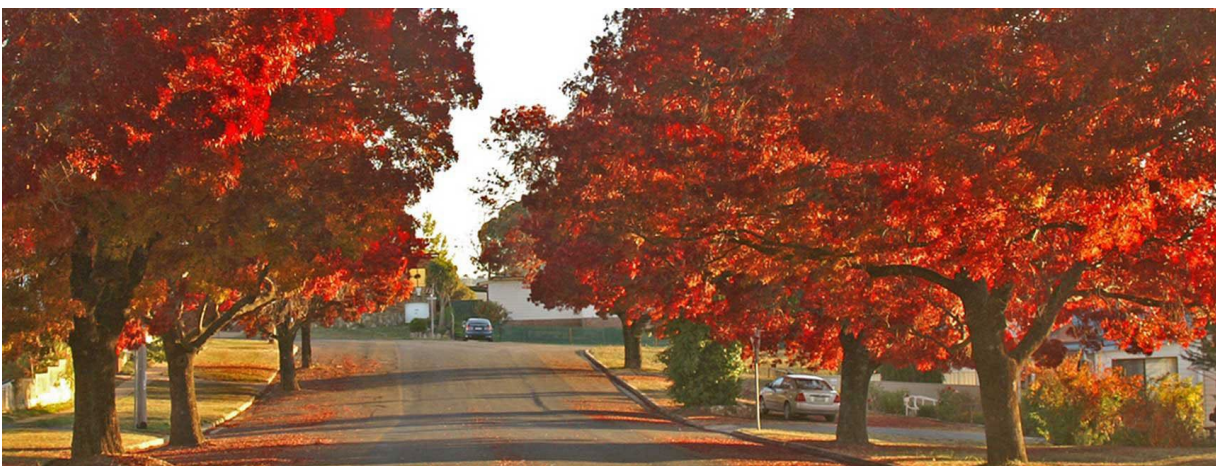




**Southern Ranges  
Upper Lachlan  
Local Emergency  
Management Plan  
May 2023**



## Part 1 – Administration

### Authority

The Southern Ranges Upper Lachlan Shire Local Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN) has been prepared by the Southern Ranges Local Emergency Management Committee in compliance with the State Emergency & Rescue Management Act 1989.

### APPROVED



.....  
Chair

**Southern Ranges Local Emergency Management Committee**

Dated: 02/05/2023

### ENDORSED



.....  
Chair

**South Eastern Regional Emergency Management Committee**

Dated: 22/08/2023

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**Document Control**

Suggested amendments or additions to the contents of this Local Emergency Management Plan are to be made in writing to:

The Chairperson  
Southern Ranges Local Emergency Management Committee  
C/- Upper Lachlan Shire Council  
PO Box 42  
GUNNING NSW 2581  
Email: [lemc@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lemc@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au)

Proposed amendments or additions must be endorsed by the Southern Ranges Local Emergency Management Committee prior to inclusion.

Amendments or additions are to be certified in the following table.

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Change Description</b>
1	18/9/2023	Southern Ranges	Updated ABS and Bureau of Meteorology data.

## Distribution

<b>Restricted Versions – South Eastern REMC</b>	
Region Emergency Operations Controller (REOCON)	1
Region Emergency Management Officer (REMO)	1
Region Emergency Operations Centre (REOC)	1
<b>Restricted Versions - Southern Ranges LEMC</b>	
Local Emergency Operations Controller (LEOCON)	1
Local Emergency Management Officer (LEMO)	1
Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC)	1
Local Emergency Operations Centre (LEOC)	1
Local Emergency Operations Centre (LEOC) Alternate	1
Ambulance Service of NSW	1
Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW)	1
NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI)	1
NSW Police Force	1
NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) Upper Lachlan District	1
NSW State Emergency Service (NSW SES)	1
NSW Health	1
Department of Family and Community Services (Southern NSW District WellFAC)	1
Transport / Engineering Services	1
Transport for NSW (TfNSW)	1
Local Land Services (LLS)	1
National Parks and Wildlife Service (Kanangra Office)	1
Red Cross Emergency Services	1
Salvation Army	1
St Vincent de Paul Society	1
Telstra	1
Essential Energy	1

<b>Public Release Version – Other Organization's</b>	
Upper Lachlan Shire Council LEMO	1
Goulburn Mulwaree Shire Council LEMO	1
Upper Lachlan Shire Council Libraries	4
Crookwell District Hospital	1
Sunset Lodge	1
Viewhaven Lodge	1
Bigga Public School	1
Binda Public School	1
Breadalbane Public School	1
Collector Public School	1
Crookwell Early Learning	1
Crookwell High School	1
Crookwell Neighbourhood Centre	1
Crookwell Public School	1
Dalton Public School	1
Gunning Early Learning Centre	1
Gunning Public School	1
Laggan Public School	1
Paradise 4 Kids - Gunning	1
SDN Children's Services	1
St Mary's Primary School	1
Taralga Public School	1

### Abbreviations

<b>ABS</b>	Australian Bureau of Statistics
<b>ADF</b>	Australian Defence Forces
<b>BFB</b>	Bush Fire Brigade
<b>CBR</b>	Chemical, Biological or Radiological emergencies
<b>DACC</b>	Defence Assistance to the Civil Community
<b>EMPLAN</b>	State, Region or Local Emergency Management Plan
<b>EOCON</b>	Emergency Operations Controller
<b>EPA</b>	Environment Protection Authority
<b>ERM</b>	Emergency Risk Management
<b>FACS</b>	Family & Community Services NSW
<b>FRNSW</b>	Fire and Rescue NSW
<b>HAZMAT</b>	Hazardous materials
<b>JMIC</b>	Joint Media Information Centre
<b>LEMC</b>	Local Emergency Management Committee
<b>LEMO</b>	Local Emergency Management Officer
<b>LEOC</b>	Local Emergency Operations Centre
<b>LEOCON</b>	Local Emergency Operations Controller
<b>LEP</b>	Local Environmental Plan
<b>LLS</b>	Local Land Services
<b>LO</b>	Liaison Officer
<b>NSP</b>	Neighbourhood Safer Place (Place of last resort)
<b>NSWTL</b>	NSW Trainlink
<b>REMC</b>	Region Emergency Management Committee
<b>REMO</b>	Region Emergency Management Officer
<b>REOC</b>	Region Emergency Operations Centre
<b>REOCON</b>	Region Emergency Operations Controller
<b>RFS</b>	NSW Rural Fire Service
<b>SEMC</b>	State Emergency Management Committee
<b>SEOC</b>	State Emergency Operations Centre
<b>SEOCON</b>	State Emergency Operations Controller
<b>SERCON</b>	State Emergency Recovery Controller
<b>SERM Act</b>	State Emergency & Rescue Management Act 1989 (as amended)
<b>SES</b>	NSW State Emergency Service
<b>SITREP</b>	Situation report
<b>SO</b>	Standing Order/s

<b>SOP</b>	Standing Operating Procedures
<b>SRA</b>	State Rail Authority
<b>TMC</b>	Transport Management Centre
<b>TNSW</b>	Transport NSW
<b>VRA</b>	Volunteer Rescue Association

## Purpose

Details arrangements for, prevention of, preparation for, response to and recovery from emergencies within the Local Government Area(s) covered by this plan.

It encompasses arrangements for:

- emergencies controlled by combat agencies;
- emergencies controlled by combat agencies and supported by the Local Emergency Operations Controller (LEOCON);
- emergency operations for which there is no combat agency; and
- circumstances where a combat agency has passed control to the LEOCON.

## Objectives

The objectives of this plan are to:

- define participating organisation and Functional Area roles and responsibilities in preparation for, response to and recovery from emergencies;
- set out the control, co-ordination and liaison arrangements at the Local level;
- detail activation and alerting arrangements for involved agencies; and
- detail arrangements for the acquisition and co-ordination of resources.

## Scope

The plan describes the arrangements at Local level to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies and also provides policy direction for the preparation of Sub Plans and Supporting Plans:

- Arrangements detailed in this plan are based on the assumption that the resources upon which the plan relies are available when required; and
- The effectiveness of arrangements detailed in this plan are dependent upon all involved agencies preparing, testing and maintaining appropriate internal instructions, and/or standing operating procedures.



## Principles

The following principles are applied in this plan:

- a) The Emergency Risk Management (ERM) process is to be used as the basis for emergency planning in New South Wales. This methodical approach to the planning process is to be applied by Emergency Management Committees at all levels.
- b) Responsibility for preparation, response and recovery rests initially at Local level. If Local agencies and available resources are not sufficient they are augmented by those at Regional level.
- c) Control of emergency response and recovery operations is conducted at the lowest effective level.
- d) Agencies may deploy their own resources from their own service from outside the affected Local area or Region if they are needed.
- e) The Local Emergency Operations Controller (LEOCON) is responsible, when requested by a combat agency, to co-ordinate the provision of resources support. EOCs would not normally assume control from a combat agency unless the situation can no longer be contained. Where necessary, this should only be done after consultation with the Regional Emergency Operations Controller (REOCON) and agreement of the combat agency and the appropriate level of control.
- f) Emergency preparation, response and recovery operations should be conducted with all agencies carrying out their normal functions wherever possible.
- g) Prevention measures remain the responsibility of authorities/agencies charged by statute with the responsibility.

## Test and Review Process

The Southern Ranges Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) will review this Plan every three (3) years, or following any:

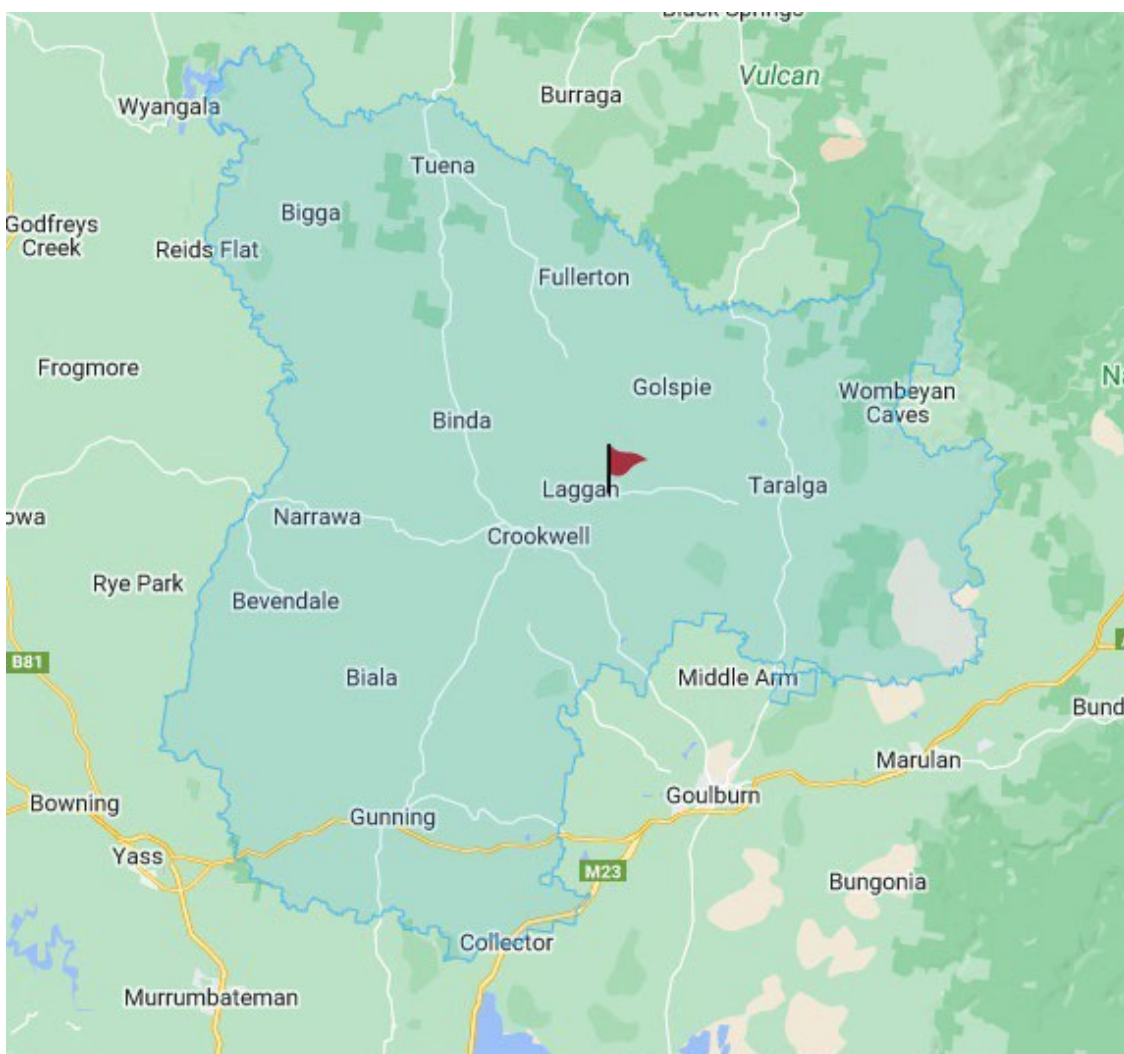
- activation of the Plan in response to an emergency;
- legislative changes affecting the Plan; and
- exercises conducted to test all or part of the Plan.

## Part 2 – Community Context

### Annexure A – Community Profile

#### General

Upper Lachlan is located on the Southern Tablelands about 60km west of Goulburn, about 100km north of Canberra and about 130km south-east of Bathurst. It is an area that is known for its fine wool and potato production, history and picturesque countryside.



### Landform and Topography

The Topography varies from rugged steep mountainous areas in both the North East and North West and flat, lowlands in the South West of the shire.

### Climate

Upper Lachlan Shire has a variable, though generally dry climate with temperatures averaging between 9.5 degrees Celsius in July and 27.8 degrees Celsius in January.

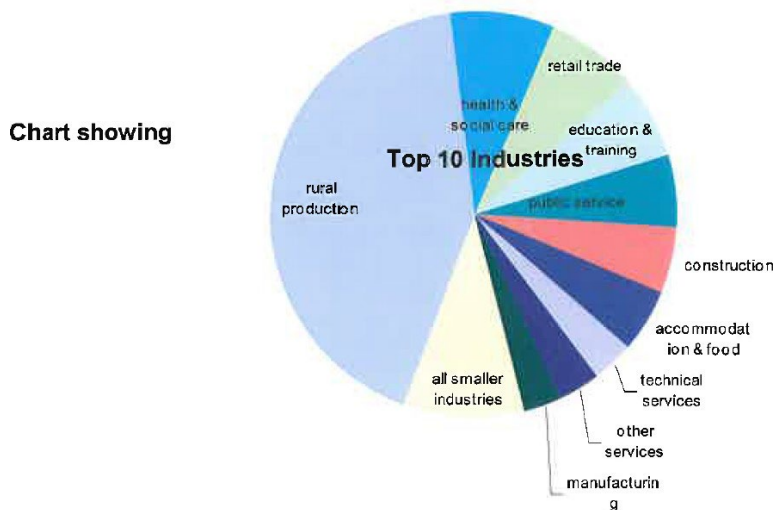
[www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au)

Statistics	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
<b>Temperature</b>													
Mean maximum temperature (°C)	26.5	25.9	23.6	18.4	13.9	10.3	9.5	11.0	14.7	18.3	21.4	25.0	18.2
Mean minimum temperature (°C)	10.7	10.7	8.8	5.0	2.3	0.6	-0.4	0.3	2.1	4.6	6.7	9.0	5.0
<b>Rainfall</b>													
Mean rainfall (mm)	69.7	54.9	59.0	57.8	65.9	88.7	84.3	89.6	74.7	76.2	67.0	67.6	861.4

### Land Use

Upper Lachlan Shire is strongly rural in its character. The shire of villages; encompassing Crookwell, Gunning, Laggan, Taralga, Dalton, Tuena, Grabben Gullen, Collector, Breadalbane, Binda and Bigga covers a total land area of 7,129 square kilometres and is known for its fine wool and potato production. Agricultural endeavour has always been a feature of the economic and social fabric of the Shire. There are however major shifts occurring in agriculture with the introduction of new farming methods and diversification of many land holdings toward new ventures such as olive growing, alpaca wool and horse studs.

[www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au)



## Population and People

Based on the 2021 ABS statistics there were 8,514 living within Upper Lachlan Shire Council area, of these 4,314 were male (50.7%) and 4,198 were female (49.3%). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people made up 3.1% of the population (based on 2021 Census data). From the total population the following totals and percentages for each age group include:

Age Bracket	Total Number	% of Population
0 - 4 Years	470	5.5
5 - 9 Years	511	6
10 - 14 Years	430	5
15 - 19 Years	452	5.3
20 - 24 Years	330	3.9
25 - 29 Years	340	4
30 - 34 Years	383	4.5
35 - 39 Years	434	5.1
40 - 44 Years	405	4.8
45 - 49 Years	519	6.41
50 - 54 Years	602	7.1
55 - 59 Years	773	9.1
60 - 64 Years	734	8.6
65 - 69 Years	630	7.4
70 - 74 Years	603	7.1
75 - 79 Years	407	4.8
80 - 84 Years	263	3.1
85 and over	229	2.7

Of the total population (89.3%) spoke only English at home. Of occupied dwellings in the Upper Lachlan Shire Council area 1,620 (49.9%) were owned outright, 1018 (31.3%) were owned with a mortgage and 410 (12.6%) were rented.

From these figures 1,251 (38.5%) of occupied dwellings had two or more registered motor vehicle garaged or parked at their address, while 81(2.5%) did not own a vehicle.

[www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au)

## Transport Routes and Facilities

The Upper Lachlan Shire Council area is served by the Hume Highway, State Road (MR54 Goulburn to Tuena/Bathurst) and six primary freight and travel routes – MR52 (Crookwell to Gunning), MR248E (Crookwell to Taralga), MR248W (Crookwell to Boorowa), MR241 (Gunning to Temora), MR256 (Goulburn to Taralga), MR258N (Wombeyan Caves/Oberon). Traffic volumes fluctuate during peak agricultural seasons and tourism (ULSC third largest industry).

Transport NSW (TNSW) have produced Incident Response Plans for the major transport routes under their responsibility that are within the Upper Lachlan Shire Local Government Area. Reference to these plans in consultation with the TNSW representative is to be made when major traffic management strategies are to be implemented in response to an emergency.

The major roads with the Upper Lachlan Shire Local Government Area that have incident response plans developed are:

**Hume Highway**

**Federal Highway**

### Annexure B – Hazards and Risks Summary

A Local Emergency Risk Management (ERM) Study has been undertaken by the Southern Ranges Local Emergency Management Committee identifying the following hazards as having risk of causing loss of life, property, utilities, services and/or the community's ability to function within its normal capacity. These hazards have been identified as having the potential to create an emergency. The Southern Ranges Upper Lachlan Emergency Risk Management Study should be referenced to identify the complete list of consequences and risk descriptions.

Hazard	Risk Description	Likelihood Rating	Consequence Rating	Risk Priority	Combat / Responsible Agency	Last Review Date
Biosecurity (Animal/Animal or Plant/Plant)	An agriculture/horticulture incident that results, or has potential to result, in the spread of a communicable disease or infestation.	Possible	Major	High	Department of Primary Industries	February 2023
Bridge Collapse	Failure of a major bridge structure with or without warning owing to structural failure or as a result of external/ internal events or other hazards/ incidents.	Possible	Moderate	High	LEOCON	April 2023
Dam Failure	A dam is compromised that results in localised or widespread flooding.	Rare	Moderate	Medium	Dam Owners NSW SES	February 2023
Earthquake	Earthquake of significant strength that results in localised or widespread damage.	Possible	Major	Extreme	LEOCON	February 2023

Hazard	Risk Description	Likelihood Rating	Consequence Rating	Risk Priority	Combat / Responsible Agency	Last Review Date
Evacuation	Evacuations of large numbers of people will require a significant response and coordination. Large scale evacuations cannot be undertaken and managed by a single agency.	Possible	Medium	High	LEOCON	February 2023
Fire (Bush or Grass)	Major fires in areas of bush or grasslands.	Almost Certain	Major	Extreme	NSW RFS	February 2023
Fire Industrial/ Commercial )	Serious fire in office complexes and/or warehouses, shopping centres, aged persons units, nursing homes and hospitals.	Possible	Major	Extreme	FRNSW NSW RFS	February 2023
Flood (Flash)	Heavy rainfall causes excessive localised flooding with minimal warning time	Possible	Minor	Medium	NSW SES	
Flood (Riverine)	River flows exceed the capacity of normal river systems resulting in flood waters escaping and inundating river plains	Possible	Minor	Medium	NSW SES	
Hazardous Release	Hazardous material released as a result of an incident or accident.	Possible	Major	Extreme	FRNSW	February 2023

Hazard	Risk Description	Likelihood Rating	Consequence Rating	Risk Priority	Combat / Responsible Agency	Last Review Date
Heatwave	A sequence of abnormally hot conditions having the potential to affect a community adversely.	Possible	Major	High	See State Plan SEOCON	March 2018
Pandemic	Pandemic illness that affects, or has potential to affect, large portions of the human or animal population	Possible	Catastrophic	High	Department of Health	February 2023
Snow	Snow fall resulting in localised road closures, utilities failure	Likely	Moderate	High	NSW SES See Snow Plan	June 2017
Storm	Severe storm with accompanying lightning, hail, wind, and/or rain that causes severe damage and/or localised flooding. (includes tornado)	Possible	Moderate	High	NSW SES	February 2023
Transport Accident involving Animals	Any transport accident that involves animals could result in risk to public and emergency services and animal welfare	Possible	Moderate	High	LEOCON	October 2021



Hazard	Risk Description	Likelihood Rating	Consequence Rating	Risk Priority	Combat / Responsible Agency	Last Review Date
Transport Emergency (Air)	Aircraft crashes in LGA resulting in large number of fatalities, injuries and/or damage to property.	Rare	Major	High	LEOCON	February 2023
Transport Emergency (Rail)	A major rail accident that disrupts one or more major transport routes that can result in risk to people trapped, restrict supply routes and/or protracted loss of access to or from the area.	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	LEOCON	February 2023
Transport Emergency (Road)	A major vehicle accident that disrupts one or more major transport routes that can result in risk to people trapped in traffic jams, restrict supply routes and/or protracted loss of access to or from the area.	Possible	Major	Extreme	LEOCON	February 2023
Utilities Failure	Major failure of essential utility for unreasonable periods of time as a result of a natural or man-made occurrence.	Possible	Moderate	Extreme	LEOCON	February 2023

<b>RISK LEVEL MATRIX</b>						
<b>Likelihood</b>	<b>Consequence</b>					
	<b>Insignificant</b>	<b>Minor</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Major</b>	<b>Catastrophic</b>	
<b>Almost certain</b>	High	High	Extreme	Extreme	Extreme	
<b>Likely</b>	Moderate	High	High	Extreme	Extreme	
<b>Possible</b>	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme	Extreme	
<b>Unlikely</b>	Low	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme	
<b>Rare</b>	Low	Low	Moderate	High	High	
<b>CONSEQUENCE SCALE</b>						
<b>Descriptor</b>	<b>Description</b>					
<b>Insignificant</b>	No injuries or fatalities. No displacement of people or displacement of only a small number of people for short duration. Little or no personal support required (support not monetary or material). Inconsequential or no damage. Little or no disruption to community. No measurable impact on environment. Little or no financial loss.					
<b>Minor</b>	Small number of injuries but no fatalities. First aid treatment required. Some displacement of people (less than 24 hours). Some personal support required. Some damage. Some disruption (less than 24 hours). Small impact on environment with no lasting effects. Some financial loss.					
<b>Moderate</b>	Medical treatment required but no fatalities. Some hospitalisation. Localised displacement of people who return within 24 hours. Personal support satisfied through local arrangements. Localised damage that is rectified by routine arrangements. Normal community functioning with some inconvenience. Some impact on environment with no long-term effect or small impact on environment with long-term effect. Significant financial loss.					
<b>Major</b>	Extensive injuries, significant hospitalisation, large number displaced (more than 24 hour's duration). Fatalities. External resources required for personal support. Significant damage that requires external resources. Community only partially functioning, some services unavailable. Some impact on environment with long-term effects. Significant financial loss - some financial assistance required.					
<b>Catastrophic</b>	Large number of severe injuries. Extended and large numbers requiring hospitalisation. General and widespread displacement for extended duration. Significant fatalities. Extensive personal support. Extensive damage. Community unable to function without significant support. Significant impact on environment and/or permanent damage.					

## Annexure C – Local Sub Plans, Supporting Plans and Policies

Responsibility for the preparation and maintenance of appropriate sub and supporting plans rest with the relevant Combat Agency Controller or the relevant Functional Area Coordinator.

The sub/supporting plans are developed in consultation with the Upper Lachlan LEMC and the community.

The plans listed below are supplementary to this EMPLAN. The sub/supporting plans have been endorsed by the LEMC and are determined as compliant and complimentary to the arrangements listed in this EMPLAN.

These plans are retained by the LEMO on behalf of the LEMC.

Plan/Policy	Purpose	Combat / Responsible Agency
Upper Lachlan Snow Plan	Significant snowfalls have a significant impact on the communities within the Local Government Area (LGA).	NSW State Emergency Service
Upper Lachlan Flood Emergency Sub Plan 2022	The plan covers preparedness measures, the conduct of response operations and the coordination of immediate recovery measures from flooding within the Upper Lachlan Area	NSW State Emergency Service
State Heatwave Subplan	Details the control and coordination arrangements for aspects of the preparation for, response to, and immediate recovery from a heatwave.	SEOCN
Southern Tablelands Bush Fire Management Plan	Identifies community assets at risk and sets out a program of coordinated multi-agency treatments to reduce the risk of bush fire to the assets.	NSW Rural Fire Service