

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND POLICY

Why Aither

Background

Services

Experience

Why Aither

Aither has demonstrated experience in assisting government and the private sector to address contemporary emergency management challenges.



We use theory and experience to solve emergency management challenges.

Aither brings a different approach to projects in the emergency management sector – we focus on combining theoretical and applied expertise because an integrated approach delivers the best outcomes.



Aither is a strong advocate of an all hazards and all agencies approach.

Siloed emergency management approaches will not enable the sector to successfully overcome challenges. We employ an all hazards and agencies approach in line with contemporary thinking in the sector.



Our strong collaborative links with academic leaders.

Aither maintains strong academic links in the emergency management sector to ensure our clients benefit from world-leading knowledge and research.



We provide advice that is useful, useable and actually used.

Aither recognises that the fundamental test of emergency management advice is that it is useful, useable and actually used by clients to generate change and improve outcomes for society.

Background

Australia is internationally regarded as having world-leading emergency management arrangements. However, the future rising costs of disasters to the economy, society and the environment; an operating environment that is increasingly complex; and the uncertainty introduced by future climate change impacts, mean that the emergency management sector will be required to face a range of significant challenges in the near future.

In response, there is a need to reinforce emergency management arrangements – including through improved coordination, transparency and accountability, effectiveness and efficiency, and resilience. Action now will ultimately result in better hazard management outcomes in the future, and ensure that the community, economy and the environment are less exposed to future risks.

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- Undertaking emergency management policy research, design, analysis and review
- Evaluating governance and administration arrangements
- Advising on legislative and regulatory design, and undertaking reviews
- Advising on strategic planning and all hazards risk management
- Facilitating consultation and stakeholder engagement
- Undertaking all hazard economic modelling and forecasting
- Analysing costs and benefits of different management approaches
- Assessing economic and socio-economic impacts of hazards

Selected project experience

Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) (Victorian Department of Sustainability and Environment): Aither documented and evaluated the DSE, DTF, Victorian CMA and Melbourne Water process for funding applications under NDRRA. Following Aither's evaluation, Aither consulted with a number of key stakeholders involved in the NDRRA process to help clarify roles and responsibilities, which in turn are being detailed in a Discussion Paper. Aither was then engaged to develop a series of worked examples of eligible asset damage across a series of eight types of works.

State emergency management policy framework review (Western Australian Department of Fire Emergency Services): Aither reviewed Western Australia's current state emergency management framework with a view to identifying potential options for improvement at a state policy-planning level. Aither reviewed governance frameworks of other jurisdictions to identify contemporary trends and drivers. Aither developed a recommended framework option that if implemented would improve consistency between emergency management legislation, policies and hazard specific plans.

Evaluation of flood response coordination (Victorian Department of State Development, Business and Innovation): Aither evaluated the coordination (governance, planning, communication and monitoring) of the whole of government response through the Secretaries Flood Response Group (SFRG) in Victoria. This involved reviewing documentation, one on one interviews at Secretary level and the development of a comprehensive evaluation.

Review of Flood and Drainage Strategy (Melbourne Water): Aither undertook a high-level review of the existing Port Phillip and Westernport Region Flood Management and Drainage Strategy 2007. Recommendations of this review will be used to inform the development of Melbourne Water's forthcoming Flood Protection Services Strategy 2014. Following this review, Aither was involved in the strategic planning and concept draft of the forthcoming strategy.