



WA employers recognised for putting community safety first

Employers from across the State have been recognised for the integral role they played in supporting emergency services volunteers during the past year. About 70 have recently been acknowledged at the **FESA Volunteer Employer Recognition Program (VERP) awards**.

Emergency Services Minister Rob Johnson said the recent ceremony celebrated employers' commitment to releasing staff during work hours to enable them to volunteer in an emergency.

"Without employers allowing their staff to attend both training and emergency situations in working hours, we would not have such a successful and dedicated volunteer service."

The **Shire of Williams** was nominated by Williams VFRS Volunteer Trevor Palframan and endorsed by Regional Area Manager of FESA Simon Vogel, for the active encouragement that the Shire gives the emergency service volunteers in our community. The Shire allows these volunteers to leave work in the case of an emergency to ensure that the community of Williams and its visitors are cared for in times of need.

The Shire of Williams was awarded a **Gold Award**, recognized alongside employers such as BHP Billiton Worsley Alumina and Rio Tinto. Other local governments to be recognized in the Gold Category include Shire of Broome, Shire of Denmark, City of Vincent-Leederville.

Simon Vogel presented Shire President, Cr John Cowcher, with the award at the October meeting of Council.



Cr Cowcher presented the VERP award by Simon Vogel – FESA Area Manager



CEO Ryan Duff, FESA Area Manager Simon Vogel, Shire President John Cowcher, Williams VFRS Captain Ian Bell and Williams VFRS Volunteer and Shire of Williams employee Trevor Palframan