

**MM11/25 ACKNOWLEDGING 70TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE
NSW STATE EMERGENCY SERVICES (NSW SES) - Mayor
Trenton Brown****File Number:** CLM/25/1/1/8 - BP25/425

In 2025, the NSW State Emergency Service (NSW SES) proudly marks 70 years of dedicated service to the people of New South Wales. As I bring this Mayoral Minute to Council, I do so with deep respect and admiration for the thousands of SES volunteers who give their time and make significant personal sacrifices to protect lives and property, especially in times of crisis.

This is especially front of mind given the current deployment of SES personnel supporting flood-affected residents in the State's north following last week's severe weather. Their selfless actions reflect the very best of community spirit and service.

Founded in 1955 in response to the catastrophic Maitland floods, the NSW SES was initially known as the Civil Defence Service. Since then, it has evolved into a vital agency in our emergency management framework, providing frontline response and resilience support across the State.

For seven decades, SES volunteers have stood at the forefront of our State's response to natural disasters from the Thredbo landslide to the Sydney hailstorm and the devastating Northern Rivers floods. Today, with more than 11,000 volunteers, the NSW SES continues to provide critical, life-saving assistance during storms, floods and emergencies, while also playing a key role in community education and preparedness.

Here in the City of Ryde, we have a strong and valued relationship with our local SES volunteers. On Wednesday 21 May 2025, Council hosted a BBQ at the Operations Centre to mark this important milestone and to thank our local SES unit for their service to our community.

The following day, Thursday 22 May, the SES was again recognised as part of Council's annual Volunteer Recognition Awards. As a member of the judging panel, I was struck by the exceptional calibre of nominees and the consistent theme of community dedication and civic pride. To all SES volunteers, past and present, I extend Council's heartfelt thanks.

To further recognise this remarkable milestone, I propose that Council staff explore options to formally and appropriately recognise and honor the NSW State Emergency Service's 70th Anniversary and provide a report to Council outlining potential recognition activities, sponsorship opportunities, and associated costs.

MM11/25 (continued)**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council:

- (a) Acknowledges and congratulates the NSW State Emergency Service (NSW SES) on its 70th Anniversary and recognises the vital contribution the organisation and its volunteers have made to the people of New South Wales.
- (b) Request the Chief Executive Officer to prepare a report for Council outlining options to formally and appropriately recognise and honor the NSW SES's 70th Anniversary, including potential sponsorship opportunities, event or recognition concepts, and associated costs.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Report Prepared By:

Trenton Brown
Mayor