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*Please attribute the information below to Shire President, Cr David Roe.*

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Emergency Services Crash Exercise to be Held in Gingin**

The Shire of Gingin, in conjunction with DFES, WAPol and St John Ambulance, would like to advise the community it will be facilitating a crash exercise at the Gingin Recreation Centre Oval on Wednesday 16 August 2017.

The exercise assesses the various agencies' response capabilities, command and control structure, as well as how the Local Emergency Management Arrangements work in a life-like simulation that incorporates emergency air service support (Rescue 651 helicopter).

With the involvement of the Rescue 651 helicopter, strict safety protocols will be implemented which include the prohibition of all drone devices.

"Owing to the nature of the exercise, and for the safety of the Rescue 651 helicopter crew, drones are not permitted in the area at all," said Shire President, Cr David Roe. "They pose a significant risk to the aircraft and will cause the event to be cancelled if they are deployed."

The exercise area will be set up earlier in the day and will be off limits to the public. Crew briefings will commence at 4.00pm with the actual crash exercise scheduled for 5.00pm. The Rescue 651 helicopter is scheduled to land on the oval at 5.45pm.

"This is an important exercise, and while we understand it may generate considerable community interest on the day, we would ask that bystanders adhere to any instructions given by emergency service personnel," Cr Roe said. "The Rescue 651 helicopter requires a 75 metre exclusion zone so no one will be permitted on the oval while it is there. Members from the Wanneroo SES will be in attendance to ensure people stay off the oval."

Access to the main car park at the oval will be restricted from the entry booth heading to the right, and all vehicles are asked to park at the Bendigo Complex.

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