

STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 25 October 2018

SES volunteers to go through paces this weekend preparing for an earthquake

Highly-trained SA State Emergency Service (SES) volunteers will converge on the former Royal Adelaide Hospital site this Saturday to take part in a series of rescue scenarios typical of what may occur following a major earthquake.

Fifty SES volunteers from across the state will take part in this year's State Training Challenge, a biennial event aimed at testing their rescue skills and resilience during a critical incident.

The challenge gets underway at 7am and will run for 12 hours. A number of buildings on the former hospital site will be used for the exercise which is aimed at testing the volunteers in scenarios such as a confined space rescue.

SES Chief Officer Chris Beattie said while South Australia last experienced a major earthquake in 1956, between four and five minor earthquakes are recorded across the state each week.

"Using the former hospital site is fantastic opportunity for our volunteers to challenge themselves in a lifelike situation. Importantly, it will really test their ability to delegate, prioritise and work as a team in a difficult situation," Mr Beattie said.

The event is open to the public. Escorted tours have been planned for 1.30pm and 2.30pm and will start from Gate 7 on Frome Road. Enclosed footwear is mandatory for everyone taking part in the public tours.

Note to media: Media outlets wishing to cover this event are advised that arrangements have been put in place for reporters to access the site at 11am from Gate 7 on Frome Road. Call the SES media line on (08) 8211 6176 for further information.

For media enquiries telephone the SES Media Line on (08) 8211 6176

For SES response in floods or storms telephone 132 500.

If the matter is life threatening telephone 000

ses.sa.gov.au



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