

Standard Operating Procedure

Comerong Island Emergency Access and Egress for Ferry Closures

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this document is to outline the procedure for emergency access and egress of Comerong Island residences when the ferry is closed for out of water service and refurbishment. A boat with an operator will be provided for resident access only as an alternative transport and there will be no vehicular access to the island.

2. All-encompassing Note

- 2.1 All Emergency Services (Police, Ambulance, Fire Rescue NSW, Rural Fire Service & NSW State Emergency Service) have legislative authority to control specific incidents and emergencies. The public, Council employees and their contractors will comply with all directions.
- 2.2 When the ferry isn't operating there will be a replacement boat to get residents on/off the island and there will be no vehicular access to the Island.
- 2.3 The NSW RFS have stated they will provide an asset on the Island for other emergency services providers who may need to use transport on the island can use the asset.
- 2.4 The alternative transport (a boat) will only be available from 6am to 6pm (daylight hours) by the contractor.
- 2.5 A Council vehicle stationed on Comerong Island will take residents to/from their residences; resident's vehicles will be in the carpark on the mainland.
- 2.6 The ferrying of emergency services personnel across to the island will be handled in multiple ways.
 - Reaching out to the boat operator during daylight hours.
 - NSW SES will use their watercraft when required
 - NSW RFS will use their watercraft when requested
 - Marine Rescue NSW will also use their craft when requested
- 2.7 Emergency service may need local assistance to move assets and equipment on the island if required

3. Signage

- 3.1 There will be signage on the mainland and island side of Comerong Island Road to advising residents of all Emergency Services contact.

4. Contractor contact details

- 4.1 Alternative transport operator – Gary - 0401277770 – available daylight hours, 7 days a week.

5. Description (When the alternative transport is operating)

- 5.1 In the case of an Emergency (Flood, Fire, Medical or Police) the resident is to call the Emergency Number 000 and report the emergency.
- 5.2 If a resident has a 'panic-button' and that is activated, the responder will call 000 .

- 5.3 Days on which fire danger has been declared, the boat operator will liaise with NSW RFS and provide unrestricted service to allow rescue personnel onto the island, who can use the fire truck stationed on the island.

5.4 Police

- 5.4.1 For any police matter that requires access during daylight hours, the Duty Inspector will approach the alternative transport operator and advise that they require to have access to the island.
- 5.4.2 Council vehicle on the island can be used as an alternate transport to move the officer around on the island.

6. Description (When the alternate transport is not operating)

- 6.1 In an event of an Emergency (Flood, Fire, Medical or Police) during the hours of 6:00pm and 6:00am, the resident is to call the Emergency Number 000 and report the emergency.
- 6.2 The Emergency Service will respond accordingly.
- 6.3 If a resident has a 'panic-button' and that is activated, the responder will call 000.

7. Review

- 7.1 This Standard Operating Procedure is to be reviewed one month before removal of the ferry and monthly when the ferry is out of water.

Appendix A – Emergency Resources

[NSW Government - Prepare your emergency survival kit](https://www.nsw.gov.au/emergency/prepare/emergency-survival-kit) -

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/emergency/prepare/emergency-survival-kit>

[NSW Government Preparing for a natural disaster](https://www.nsw.gov.au/emergency/prepare) -

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/emergency/prepare>

[SES - Put together an emergency kit](https://www.ses.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare/emergency-kit) -

<https://www.ses.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare/emergency-kit>

OR 132500 – SES, OR 112 – Secondary emergency number, OR 106 – text base emergency number