

# Policing & Public Health Emergencies



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# Public Health

## The Police Connection



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Protection, promotion and maintenance  
of public health

Police involvement

Services designed to promote greater  
safety and crime prevention

Collaboration

# Health & Police Related Response Arrangements



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State Health Emergency Response  
Arrangements

Heatwave Plan for Victoria

Murray Valley Encephalitis Virus  
Response Strategy

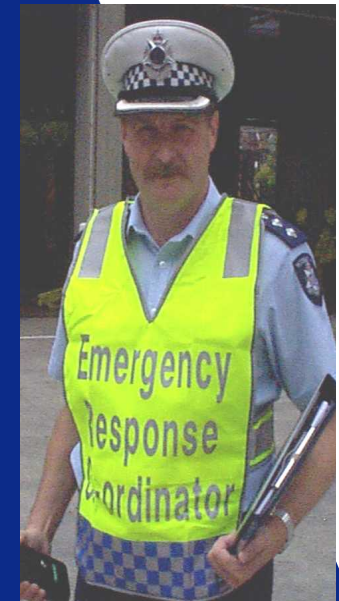
# Response Coordination Public Health Emergencies



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## Police Accountabilities

- Ensure control agency takes/maintains effective control
- Ensure appropriate support agencies involved
- Ensure EMT has been formed
- Be satisfied timely and appropriate warnings given
- Arrange for the provision of resources as requested
- Co-operate and ensure co-operation



# Murray Valley Encephalitis Virus



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Murray Valley Encephalitis Virus Response Strategy

Police & Health established Murray Valley Encephalitis Virus Task Force

Engagement with other government departments through the MVEV Task Force

MVEV Task Force was effective in coordinating a practical response to MVEV in Victoria

# Heatwave Event - January 2009



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Exceptional heatwave conditions

Two major episodes

Lost in the events associated with Black Saturday Bushfires

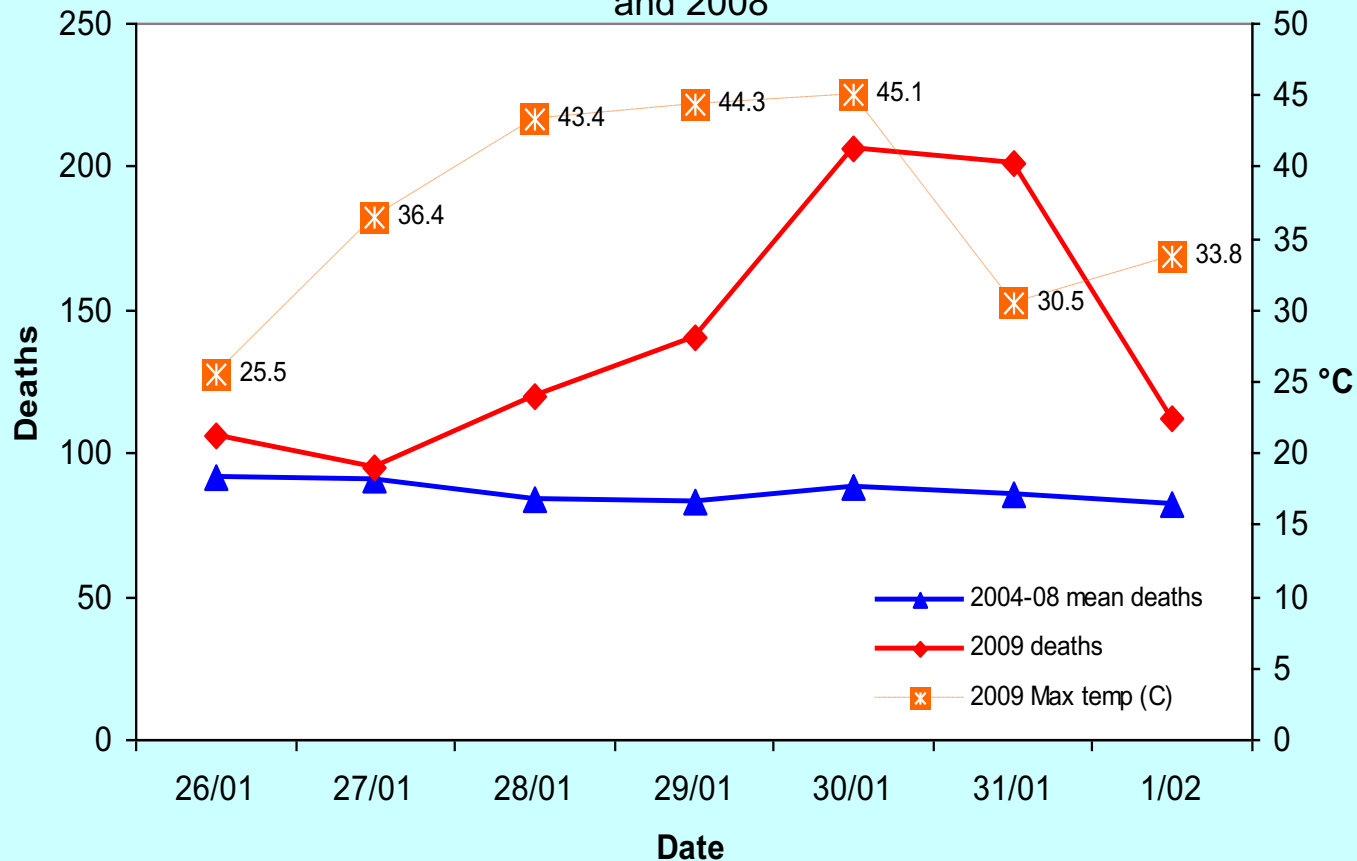


# Heatwave Mortality



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Represents a 64% increase over the average for the same period between 2004 and 2008



\*Deaths data from BDM and reports to SCO

# Heatwave Issues



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Reporting amendments were made to the police Report of Death (Form 83)

Extensive government undertaker delays

Mortuary storage facilities

Concurrent events e.g. Code Red days, bushfire, windstorms



# Heatwave Event Planning



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- Sustained extreme heat events
- Code Red fire days
- Public transport failures
- Infrastructure issues - E.g. power failures

# Heatwave Event Planning



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Emphasis on the preservation of life

Sharing of accurate and timely information with relevant parties

Community safety should be at the forefront of any planning

Community information and warnings are of extreme importance

# Conclusion



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Effective emergency response to Public Health emergencies

- Planning
- Relationships
- Training and Exercising
- Communication