

BASSENDAN VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Petition

MR D.J. KELLY (Bassendean) [2.53 pm]: I have a petition that conforms to the standing orders and is signed by 1 105 petitioners. The petition opposes the closure of the Bassendean Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service brigade and reads —

To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled. We, the undersigned, say;

The Bassendean Fire Station currently houses career fire fighters and the 102 year old Bassendean Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service Brigade at the heritage-listed Parker Street Fire House.

The future of the Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service and the Bassendean Fire Station is uncertain following the decision to relocate the career fire and rescue officers to Kiara. The 60 volunteers have been told that they may move to Forrestfield once the career fire-fighters are gone.

The fire station is heritage listed and is an important icon to the residents of the Town and a testament to the success of the volunteers. The brigade houses an extensive awards and memorabilia collection and provides public access so that the community can celebrate local fire-fighters achievements.

The Bassendean Volunteers are first responders to many local emergencies and the brigade is concerned that any move away from the Parker Street site would slow response times.

Now we ask the Legislative Assembly to put an end to the uncertainty surrounding the future of the Volunteer Fire Service and the Bassendean Fire Station and provide local volunteers with a long-term facility within the Bassendean community.

[See petition 37.]