

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES — LARGE AIR TANKER

145. Hon RICK MAZZA to the minister representing the Minister for Emergency Services:

I refer to the Boeing 737 large air tanker that was sent to Western Australia from New South Wales in December 2019 to bolster the state's fire response capabilities.

- (1) What was the cost to the state in bringing the LAT to WA to assist with bushfire operations in December 2019?
- (2) How many firefighting missions did the LAT perform?
- (3) Has the Department of Fire and Emergency Services reviewed and reported on the cost effectiveness of the deployment of the LAT from New South Wales to WA for firefighting?
- (4) Will the minister make the DFES report available to the public?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) The resource was subject to a bilateral arrangement between New South Wales and Western Australia. Costs are yet to be finalised.
- (2) There was one mission—seven drops over two days.
- (3) No. The Department of Fire and Emergency Services will undertake an evaluation of the New South Wales LAT effectiveness. This will be included in the annual review that is conducted on DFES aerial operations at the conclusion of each bushfire season.
- (4) Not applicable.