

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES — VOLUNTEERS — PAID LEAVE ARRANGEMENTS

1249. Hon MARTIN ALDRIDGE to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Industrial Relations:

I refer to Legislative Council questions without notices 688 and 715 asked on 17 and 18 August 2022 regarding public sector leave arrangements for emergency service volunteers.

- (1) Has the Circular to Departments and Authorities No. 2 of 2001 been revised and reissued; and, if so, please table?
- (2) If no to (1), is it still the minister's intent to reissue this more than 20-year-old circular prior to the end of 2022?
- (3) Will the minister commit to expanding public sector leave arrangements to include volunteer fire and emergency services volunteers?
- (4) Will the minister expand emergency services leave arrangements to include government trading enterprise employees?

Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The following answer has been provided to me by the Minister for Industrial Relations.

- (1) No.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) The circular currently applies to volunteer fire and rescue services. It will be revised to reference volunteer fire and emergency services.
- (4) Government trading enterprises are not covered by Circular to Departments and Authorities No. 2 of 2001 but GTEs usually have their own arrangements under their industrial arrangements.