

FIRE UNITS, STANDARDISATION

2928. Mr M.P. Murray to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

- (1) What is the status of discussions of the Australian Fire Advisory Committee on Standardisation of all fire units?
- (2) In particular what impact will the outcomes of these decisions have on -
 - (a) local manufacturers of fire equipment; and
 - (b) the application of any local content rules or policy implemented by the Government?

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS replied:

- (1) The Fire and Emergency Services Authority of Western Australia (FESA) is not aware of a committee known as the Australian Fire Advisory Committee. It is assumed Mr Murray is referring to the Australasian Fire Authorities Council (AFAC) and discussions undertaken by a Research and Development sub-committee. This sub-committee has discussed standardisation of fire equipment across Australia.

Wherever standardisation can be adopted for the benefit of the fire service, it is. However:

- each State/Territory has specialist requirements for fire units to meet local topographical conditions and community needs, and
 - each Fire Authority has local content rules, policy and processes governing the commissioning of fire equipment that meet State/Territory/Authority policy and regulations.
- (2) FESA advise that AFAC and members discuss standardisation of fire equipment across Australia. However, for the reasons outlined above, authorities may or may not participate. There will be no impact on the local manufacturers of fire equipment, local content rules or policy implemented by the Government.