

BUSHFIRE MITIGATION

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

I refer to the current Department of Fire and Emergency Services budget of around \$360 million to cover all emergency services, and the minister's recent comment that a rural bush fire service would cost an estimated \$400 million. Does this mean that Western Australia is grossly underspending on bushfire mitigation?

**Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The Minister for Emergency Services advises that bushfire mitigation is a very complex area and is handled by many agencies, of which the Department of Fire and Emergency Services is not one. However, if the honourable member is able to provide more detail, the minister would be more than happy to make inquiries on his behalf.