

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES — VOLUNTEERS — PAID LEAVE ARRANGEMENTS

867. Hon Martin Aldridge to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Disability Services; Small Business; Fisheries; Seniors and Ageing:

I refer to the Department of Productivity and Labor Reform Circular to Departments and Authorities No. 2 of 2001 titled *Paid Leave for Emergency Service Volunteers*. For each Department, Agency or Government Trading Entity under your portfolio, I ask:

- (a) how do you inform your employees of this policy; and
- (b) for the past two financial years:
 - (i) how many employees have requested paid leave as an emergency service volunteer;
 - (ii) how many employees have had a request refused;
 - (iii) how many total hours were granted; and
 - (iv) how many total hours were refused?

Hon Kyle McGinn replied:

For Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development please refer to Question on Notice 856.

For Department of Communities please refer to Question on Notice 863.

Small Business Development Corporation

- (a) SBDC does not have a formal process in place to inform employees of this award provision. Staff are aware of the Award/Agreement they are employed under.
- (b) (i)–(iv) This detailed information is not readily available and would require considerable time to collate and prepare, which would divert staff away from their normal duties. It is not considered to be a reasonable or appropriate use of government resources to provide this information, noting that this question has been asked to all Ministers for all Government Departments, Agencies and Government Trading enterprises.