Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Thursday, 21 September 2023] p5021c-5022a Hon Darren West; Hon Tjorn Sibma

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES — OPERATIONAL FLEET

Statement

HON DARREN WEST (Agricultural — Parliamentary Secretary) [5.54 pm]: I want to make a couple of comments on the member's statement made by Hon Martin Aldridge. I stand here to support all the staff, volunteers and personnel at the Department of Fire and Emergency Services who do an amazing job across the state keeping us safe. They will be prepared for this summer. They are every summer. They are professionals. They are dedicated. They are well led and they are well resourced. I think standing in Parliament and running down DFES and its staff and volunteers and the way they are managed is a disgraceful and cheap political shot.

I am here to support DFES personnel, to support the commissioner, to support the minister and to support the thousands of volunteers across Western Australia who put themselves in danger to keep us safe every day.

Statement

HON TJORN SIBMA (North Metropolitan) [5.54 pm]: I am not wont to do this, but the member's statement just given then by Hon Darren West did nothing but grossly misrepresent the member's statement provided by Hon Martin Aldridge. At no stage did Hon Martin Aldridge denigrate Department of Fire and Emergency Services staff. The member absolutely misrepresented his statement. I really think the member needs to listen more and speak less. It would do him and his government a world of good.