

PRESCRIBED BURNING — PRIVATE CONTRACTORS

**1581. Hon STEVE MARTIN to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Environment:**

I refer to the practice of prescribed burns to mitigate bushfire risks.

- (1) Does the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions use private prescribed burning contractors directly?
- (2) What is the extent of the private use of prescribed burning contractors across the state?
- (3) Does the department monitor the average costs of insurance premiums for these contractors?
- (4) Is the minister concerned that high insurance premiums risk undermining the state's bushfire preparedness?

**Hon DARREN WEST replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of the question. On behalf of the Minister for Environment, I provide the following answer.

- (1)–(4) The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions does not use contractors to undertake prescribed burning.