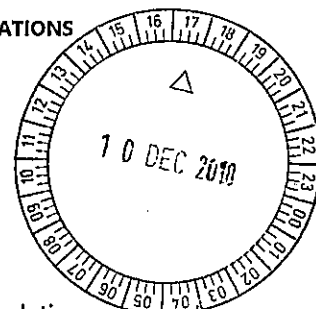


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (A1)



Department of Fire and Emergency Services

Hon Rick Mazza asked:

- 1) With reference to Annual Report page 55, cost of services and the line item 'Accommodation expenses', there has been an increase of \$3.748 million.

- a) Can you explain the increase broken down to include which facilities and how much against each?

Answer:

The Department is responsible for in excess of 250 facilities used for the Career Fire and Rescue Service (CFRS); Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service (VFRS); Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services as well as other facilities such as the Emergency Services Complex; Regional Offices; the Western Australian Fire and Emergency Service (WAFES) Academy; Aviation Bases; the Education and Heritage Centre; Radio Communications stations/towers and Appliance Storage.

The list below represents \$3.157 million (85%) of the increase in accommodation expenses from the previous year rounded to the nearest \$1,000:

Additional lease expenses:

Aviation Services - Jandakot	\$202,000
Telecommunication tower sites (State-wide)	\$135,000
State-Wide Operations Responses Division Premises - Kewdale	\$125,000
Temporary Career Fire Station - Success	\$125,000
Additional workshop vehicle storage - O'Connor	<u>\$109,000</u>
	\$696,000

In 2017-18 the Department significantly expanded its general maintenance program from the previous year, resulting in the following increases:

Repairs and maintenance to premises:

Planned minor works on CFRS and VFRS facilities	\$590,000
Cockburn Emergency Services Complex	\$541,000
Education and Heritage Centre remediation works	\$357,000
CFRS Canning Vale modifications	\$202,000
VFRS Kwinana civil works/security up-grade	\$150,000
Upgrade to VFRS breathing apparatus servicing areas	\$134,000
VFRS Karratha upgrade	\$133,000
Planning fees for upgrades/works	\$133,000
Asbestos Management Program	\$113,000
WAFES Academy	<u>\$108,000</u>
	\$2,461,000

The remaining \$591,000 (15%) increase in expenditure includes increased maintenance works, facility management fees, cleaning, inspections, gardening and waste management across all facilities the Department is responsible for maintaining.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (A2)

Department of Fire and Emergency Services

Hon Diane Evers asked:


1) With regard to Annual Report page 147, One of the targets is in terms of the number of accidental residential fires per 100 000 households.

a) Does this target include households where a bushfire gets onto the house?

Answer: No. This number does not include any structure lost or damaged by bushfire.

b) If so, provide the number (for the last five years)

Answer: Not applicable.


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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (A3)

Department of Fire and Emergency Services

Hon Diane Evers asked:


- 1) With regard to Annual Report page 161, one of the targets is the proportion of structure fires confined to the room or object of origin.
 - a) Why is there not a target to identify households that are damaged or lost to bushfires?

Answer:

The KPI 'Proportion of Level 2 and Level 3 bushfires where no structures are lost or significantly damaged' covers this. This indicator measures the number of Level 2 and Level 3 bushfires where no structures (including households and critical infrastructure) are lost or significantly damaged (significantly damaged is 50% or more).

On page 162 of the Annual Report it is reported that 96.08% of Level 2 and Level 3 bushfires had no structures (including households) lost or significantly damaged.

Therefore 3.92% of Level 2 and Level 3 bushfires resulted in structures (including households) being lost or significantly damaged.


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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (A4)

Department of Fire and Emergency Services

Hon Tjorn Sibma asked:

- 1) With regard to Annual Report page 161 and KPI of the number of accidental residential fires per 100,000 households:

- a) How is the target achieved?

Answer:

The target is achieved through a range of community awareness and education services. They include, but are not limited to:

- Fire Chat
- Home Fire Safety Program
- Bushfire Patrol
- Are you bushfire ready?
- Smoke Alarm Campaign

DFES also runs targeted interventions for identified high risk behaviours through the Juvenile and Family Fire Awareness Program and 'At Risk' Communities Program.

- b) How does it compare across other Australian jurisdictions with regard to being a similar experience or is it better or worse?

Answer:

The following is an excerpt from the Productivity Commission's Report on Government Services released on 25 January 2018 which reports the number of accidental residential fires per 100,000 households across all jurisdictions and the calculated result for Australia.

Accidental residential structure fires per 100 000 households, 2016-17

Most recent data for this measure are not comparable but are complete, subject to caveats

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Aust
No.	97.3	90.0	59.6	65.0	80.3	111.7	87.0	67.2	82.9

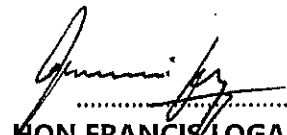
WA is recorded as having the second lowest number of accidental residential fires per 100,000 households. While this data cannot be used for comparison across jurisdictions, it can be used for indicative purposes.

c) How much is spent on Community Preparedness programs?

Answer:

Community Preparedness	\$ '000
Community Engagement and Education Programs	2,914
Aboriginal Advancement Unit (preparedness and education programs in Aboriginal Communities)	1,037
Allocation of firefighter time spent on community preparedness and education ¹	5,000
TOTAL	8,951

The above amounts contain both direct and indirect costs attributable to community preparedness activities.


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¹ This figure is made up of Firefighter salaries based on an estimate of 2 weeks per annum spent on community preparedness activities (\$3.68M) and an allocation of indirect costs distributed on a weighted average basis (\$1.32M).

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (A5)

Department of Fire and Emergency Services

Hon Rick Mazza asked:

- 1) In the Pilbara, last year's report showed 727 volunteers. This year there are 664, which is a reduction of 63 volunteers:
 - a) Is there any explanation for why there would be a reduction in the Pilbara?


Answer:

The number of volunteers stated in the 2017-18 Annual Report were elevated above the actual number of volunteers on the ground due to a delay in processing volunteer resignations. This resulted in a reported increase in volunteer numbers to 727.

The corrected 2016-17 volunteer numbers for the Pilbara is 652 volunteers.
The reported 2017-18 volunteer numbers for the Pilbara is 629 volunteers.

As at 19 November 2018 the number of volunteers is 659 (this is within a level that is anticipated for the Pilbara region).

It is not compulsory for volunteers to submit their reasons for resignations however the attrition rate in part can be attributed to factors such as the transient nature of employment within the Pilbara region and volunteers underestimating the amount of training required to keep skills up to date.


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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (A6)

Department of Fire and Emergency Services

Hon Aaron Stonehouse asked:

1) With regard to Annual Report page 7, of the two outlying regional offices (Indian Ocean Territories):

a) Are the two regional offices staffed entirely by volunteers or are they paid staff?

Answer:

There are no DFES regional offices in the Indian Ocean Territories and DFES does not have paid staff in this location (as per overview key on right hand side of page 7). DFES staff travel to the Indian Ocean Territories as required to meet the obligations under the Service Delivery Agreement with the Commonwealth of Australia.

DFES provides a range of Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery services on a fee for service basis to the Commonwealth.

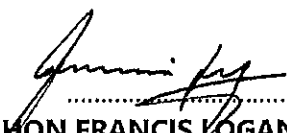
The Indian Ocean Territories are serviced by five volunteer units/groups:

- Christmas Island Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services Unit
- Christmas Island Volunteer Marine Rescue Services Group
- Cocos West Island Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services Unit
- Cocos (Home) Island Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services Unit, and
- Cocos (Home) Island Volunteer Marine Rescue Services Group.

b) How many incidents are responded to in an average year?

Answer:

A five-year average of incident responses reported to DFES shows this number to be 11 per year.


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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (A7)

Department of Fire and Emergency Services

Hon Dr Steve Thomas asked:

- 1) In the 2017–18 financial year, during the announcement of this policy the minister indicated publicly that it was his intent to house the two sections that are explained on page 36—that is the Rural Fire Division and the Bushfire Centre of Excellence—at the same location. Can I ask from a government perspective and/or agency perspective whether that is still the case, and that there is still an intent for them to be co-located?

Answer:

The location of the Rural Fire Division will be considered in parallel with the design of the Bushfire Centre of Excellence within this financial year. DFES will make recommendations to Government regarding the design and location of the Bushfire Centre of Excellence.



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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (A8)

Department of Fire and Emergency Services

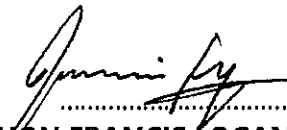
Hon Rick Mazza asked:

- 1) How many brigades have converted from volunteer bush fire brigades to DFES VFES and Volunteer Fire and Rescue brigades and where?

Answer:

No bush fire brigades have converted directly to Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service brigades.

Since January 2012, the Baldvis Bush Fire Brigade converted to the Baldvis Volunteer Fire and Emergency Service in 2016 and the Cervantes Bush Fire Brigade converted to the Cervantes Volunteer Fire and Emergency Service in 2017.



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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (A9)

Department of Fire and Emergency Services

Hon Diane Evers asked:

- 1) With regard to Annual Report page 8, with reference to Arson reduction, how many deliberately lit fires did the department attend to in 2017/18?

a) Answer: Causes for all fires attended by DFES over the last 5 years::

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Accidental	4379	4560	4000	4257	3784
Deliberate/Suspicious	4250	4697	4060	3852	3718
Undetermined/Not Reported	1494	1234	956	1324	1275
Weather Conditions	406	627	721	343	503

b) How has that number changed from previous years?

Answer: The table above reports on data from previous years, however, DFES does not record or report on "arson" as this is a criminal offence and managed by the Western Australia Police Force.

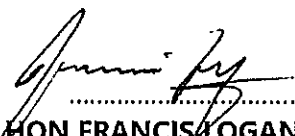
c) What is the breakdown between home fires or building/structural fires and bushfire arson?

Answer: For all fires attended by DFES, the following causes are recorded for 2017/18:

	Residential Structure Fire	Other Structure Fire	Bushfire	Other/Rubbish /Vehicle Fire
Accidental	645	304	1881	954
Deliberate/Suspicious	96	109	2143	1370
Undetermined/Not Reported	31	42	801	401
Weather Conditions	11	7	424	61

d) How many fires during 2017/18 do not have a cause established and/or are thought to be suspicious?

Answer: DFES did not have a cause recorded for 1275 fires in 2017/18. There is no means of determining if these were suspicious until the cause is reported to the Department.


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