

*1. What is the overall cost of the Police's recruitment advertising campaign? (p8)*

The 2012 recruit advertising campaign will cost \$500,000 and will run from 3 November to 14 December 2012. The campaign will consist of six television advertisements aired on channels Seven, Nine, the Ten network, GWN Regional, WIN WA Regional and SBS supplemented by press advertisements in The West Australian, The Sunday Times and the Community Newspapers Group. On-line advertisements will be placed on thewest.com.au, perthnow.com.au and seek.com.au websites. Radio advertisements will be aired on 92.9, Nova, 96FM, Geraldton WAFM, Bunbury 95.7 Hot FM, and Kalgoorlie 97.9 Hot FM.

*2. The number of inquiries that have been established into the recent Albany bushfire that killed one DEC firefighter and injured another; the impact of these inquiries on witnesses possibly having to give evidence many times; and any impact of other inquiries on the Police inquiry undertaken for the Coroner? (p12).*

There are currently 5 agencies/departments investigating this incident, the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, Department of Environment and Conservation, WA Police, Worksafe and the City of Albany. WA Police is responsible for collating all the information and preparing a comprehensive report for the Coroner. Witness interviews are currently being undertaken after assessing all available interview notes from the nominated stakeholder agencies/departments.

Although only the Coroner has statutory powers to compel witnesses to give evidence, most witnesses are expected to cooperate with respective investigators.

The health and welfare of witnesses being interviewed by WA Police is a major consideration and counselling services have been offered by every agency to assist members of the community in dealing with any anxiety they may experience during the investigation process.

Major inquiries on behalf of the coroner are resource intensive and obviously impact on the capacity of Arson Squad. The conduct of this investigation is being managed to minimise disruption to Arson Squad service delivery.

*3. What equipment has been bought in 2011-12 financial year which directly relates to improving the WAPOL response to bushfire emergencies? (p15)*

WAPOL issues in respect to response to bushfires have centred on lack of communications due to 'black spots' where radio and mobile phone reception is compromised. A radio upgrade project is well underway and sufficient numbers of new vehicle and hand-held radios have been purchased to ensure improvements in reception. A large proportion of these radios have already been issued and/or fitted to operational vehicles and as vehicles are replaced or radios require servicing, the

new type radios are provided. Repeater stations are progressively being established where required.

The Trunked Radio Network will facilitate direct communication to FESA and DEC for the purposes on Control and Command. The DEC has already completed the required upgrade to be able to have radio communications with WAPOL during major emergencies where the network has been established.

The below schedules indicate current and projected progress of the project.

<b>Trunked Radio Network Schedule</b>			
<b>Description</b>	<b>Predicted End Date</b>	<b>Actual End Date</b>	<b>% Complete</b>
Contract award	23/06/2011	23/06/2011	100%
System Support Contract Finalisation	30/11/2012		90%
<b>Midland Core</b>			
Commissioning	28/05/2012	01/06/2012	100%
<b>Maylands Core</b>			
Commissioning	21/05/2012	21/05/2012	100%
<b>Kalgoorlie Segment</b>			
Commissioning	02/11/2012	02/11/2012	100%
<b>Geraldton Segment</b>			
Commissioning	07/07/2013		0%
<b>Albany Segment</b>			
Commissioning	07/07/2013		0%
<b>Pilbara Segment</b>			
Operational trial	14/09/2013		0%
<b>System Acceptance</b>			
Motorola Final Acceptance Milestone	09/12/2013		0%

<b>Conventional Digital Radio Schedule</b>			
<b>Description</b>	<b>Predicted End Date</b>	<b>Actual End Date</b>	<b>% Complete</b>
Contract award	01/12/2011	28/11/2011	100%
System Support Contract Finalization	30/04/2013		50%
<b>CW Wheatbelt District (6 segments)</b>			
District Commissioning (45 sites)	29/06/2014		0%
<b>CGE Goldfields Esperance (3 segments)</b>			
District Commissioning (15 sites)	20/10/2013		0%
<b>CMG Mid-West Gascoyne (6 segments)</b>			

District Commissioning (38 sites)	22/03/2015		0%
<b>CGS Great Southern (8 segments)</b>			
District Commissioning (59 sites)	22/05/2016		0%
<b>CSW South West District (5 segments)</b>			
District Commissioning ( 29 sites)	11/12/2016		0%
<b>CP Pilbara District (2 segments)</b>			
District Commissioning (7 sites)	13/05/2014		0%
<b>CK Kimberley (2 segments)</b>			
District Commissioning ( 17sites)	13/12/2016		0%
<b>CDRN System Acceptance</b>			
Final Acceptance Milestone	14/12/2016		0%

\* Note that CDRN deployment timeframes from Mid West Gascoyne onwards will vary, subject to outcomes of Design Validation, Site Acquisition dependencies eg RMCP deployments etc as they emerge.

4. *How many sworn officers are in the Arson Squad? (p15)*

The Arson Squad comprises of 11 sworn officers and 2 police staff.

5. *Did the inquiry by the Arson Squad into the Toodyay fire in 2009 reach a conclusion as to the cause of that fire? (p18)*

The Arson Squad report into the *Toodyay fire in 2009* completing the investigation into the cause of the fire was submitted on 26 May 2010.

The investigating officer concluded:

“Based upon the initial attendance and examination of the identified area of origin, and in consultation with FESA, there appears to be evidence (given the absence of other identifiable causes) to support the hypothesis that electrical wires in the vicinity of poles T303-42 and T303-43 clashed (possibly due to the extreme weather conditions), causing molten metal to fall to the ground and igniting the dry stubble underneath.”