

DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES VOLUNTEERS — CODE OF CONDUCT

6396. Mr D.T. Redman to the Minister for Emergency Services; Corrective Services:

I refer to the mandatory online Code of Conduct of which Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) volunteers are required to complete, and ask:

- (a) Can the Minister list for each registered volunteer emergency service organisation:
 - (i) The total number of registered volunteers in each organisation;
 - (ii) The total number of volunteers in each organisation who completed the mandatory code of conduct course within the stated 4 week limit as outlined in the Commissioner's Circular 98/2020 on 18 June 2020;
 - (iii) The total number of volunteers in each organisation who did not complete the mandatory code of conduct course within the stated 4 week limit;
 - (iv) The total number of volunteers in each organisation who completed the mandatory code of conduct online course to date;
 - (v) The total number of volunteers in each organisation who have not completed the course to date; and
 - (vi) The total number of volunteers in each organisation who have deregistered since 22 June 2020;
- (b) Can the Minister outline the actions that will be taken for those volunteers who have not completed the mandatory code of conduct; and
- (c) Can the Minister confirm that simply logging into the online course as a registered volunteer is sufficient to be recorded as having completed the mandatory code of conduct course, even though the body of the course has not been read and/or completed:
 - (i) If not, at what point in the process of completing the online code of conduct course does the system formally register the applicant as having completed the online code of conduct course; and
 - (ii) If yes, is the Minister aware of how many registered volunteers have simply logged into the mandatory course, and not completed the course as required?

Mr F.M. Logan replied:

- (a) (i) Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service: 2,626
Volunteer Fire and Emergency Service: 1,065
Marine Rescue Service: 1,778
State Emergency Services: 2,131
Private Fire and Rescue Brigades: 106
Bushfire Brigades under the control of DFES (Pilbara and Kimberley): 258
Bushfire Brigades: 19,516
Total: 26,285
- (ii) Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service: 529
Volunteer Fire and Emergency Service: 99
Marine Rescue Service: 266
State Emergency Services: 552
Private Fire and Rescue Brigades: 3
Bushfire Brigades under the control of DFES (Pilbara and Kimberley): 6
- (iii) Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service: 2,045
Volunteer Fire and Emergency Service: 929
State Emergency Services: 1,421
Marine Rescue Service: 1,424
Bushfire Brigades under the control of DFES (Pilbara and Kimberley): 252
Private Fire and Rescue Brigades: 103
- (iv) Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service: 647

- Volunteer Fire and Emergency Service: 154
- Marine Rescue Service: 348
- State Emergency Services: 652
- Private Fire and Rescue Brigades: 7
- Bushfire Brigades under the control of DFES (Pilbara and Kimberley): 8
- (v) Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service: 1,913
- Volunteer Fire and Emergency Service: 886
- Marine Rescue Services: 1,365
- State Emergency Services: 1,317
- Private Fire and Rescue Brigades: 80
- Bushfire Brigades under the control of DFES (Pilbara and Kimberley): 248
- (vi) Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service: 61
- Volunteer Fire and Emergency Service: 53
- Marine Rescue Services: 46
- State Emergency Services: 75
- Private Fire and Rescue Brigades: 0
- Bushfire Brigades under the control of DFES (Pilbara and Kimberley): 0
- Bushfire Brigades: 380

Not all of the volunteers that deregistered were active volunteers and some have re-joined. These figures represent average volunteer movements for each service in the time period specified.

- (b) Yes. Every three months DFES compiles training reports for all non-compliant training. These reports are provided to the regions, and non-compliance is managed locally. Volunteer leaders work with, and encourage all volunteers to complete training.
- (c) Logging into the eAcademy and selecting the Code of Conduct course will not record the participant as having completed the course.
 - (i) The last page of the online course presents an assessment icon. On the selection of the icon for the Code of Conduct course there is a statement '*I have read and understood the DFES Code of Conduct and agree to abide by this Code of Conduct, Public Sector Standards and all DFES policies and procedures*'. By selecting the 'agree' button the course is complete, and participants become registered as having completed the training.
 - (ii) Not applicable.