Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY — Friday, 4 December 2020] p8395e-8396a Hon Fran Logan

MY BUSHFIRE PLAN

Statement by Minister for Emergency Services

MR F.M. LOGAN (Cockburn — Minister for Emergency Services) [2.04 pm]: I would like to take this opportunity to inform the house about My Bushfire Plan, the new mobile responsive website and Western Australian—designed app to help all Western Australians plan for bushfires. More than 90 per cent of our state is zoned as bushfire prone, yet only one in 10 Western Australians has a bushfire plan and only 35 per cent of the community think that their properties are at risk of bushfire. As a community, we have to do more to prepare ourselves for bushfire. The new campaign urges people to rethink their personal risk and plan what they will do if a bushfire strikes.

We know that indecision can be deadly during a bushfire. The website and app are supported by a new hard-hitting advertising campaign that depicts real-life bushfire scenarios and the confronting circumstances that people can face if they are not properly prepared. The "How Fire Proof Is Your Plan?" advertising campaign is deliberately emotive, bringing home the reality of a person being trapped in a dangerous bushfire scenario in their property or car after leaving it too late to leave. We know that when members of the community prepare themselves and their properties for bushfire, they increase their chance of survival and reduce the demand on career and volunteer firefighters, who time and again put their lives on the line to protect the community. The Australian-first app and new website will make it easier for people to make critical decisions ahead of the bushfire season by stepping them through what to do if a bushfire hits their home, when to leave, what to take and where to go. It provides a single place for people to prepare, print, share and update their bushfire plan at any time from any device. It also includes preparation checklists, fact sheets, links to the Emergency WA website for current bushfire information and seasonal bushfire preparation reminders.

We know that there will never be enough fire trucks and water bombers for every house. It is up to all of us to plan what we will do in a bushfire. Creating that plan is now easier for everyone. My Bushfire Plan helps make WA a safer state. I urge all members in this house to encourage their communities to visit the website mybushfireplan.wa.gov.au or download the app and to make a plan today. It could save their lives.