

BUSHFIRES — KATANNING AND SOUTH WEST

343. Mr P.J. RUNDLE to the Minister for Emergency Services:

I have a supplementary question. That is why I informed the minister of last week's announcement of \$600 million, of which \$149.7 million is for the recovery for species and landscapes program, which suits the Stirling Range National Park. Will the minister inform the house of any positive outcomes from the meeting he said the Premier had with the Council of Australian Governments on 12 March regarding support for bushfire victims?

The SPEAKER: Member, just in future, short, sharp, and it has to be with the previous question.

Mr F.M. LOGAN replied:

Thank you, Mr Speaker. As the member knows, time at that COAG meeting was taken up primarily with COVID-19, as it should have been. There was a small exchange, so I believe. That is the sort of question the member needs to put to the Premier. There was a small exchange and an agreement about where we go on the bushfire review. Can I just give the member this information: at the moment, there are three investigations underway. There is the royal commission into national disasters and bushfires; there is a CSIRO investigation into climate change and its impact on disasters, particularly natural disasters; and there is a Senate inquiry into the 2019–20 bushfires and the response to those bushfires. There is the establishment of the National Bushfire Recovery Agency by the federal government, and Emergency Management Australia is doing a review of the national disaster recovery funding, which is where the member should take up the issue about that criteria, and there is a bushfire action plan underway. All those things are currently in play at the moment. The issues that we have here in Western Australia, particularly the issues the Shire of Dundas has raised with me and the member's issues, we will put those on the table and we have put them on the table to see if we can get some flexibility for local governments and for the state government in how we actually access federal government funding.