

DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES — VOLUNTEERS — CODE OF CONDUCT

756. Mr D.T. REDMAN to the Minister for Emergency Services:

I have a supplementary question. Can the minister confirm the agreement sought by Commissioner Darren Klemm with the Association of Volunteer Bushfire Brigades that the Department of Fire and Emergency Services does not seek to endorse or consider a code of conduct as part of the funding agreement?

Mr F.M. LOGAN replied:

I do not know how clear I have to be with the member for Warren–Blackwood. He knows this. He knows that the code of conduct does not apply to those bush fire brigades. Bush fire brigades in the Kimberley and the Pilbara are covered by the code of conduct. I recently went through the Pilbara and the Kimberley and met with all the volunteers up there. I specifically raised the issue of the code of conduct with them and asked them whether they had a problem with it. Nobody had a problem with that code of conduct. That requirement has been passed on from the Public Sector Commissioner to the Commissioner for Fire and Emergency Services. As the director general of the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, it is his responsibility to make sure it is applied in the workplace, and that is what he is doing. If the member has a problem with that, he should keep raising it, but that is the commissioner's responsibility as a director general. I know the member for Warren–Blackwood did not have any worries about interfering with the work of the director general or the department before. I know he interfered with that all the time as a minister, but we respect the role of the Public Sector Commissioner and the directors general to do their work.