

RURAL FIRE SERVICE — ESTABLISHMENT

**63. Hon KEN BASTON to the minister representing the Minister for Emergency Services:**

I refer to recommendation 15 of the “Report of the Special Inquiry into the January 2016 Waroona Fire”.

- (1) As per this recommendation, will the minister establish an independent rural fire service?
- (2) If yes to (1), what is the expected time frame for its establishment; and, if no to (1), why not?

**Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question. The following information has been provided to me by the Minister for Emergency Services —

- (1) Options are currently being considered regarding the optimal provision of fire services to rural and regional areas, with due consideration being given to the recommendations of the special inquiry, preservation of life and property, and the state’s difficult budgetary position.
- (2) Not applicable.