

FIRE HYDRANTS — STATE NETWORK

**1390. Hon DARREN WEST to the minister representing the Minister for Water:**

I refer to the recent review of fire hydrants across the state and the gaps in the network identified, meaning an additional 2 900 hydrants would need to be installed to adequately secure water supply for emergencies across the state.

- (1) Can the Minister for Water explain why this will take five years to complete?
- (2) How many or what percentage of the 330 planned new hydrants for high bushfire risk areas, such as Augusta, Bridgetown, Collie, Dunsborough, Manjimup, Mt Barker, Margaret River, Narrogin, Northam and York, have been already installed?
- (3) In addition to this infill program, what is the approximate number of hydrants earmarked for maintenance and the anticipated waiting time to repair once reported?

**Hon KEN BASTON replied:**

On behalf of the Minister for Water, I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) The full program of works was staged over five years based on priorities such as high fire risk areas and the number of hydrants that can reasonably be delivered on a yearly basis.
- (2) By the end of November 2015, a total of 314 hydrants will have been installed in Augusta, Bridgetown, Collie, Dunsborough, Manjimup, Mt Barker, Margaret River, Narrogin, Northam and York. A further 16 planned hydrants were not required after further investigation and consultation with the Department of Fire and Emergency Services.
- (3) DFES generates fire hydrant maintenance work orders, which the Water Corporation is responsible for carrying out. DFES classifies these work orders as high, standard or low priority. The target completion time frame varies from four weeks for high priority to 12 months for low priority. There are approximately 160 work orders currently in progress.