

EMERGENCY SERVICES — STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

3964. Ms M.M. Quirk to the Minister for Emergency Services:

I refer to the State Emergency Management Committee's *Emergency Preparedness Report* tabled in November 2014 and its finding on page 40 that "*The identification and management of volunteer training remains a challenge. An assessment of the extent of volunteer involvement in EM roles would be beneficial to facilitate appropriate planning for the volunteer workforce*", and I ask what measures are being put in place to meet this challenge?

**Mr J.M. Francis replied:**

The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) advises:

The introduction of the DFES Volunteer Training Pathways has provided a clear training framework for each role within the volunteer services. The training provides the participant with the skills and knowledge relevant to their position within the brigade, group or unit. As the volunteer attains skills through training and experience, responding to emergency incidents, they will be provided the opportunity to progress to more technically challenging or leadership based pathways. This will build their capability within their brigade, group or unit, regions and State, in line with the requirements of a particular hazard or area.

In establishing the Volunteer Training Pathways program, the extent of volunteer involvement in EM was identified and mapped to training. Training within the Pathways to support volunteers in EM roles is clearly defined with service specific courses addressing the skills/knowledge requirements.