

ASHFIELD FLATS — DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT

404. Mr D.J. KELLY to the Minister for Emergency Services:

I have a supplementary question. On 24 February, the minister said in this place that he gave me that wrong advice because he had been given that advice by his department. The briefing note from the Fire and Emergency Services Commissioner, Mr Gregson, which the minister got on 7 September, stated that that report was complete and recommended that it be given to the minister. This is the briefing note.

The SPEAKER: A short question!

Mr D.J. KELLY: The minister stood in this place on 24 February and said that his advice stated completely the opposite. The apology I want is for the minister misleading Parliament.

Mr J.M. FRANCIS replied:

I provided the member with the best information I had at the time, as I always do during question time. This fire is absolutely ancient history. All the issues that were raised in that report have been resolved. All the mitigation that was raised in that report had been carried out before the last fire season. I receive hundreds and hundreds of briefing notes every month. I am sorry that I did not remember the exact details of a briefing note from a year ago, member for Bassendean. I provided the member with the best information I had —

Mr D.J. Kelly interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Bassendean!

Mr J.M. FRANCIS: I provided the information on the basis that it was my understanding of what the situation was. If the member wants to go into detailed questions about reports that were released a year ago or an incident that was over 12 months ago, on a scale of issues confronting emergency services right now, I do not think this is a really big one.

Mr D.J. Kelly interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Bassendean, I call you to order for the first time.

Mr D.J. Kelly: The first responders almost lost their lives, idiot.

Withdrawal of Remark

The SPEAKER: I want you to withdraw that, please.

Mr D.J. KELLY: I withdraw that. But they did. That is what the report said.

Questions without Notice Resumed

The SPEAKER: Member for Bassendean, I have called you to order twice.