

EMERGENCY SERVICES — OFFICE OF BUSHFIRE RISK MANAGEMENT —
TENURE BLIND APPROACH

5371. Ms M.M. Quirk to the Minister for Emergency Services:

I refer to the stated intention of the Office of Bushfire Risk Management to adopt a ‘tenure blind’ approach to the assessment of bushfire risk across WA, and I ask:

- (a) when is it anticipated this will occur;
- (b) what steps need to be taken before this will occur; and
- (c) what will be the expected impact of this change in approach?

Mr J.M. Francis replied:

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

- (a) On 10 December 2015, the Office of Bushfire Risk Management published the Guidelines for preparing a Bushfire Risk Management Plan (the Guidelines). The Guidelines establish the process for assessing bushfire related risk on a tenure blind basis and developing and implementing a Bushfire Risk Management Plan (BRMP).

By 21 December 2015, DFES signed MOUs with the 16 local governments to provide resources and funding to support the development of BRMPs. DFES has approached an additional 22 local governments who may currently have existing capacity to develop BRMPs.

- (b) The process has commenced.
- (c) Impacts will include:

A greater awareness, ownership and management of bushfire risk within communities. This provides for better prepared and protected communities.

More efficient and effective use of resources and funding to undertake prioritised treatment works.

A greater awareness of bushfire risk to better support Government decisions on funding allocations.