

BUSHFIRE SEASON — HIGH-RISK AREAS

1356. Ms M.M. Quirk to the Minister for Emergency Services:

I refer to local government authority areas and locations assessed as high risk for the 2013–2014 fire season, and ask, will the Minister table the list of high risk areas for this fire season, and if not, why not?

Mrs L.M. Harvey replied:

The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) is continually assessing the bushfire risk of areas throughout the state using the Bushfire Threat Analysis model. This model is also utilised by Local Governments.

This information is used to guide operational affairs and is not released to the media or otherwise published to avoid creating panic or apathy in suburban and regional Western Australia.

DFES uses this information to draft bushfire preparedness, awareness and education with the community and stakeholders.

In addition, DFES regularly contributes information for the preparation of the Seasonal Outlook which is undertaken once a year for each of the northern and southern portions of Australia.

The Seasonal Outlook is publicly available on the website of the Bushfire Cooperative Research Centre at <http://www.bushfirecrc.com/>.