

EMERGENCY SERVICES — VEHICLE IMMOBILISERS

2787. Mr P.B. Watson to the Minister for Emergency Services:

I refer to the exemption from the requirement to fit an immobilizer and ask:

- (a) what is the rationale behind the installation of immobilisers in emergency service vehicles such as the Fast Attack fire truck when previously fire appliance vehicles were exempt under Section 1017B(2) of the *Road Traffic Act*; and
- (b) what is the incidence of motor vehicle theft of emergency service vehicles for the years: 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013?

Mr J.M. Francis replied:

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

- (a) The exemption for installation of immobilisers in fire appliances referred to in the above question was provided by the A/Director General of the Department of Transport pursuant to regulation 1017B(2)(c) of the *Road Traffic (Vehicle Standards) Regulations 1977* not the *Road Traffic Act*. The *Road Traffic (Vehicle Standards) Regulations 1977* were repealed on 1 November 2002.

The *Road Traffic (Vehicle Standards) Rules 2002* are the relevant rules and do not provide for an exemption for fire appliance vehicles. Rule 176(4) of the *Road Traffic (Vehicle Standards) Rules 2002* instead provides that the rule requiring an immobiliser does not apply to a motor vehicle with a Gross Vehicle Mass of more than 4.5t. The majority of the Department's emergency service vehicles exceed a Gross Vehicle Mass of 4.5t.

The only currently developed emergency service vehicle of the Department that does not exceed a Gross Vehicle Mass of 4.5t is the V8 Toyota Landcruiser light tanker, which is considered a fast attack fire appliance and is installed with an immobilizer.

- (b)

YEAR	TOTAL
2000	0
2001	1
2002	0
2003	0
2004	0
2005	1
2006	0
2007	1
A2008	0
2009	0
2010	0
2011	0
2012	0
2013	0