

PARKERVILLE STONEVILLE MT HELENA BUSHFIRE REVIEW — ACCESS TO FIRE GROUND

3129. Ms M.M. Quirk to the Minister for Emergency Services:

I refer to the *Parkerville Stoneville Mt Helena Bushfire Review* which recommended that the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, in consultation with bushfire volunteers should develop a procedure for the controlled entry and exit of volunteers to the fire ground and I ask, what steps have been taken to address this impediment to brigades reaching the fire ground?

Mr J.M. Francis replied:

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

DFES requires, unless otherwise advised, all responders, whether they be career or volunteer, to report to the Incident Control Centre or Forward Control Point, prior to engaging in fire fighting. This is for their and others safety at the incident. Once their appliance has been assigned to a sector and the crew briefed, there is no impediment to their movement into and out of the fire ground.

Local Governments can source Vehicle Identifier stickers off the DFES stationary contract for issuing to brigade members who have a firefighting vehicle which would enable them to pass through a vehicle control point. These stickers were an outcome of the Toodyay fire.