

ASHFIELD FLATS — DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT

1363. Hon SUE ELLERY to the Minister for Planning:

I am asking this question on behalf of Hon Amber-Jade Sanderson, who is out of the house on urgent parliamentary business.

I refer to the fire that occurred on 5 March 2015 at Ashfield Flats and the subsequent Department of Fire and Emergency Services report dated 14 May 2015, which, at pages 12 and 13, made 12 recommendations to reduce the risk of a future fire. For land owned by the WA Planning Commission, which of these recommendations have been fully implemented?

Hon DONNA FARAGHER replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question asked on behalf of Hon Amber-Jade Sanderson.

The Department of Planning, acting on behalf of the Western Australian Planning Commission, has undertaken those works for which it is responsible as owner of part of the Ashfield Flats land. Of the 12 recommendations in the report, three are the responsibility of the department and have been addressed. First, a mineral earth firebreak and access track along the western edge of the reserve have been constructed. Second, waterlogging of access tracks has been addressed, although in a different way from that suggested in the report. Third, branches of trees on WAPC-owned land have been pruned to ensure that there is no overhang from WAPC property to neighbouring properties. In addition to undertaking these specific works, the department has prepared, and is currently consulting stakeholders on, a draft fire management plan for the commission's land at Ashfield Flats.