

SERPENTINE COMPLEX BUSHFIRE

**1464. Hon Dr BRIAN WALKER to the Minister for Emergency Services:**

We enter what threatens to be a long and dangerous bushfire season.

- (1) Will the minister join me in thanking all those firefighters involved in tackling the blaze in Serpentine over the past week, which threatened homes and businesses at the very heart of my electorate?
- (2) As fires continue to burn elsewhere in the state, will he take this opportunity to reiterate the Cook government's support for the emergency services volunteers who make this level of service and community support possible, alongside their full-time colleagues?

**Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:**

Can I thank Hon Dr Brian Walker for an amazing question.

- (1)–(2) As Minister for Emergency Services, I will, of course, join the member and thank all firefighters and emergency services personnel who have been involved in the response to the Serpentine complex, which is the fire he referred to.

The Serpentine complex involved over 95 emergency services brigades, groups and units in response to a complex incident that involved seven separate fires within multiple local governments. All our Department of Fire and Emergency Services emergency services personnel do an amazing job, but I want to highlight the work of members of local government volunteer bush fire brigades, members of the Volunteer Fire and Rescue Services, the volunteer fire emergency services, and members of the State Emergency Service.

The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions firefighters and rangers played a crucial role not just in the Serpentine complex, but also right across WA during the high-threat season. I would also like to thank the many staff and personnel from local governments and shires, especially the chief bushfire control officers and community emergency services managers, as well as the many other non-government volunteer groups like the Salvation Army emergency response group.

Of course, our career firefighters also do an amazing job, and over the past few weeks, they have been drafted to help fight fires in the regions. I am very grateful to them for their work, too.