

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee 2020-21 Budget Estimates Hearings

EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Hon Lisa Neville MP

Minister for Police and Emergency Services Minister for the Coordination of Environment, Water, Land and Planning – COVID-19

Wednesday 16 December 2020



Emergency Management Fire Services Reform

2 July 2019	Presumptive Rights Scheme commenced
February – March 2020	Intensive consultation conducted with 1,300 CFA volunteers across regional Victoria at integrated and volunteer stations
February – March – June 2020	Public awareness campaign conducted
1 July 2020	 Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV) established, bringing together all former Metropolitan Fire Brigade staff and Country Fire Authority (CFA) career firefighters and other support staf CFA realigned as a volunteer firefighting organisation Upgrades to the ESTA computer aided dispatch system completed No disruption to service delivery
1 August 2020	FRV and CFA Outcomes Frameworks published
September – October 2020	Public awareness campaign conducted
2 October 2020	FRV Strategic Advisory Committee announced
15 October 2020	 Year One Fire Services Reform Implementation Plan tabled in Parliament Long-term Secondment Agreement between FRV and CFA in place Service Level Agreements for state-wide delivery of specialist services in place
13 November 2020	Fire District Review Panel announced

Emergency Management Budget investment

The 2020-21 Victorian Budget makes significant commitments towards Victoria's emergency services capability, including:

- **\$231.6 million** over four years (part of \$250 million over five years) to deliver fire services reform implementation. This includes
 - Training and new personal protective clothing for volunteers, the replacement of fifteen fire stations and a new fire station at Clyde, and replacement of fifty firefighting appliances
 - Essential information technology and equipment for Fire Rescue Victoria and the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority and operational management resources for CFA that are to be seconded from FRV.
- \$123.8 million over four years to bolster Victoria's bushfire response and recovery capacity.
- \$3.1 million over one year for repairs for the Victoria's State Emergency Service head office.
- **\$19.5 million** over two years for a full-time State Control Centre workforce with 24/7 functionality, and a review into the emergency management operating model.
- **\$51.9 million** for the continued operation of the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority (ESTA) and the upgrade of the computer aided dispatch system to support the Triple Zero service.
- **\$4.9 million** over one year to support Life Saving Victoria in delivering critical water safety initiatives this summer, and to respond to COVID-19 impacts on its costs and revenue.
- **\$0.9 million** over one year to redevelop the Barwon Heads Surf Lifesaving facility.
- **\$4.0 million** over one year to upgrade the VicEmergency app and EM-COP communications system.
- **\$5.4 million** over one year for continuation of the Victorian Fire Season Campaign.
- **\$1.9 million** over one year to help Marine Search and Rescue units meet their operating costs.

Emergency Management 2019-20 Victorian Fires



2,963 Grass fires (CFA)

545 Forest fires (DELWP)

1.5 million

Hectares of land burnt

1,400 km of arterial roads closed

1,922

evacuated from Mallacoota by sea or air



5 people lost their lives

120+

communities directly impacted



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders impacted Buildings and infrastructure

312

Primary residences destroyed or damaged

691

Farm and business buildings destroyed or damaged



57%

of state forest burnt in the three mot directly hit LGAs



\$330 - \$350m

in lost tourism revenue in bushfire affected regions between December 2019 and March 2020

22%

of agricultural land in the fire affected area was burnt

\$40m

in damage to agriculture buildings

10,000 livestock lost

Emergency Management 2019-20 Bushfire Season Recovery

Bushfire Recovery Victoria (BRV)

Established as our permanent and dedicated recovery agency

\$250m

Has been directly released to individuals, business and organisations in bushfire affected communities

\$68.6m

Local Economic Recovery (LER) Program Community grants rolling out - \$6.7m approved

Clean up of **736 properties**

(over 2,500 structures) completed on time Establishment of

10 CRCs[®] East Gippsland and 12 CRCs[®]n the North East

- Supporting community led processes to identify and deliver local recovery priorities

Rollout of Short Term Modular Housing

Eastern Victoria Fires State Recovery Plan and BRV Recovery Framework

- Coinciding with an announcement of more than \$110 million toward recovery projects Working in partnership and advocating to the Commonwealth Government to

increase access and supports

Supporting planning and rebuilding





Thank you.

