

Bushfire Resilience Funding for Far South

Dr WOODRUFF question to MINISTER for POLICE, FIRE and EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

On Saturday night I went to the River Run's Kraken event in Strathblane, and a question on many people's lips to me was: where is the money promised for the far south's 2018-2019 bushfire recovery? Those fires had a devastating impact on Geeveston and the far south. The Huon Valley remains highly exposed to bushfire risk, increasing with climate change and this summer's coming El Niño. The case for building community resilience is even stronger than in 2019. Recently, the Huon Valley Council adopted Councillor Paul Gibson's motion to seek the State Government's redirection of approximately \$23 million of promised community recovery funding made in the 2018-2019 bushfire recovery final plan. They agree it should go to a community-led resilience program to be delivered in partnership with The Resilience Canopy and working with the community and council. Minister, will you commit to redirecting those millions of dollars urgently, so that Geeveston and far south communities can be supported to develop locally led solutions in the unique social and environmental challenges they face?