

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Question No. [number] of [Year]

Legislative Council

ASKED BY: Legislative Council Estimates Committee B

ANSWERED BY: Hon Felix Ellis MP, Minister for Police, Fire and
Emergency Management

QUESTION:

Overview

1. What is the total number of external consultancies for the 2025-2026 year, in a table form with details of the consultants and funding amounts.
2. Please provide details of all expenditure on internal reviews conducted by external consultants in each of 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26, including how much was spent on each of those contracts
3. With regard to the engagement of KPMG for Project Unify and subsequent cancellation of that contract, could you please provide the following information:
 1. Details of all expenditure on KMPG contracts for the project up to the date of cancellation.
 2. Details of deliverables completed under the KPMG contracts.
 3. An explanation of the cancellation of the KPMG contract, for example, was the termination of the contract for cause or convenience, and were any termination payments made to KPMG?

4. With respect to Project Unify, can you please provide an update on the project's funding and delivery status.

Specifically:

1. In 2020, \$46 million was allocated to Project Unify.
 - Please provide a breakdown of this allocation for specific areas.
 - Please provide details for each area on how much of the allocation has been expended to date?
 - Please provide details on any additional funds which have been allocated in these project areas since the initial 2020 allocation?
2. Can you provide a timeline showing: What has been delivered in each funded project area
 - The expenditure of funding in each area over time
 - Details on what remains to be delivered
 - The estimated additional funding required to complete the project's objectives

5. Please provide the raw data on uptake of the MyPulse wellbeing support service for the past three years, and a breakdown of utilisation by employees and volunteers

Output Group 2 - Crime

6. For each of the years from 2023 to date, how many times has the Special Operations Group been deployed?
7. Of those deployments, how many incidents involved the use or presence of firearms?
8. For the incidents that involved firearms, how many involved:
 - firearms that were registered, and
 - firearms that were unregistered?

State Fire Commission

9. The Terms of Reference for Fire Management Area Committees state reviews of the ToR should occur every 3 years, however it appears they have not been reviewed since 2018 – when will they next be reviewed?

10. Could you please advise the total number of volunteers and career firefighters within the Tasmanian Fire Service, along with a gender breakdown for each of the past three years, by region across Tasmania?

ANSWER:

Overview

1. This question requires manual interrogation of voluminous corporate records. More time is required to complete this process, and a response will be provided to the Committee by Thursday 18 June 2026.
2. This question requires manual interrogation of voluminous corporate records. More time is required to complete this process, and we will provide a response to the Committee by Thursday 18 June 2026.
3. The Commissioner of Police has written to the Crown Solicitor seeking advice on what information can legally be released in accordance with the separation deed.
4. The Commissioner of Police has written to the Crown Solicitor seeking advice on what information can legally be released in accordance with the separation deed.
5. MyPulse activities since program inception:

	Number*	Employees	Volunteers
Total health screens completed	3,269	2,767	502
<i>Mental health screens</i>	<i>1,833</i>	<i>1,544</i>	<i>289</i>

<i>Physical health screens</i>	1,436	1,223	213
Unique individuals completing a screen	2,066	1,744	322
Coaching sessions completed	5,877	5,204	673
Unique individuals coached	1,171	1,028	143

**The MyPulse provider has recently recalculated these indicators to ensure re-screens are not being included. This has resulted in a minor variation to the figures given during the estimates hearing (which were extracted a number of months ago).*

Output Group 2 - Crime

6.

The data supplied below aligns with the establishment of the full-time Special Operations Group (SOG) in December 2023.

SOG deployments relate to planned or unplanned SOG operations and need to be approved by the Emergency Management Commander or by the Assistant Commissioner, Operations or the duty commissioner (depending on the circumstances).

Frontline Assistance Tasks do not require approval from a Commander and involve SOG members providing assistance or back-up to general duties officers or investigators during routine tasks.

For the full financial year 2023 - 2024

- 41 deployments

December 2023 (fulltime SOG established) - 30 June 2024

- 28 deployments
- 199 Front-line assistance (FLA) taskings

For the full financial year 2024-25

- 44 deployments
- 657 FLA taskings

For the current financial year to date (as at March 31 2026)

- 46 deployments
- 502 FLA taskings

7.

Full-time SOG members are typically tasked with entering and securing target addresses to ensure they are safe. Details such as the presence of firearms are not recorded in connection with SOG deployments.

8.

Unable to provide for the reasons above.

State Fire Commission

9.

The State Fire Management Council (SFMC) operates as an independent advisory body to the State Fire Commission (SFC), providing strategic oversight and guidance on statewide fire management policy and coordination.

The SFMC is led by an independent Chair appointed by the Minister, ensuring impartial governance and a clear separation from operational fire agencies.

Responsibility for maintaining and updating the Terms of Reference for Fire Management Area Committees (FMACs) rests with the SFMC, ensuring consistency and alignment with state-level fire management objectives.

The SFMC has advised that the Terms of Reference for FMACs are currently under review, with updates expected to reflect contemporary risk, governance expectations, and evolving fire management practices.

10.

Volunteer Firefighters for TFS

	Male	Female	Other
Volunteer Firefighters (30 June 2024)	3178	596	0
South	1394	266	
North	1125	219	
North West	659	111	
Volunteer Firefighters (30 June 2025)	3076	603	0
South	1374	268	
North	1073	219	
North West	629	116	
Volunteer Firefighters (31 March 2026)	2864	579	0
South	1295	255	
North	970	206	
North West	599	118	

Career Firefighters for TFS

31-Mar-26

District & Division	Male	Female	Other
Community Fire Safety			
Building Safety	2		
Bushfire Risk Unit	2		
Community Education	4		
Office of the Commissioner			
Office of the Commissioner	2		
Operations			
North West Region	60	6	
Northern Region	78	11	
Southern Region	147	13	1
State Operations	7		
Training and Education			
Training Delivery	35	6	
Training Services	1		
	338	36	1

30-Jun-25

District & Division	Male	Female	Other
Community Fire Safety			
Building Safety	3		
Bushfire Risk Unit	2		
Community Education	4		
TasFire Training	4		
Office of the Commissioner			
DELTA	1		
Office of the Commissioner	4		
Operations			
North West Region	60	5	
Northern Region	71	6	
Operational Training	32	8	
Southern Region	138	11	1
State Operations	9		
	328	30	1

30-Jun-24

District & Division	Male	Female	Other
Community Fire Safety			
Building Safety	4	1	
Bushfire Risk Unit	2		
Community Education	4	1	
TasFire Training	3		
Office of the Commissioner			
DELTA	3		
Office of the Commissioner	2		
Operations			
North West Region	61	6	
Northern Region	72	3	
Operational Training	34	6	1
Southern Region	130	8	
State Operations	7		
	322	25	1

APPROVED/NOT APPROVED



Hon Felix Ellis MP
Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management

Date: 12 June 2026