

Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management
Minister for Business, Industry and Resources
Minister for Skills and Jobs

Level 5, 4 Salamanca Place, Parliament Square Building HOBART TAS 7000 Australia
GPO Box 123 HOBART TAS 7001 Australia
Ph: +61 3 6165 7770
Email: minister.ellis@dpac.tas.gov.au



Mark Shelton MP
Via email: mark.shelton@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Mr Shelton

Thank you for your constituency question asked in the House of Assembly on 9 September 2025 raising the concerns of your Lyons constituents regarding bushfire preparedness.

The Tasmania Fire Service (TFS) works closely with our communities to ensure the safety of all Tasmanians is enhanced throughout every bushfire season. The TFS does this through a number of initiatives, including:

- Community Bushfire Protection Plans, which aim to assist communities with identifying their safety options when bushfire threatens, and to support the development of personal Bushfire Plans;
- The TFS Bushfire Ready Challenge (BRC), which has commenced for Spring 2025. This is an interactive electronic communications strategy in which individuals and households who have registered by email receive weekly bushfire planning and preparedness challenge tasks, such as getting to know their bushfire risk, creating a bushfire plan, and preparing their property; and
- Bushfire-Ready Neighbourhoods (BRN), which is TFS's community-based bushfire prevention and preparedness program. A team of community development officers work intensively with bushfire-prone communities statewide.

The Tasmanian Government is committed to ensuring bushfire safe communities across Tasmania. Our commitment includes more fuel reduction burns, more volunteers and more support for firefighters in addition to new generation technologies.

Planned burning is an effective tool for reducing bushfire risk. The Government's Fuel Reduction Program is nation leading in its tenure-blind, strategic risk-based approach to fuel reduction. The TFS works collaboratively with Sustainable Timber Tasmania and Parks and Wildlife Services to undertake targeted fuel reduction burning to provide protection to communities. In 2024-25, 108 burns were completed, covering 24,532 hectares.

Yours sincerely

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

Copy to Ms Laura Ross, Clerk of the House of Assembly

17/10/2025