

From: [Legislation](#)
Subject: ICR13519304 - Important Update - Emergency Services Legislation Review - Email Update #1
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Good Morning

During our Roadshows, the Project Team endeavoured to keep you updated about important developments within the project.

As we discussed in our presentations, the Emergency Services Legislation Review is required to follow the processes set by the Regulatory Gatekeeping Unit (RGU). One of the requirements of the RGU process is researching the potential impacts of a proposal that is being considered.

The Community Development and Justice Standing Committee (CDJSC) 2006 proposed that Local Governments should have the option, by mutual agreement, to transfer the control and administration of local bush fire brigades. This proposal was discussed by attendees throughout our Roadshow and identified in numerous submissions. The Project Team determined that there was enough interest in the proposal to warrant further research. However, researching a proposal does not mean that it will ultimately appear in future legislation.

The Project Team has contacted all Local Governments in order to better understand the quantity and location of brigades whose control and administration could possibly be transferred to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES). More specifically, the Project Team has asked Local Governments to provide a response to the following question:

"If future legislation provided the option for local governments to transfer the responsibility for bush fire brigade operations and administration to DFES, would your local government be likely to retain or transfer the responsibility?"

It is very important to note that our letter to Local Governments clearly stated that the response provided was not binding in any way. Additionally, the Project Team acknowledged that the control and administration of local brigades is an important consideration for many communities and appropriate consultation would need take place within those communities if the proposal was to be included in future legislation.

The Project Team felt it was important that the purpose of the letter was accurately conveyed to our stakeholders. We have also notified the volunteer associations of the content and purpose of the letter. The feedback received from Local Governments will be used to determine the potential cost impact to the State and inform the expert panel discussions.

Thank you for your continued interest in the Emergency Services Legislation Review. We look forward to providing you with further updates as the project progresses.

Kind regards

The Project Team
Review of the Emergency Services Acts
Legal & Legislative Services | Governance and Strategy
Department of Fire & Emergency Services
Emergency Service Complex | 20 Stockton Bend Cockburn Central 6164
P +61 8 9395 9596 | F +61 8 9395 9384 | taryn.boot@dfes.wa.gov.au <<mailto:taryn.boot@dfes.wa.gov.au>>