



# **Bush Fire Advisory Committee**

# **MINUTES**

Section 67 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*

Committee Brief:

*To provide advice to the local government on matters pertaining to obligations contained within the Bush Fires Act, organising, managing, resourcing and training volunteer bush fire brigades.*

**General Meeting of Bush Fire Advisory Committee**  
**Held in Council Chambers**  
**5.00 pm Tuesday 7 February 2017**

Committee Members as per Council Resolution No. 198/10/15

Council Members:	Cr Rayner, Cr Twine, Cr Welburn
Community Members:	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer (DBFCO) 1, Bejoording Brigade Representative, Morangup Brigade Representative, Coondle-Nunile Representative, Julimar Brigade Representative, Toodyay Central Brigade Representative, Toodyay Volunteer Fire & Rescue Representative, Fire Control Officer Representative, Representative, Department of Parks & Wildlife Representative, Department of Fire & Emergency Services (DFES) Representative
Staff Members:	S Scott - CEO, R Koch – DBFCO 2 & CESM,
Deputies:	Cr Chitty, Cr Wood

## Distribution

These minutes of meeting were approved for distribution on  
10 February 2017



Stan Scott  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**Please Note:** These Minutes will remain "Unconfirmed" until the next Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting, where the Minutes will be tabled and confirmed subject to any amendments made by the Committee.

The "Confirmed" Minutes are then signed off by the Chairperson.

Attachments that formed part of the Agenda, in addition to those tabled at the Meeting are incorporated into a separate attachment to these Minutes.

## Confirmation

These minutes of meeting were confirmed at a meeting held on

.....

Signed: .....

*Note: The Presiding Member at the meeting at which the minutes were confirmed is the person who signs above.*

Information about Committee Meetings is located on the website  
<http://www.toodyay.wa.gov.au/council-committees.aspx>

Minutes can be found on the website (under the heading "Committee Meetings") at  
<http://www.toodyay.wa.gov.au/agendas-minutes.aspx>

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ATTACHMENT *with separate index follows Item 7*

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# Shire of Toodyay

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## MINUTES

### 1. OPENING PROCEDURES

Cr B Rayner, Chairperson, declared the meeting open at 6.08pm.

#### 1.1 Announcement of Visitors

Nil

#### 1.2 Record of Attendance and Apologies

##### Members

Mr R Koch	Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM)
Cr B Rayner	Council Member
Cr R Welburn	Council Member
Mr C Stewart	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (CBFCO)
Mr R Hunter	Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer (DBFCO) 1
Mr B Rigby	Bejoording Brigade Representative
Mr J Venn	Morangup Brigade Representative
Mr M Middleton	Coondle-Nunile Brigade Representative
Mr P Sapwell	Julimar Brigade representative
Mr M McKeown	Toodyay Central Bush Fire Brigade representative
Mr I McGregor	Volunteer Fire and Rescue (Toodyay) representative
Cr T Chitty	Deputy Council Member
Mr T Bendtsen	Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)
Mr M Pasotti	Department of Parks and Wildlife representative
Mr S Scott	Chief Executive Officer

##### Staff

G Warburton	Reserves Management Officer
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##### Apologies

Cr E Twine	Council Member
Cr K Wood	Deputy Council Member
Mr B Grey	Bejoording Brigade Representative

##### Guests

Nil

##### Members of the Public

K Bowen  
N Grills  
D Bartels

## 2. TABLING OF MINUTES AND STATUS REPORT

### 2.1 Minutes of Meeting held on 1 November 2016

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION/BUSH FIRE ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION NO. 01/02/17**

**MOVED** Cr Welburn

**SECONDED** R Koch

That the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting held on 1 November 2016 be confirmed.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### 2.2 Matters arising from previous minutes

Nil

### 2.3 Review of the BFAC Status Report

#### 2.3.1 CESM

- Reported all three items from the November Meeting have been actioned.
- Clarification sought regarding status of Vehicle Identifier Stickers Action from August 2016 meeting. System set-up and functioning. 38 issued to date.

## 3. PRESENTATIONS OR EVENTS

### 3.1 Presentation of reports, people coming, topics, et cetera

#### 3.1.1 CESM

Provided an overview in relation to the review of the Shire's Firebreak Notice.

**Action:**

*Supporting Documentation was presented to members at 6:14pm for out of session review and comment by 31 March 2017, in anticipation of a further discussion/recommendation to Council at the next BFAC.*

### 3.2 Report on events that took place perhaps

#### 3.2.1 CBFCO (C. Stuart)

Report relatively quiet season, with biggest event being the recent Australia Day Julimar Forrest Incident.

Great job by all volunteers.

Good Success at with WAPOL investigations to incidents:

- Two Arrests; and
- Two others under investigation.

#### 4. REPORTS FROM SHIRE OFFICERS

##### 4.1 Report(s) from CESM

###### Correspondence received:

- Letter of appreciation received from Shire of Goomalling for support offered from Toodyay Central Brigade;
- Email of thanks to all brigades from DPaW for assistance the Julimar incident.

###### Report:

- Fire Break Inspection Progress – 72 infringements issued to date;
- Roll out of improved PPE – namely helmets and torches has now reached over 100 members;
- No update on delivery date for Coondle-Nunile 1.4. However has been sighted in Perth and is expected in the near future;
- The Shire has been successful in a Watering WA grant for improved fire emergency water infrastructure. This requires Council support to proceed;
- Internet and laptops has been provided to BFB sheds (with some further hardware installation required at Coondle Shed);
- Currently working on Emergency Service Levy Submissions and review of Firebreak notice.

##### 4.2 Report(s) from CEO

Nil

#### 5. BRIGADE UPDATES AND REPORTS

##### 5.1 Roundtable discussion

###### 5.1.1 Julimar BFB (P Sapwell)

New security system installed at shed.

###### 5.1.2 DFES (T Bendtsen)

Mitigation planning for townsite Unallocated Crown Land (UCL) in progress. Flagged a possible presentation on this subject at the next BFAC.

###### 5.1.3 DCBFCO (R Hunter)

Clarification sought in respect to the status of standpipe flood light repair. *CESM advised that this has been referred to the relevant Shire Officer for action.*

###### 5.1.4 Coondle-Nunile BFB (M Middleton)

Thanks to DPaW for cooperation at recent Julimar Forrest Incident.

Catering issues at a recent Julimar Forrest Incident.

MINUTES OF BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON 6 FEBRUARY 2017

Requested de-brief with FRS regarding structure fires from last year.

Concerns raised about training approval of a member via eAcademy. *CESM advised: approvals are done at a brigade level (Captain or 1st Lt). These issues require discussion with Captain of the Brigade.]*

Some members undergoing licence training/assessment in anticipation of the new 1.4 appliance due soon.

**5.1.1 FRS – I McGregor**

Thanked BFB for assistance with New Year's morning incident.

Mentioned plans for joint FRS/BFB pumping drills post fire season.

**5.1.1 Bejoording BFB – B. Rigby**

Question regarding enforcement of Firebreak Notice – can works be carried out by Shire if not completed by land holder. *Advice from CEO: Yes, after 28 days from the date the infringement elapsed.*

**5.1.1 CBFCO – C .Stewart**

Noted that due to the good firebreaks the New Year's Day fire was contained.

**6. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee is scheduled to be held on 2 May 2017 commencing at 6.00pm.

**7. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

The Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 7.02pm.





# **ATTACHMENTS**

to Minutes of the

**Bush Fire Advisory  
Committee Meeting**

**7 February 2017**

**ATTACHMENTS**  
TO MINUTES OF BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON 7 FEBRUARY 2017

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### **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

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Updated Bush Fire Advisory Committee Status Report	1
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### **PRESENTATIONS OR EVENTS**

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### **REPORTS FROM SHIRE OFFICERS**

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#### Correspondence received:

- Letter of appreciation received from Shire of Goomalling for support offered from Toodyay Central Brigade 10
- Email of thanks to all brigades from DPaW for assistance the Julimar incident 11



# STATUS REPORT Bush Fire Advisory Committee

Including Recommendations made to Council, Action List and Completed items

## Recommendations made to Council

Meeting Date	Item	Title/Description of Item	Resp. Officer	Proposed / Notes / Actions to be taken	Comment

## Action List

Meeting Date	Item	Title/Description of Item	Resp. Officer	Proposed / Notes / Actions to be taken	Comment
7/2/17 BFAC MTG	3.1.1	Shires Firebreak Notice - Supporting Documentation was presented to members at 6:14pm for out of session review	CESM	Comment due to <a href="mailto:cesm@toodyay.wa.gov.au">cesm@toodyay.wa.gov.au</a> by 31 March 2017	Further discussion and recommendation to Council at the next BFAC.

## COMPLETED RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HAVE GONE TO COUNCIL (and ACTIONS Completed)

Meeting Date	Item	Title/Description of Item	Resp. Officer	Status / Action / Notes	RESOLUTION NO.
1/11/2016 Recommendation	2.2.1	Recommendations to Council	CESM	'That Council authorise the CEO to write to appointed FCOs advising of any outstanding training, and that those who require training undertake training at the earliest available opportunity.'	Completed.
1/11/2016 Recommendation	5.1.1	Voting and Non-Voting Membership to BFAC	CESM	'That Council review the BFAC membership to remove such that DFES and DPAW representatives are nonvoting members.'	OFN28745 Correspondence sent out
2/08/2016 Recommendation	4.1.2	Bushfire Operating Procedure	CEO	Amendments to be put to Council.	113/11/16
2/08/2016 Action List	4.1.3	Vehicle Identification Stickers – Include Private Plant and Farmer Response. (CEO)	CEO	Been actioned. Process now for accepting and issuing permits	Action is complete

## X.X OFFICER'S REPORTS

### X.X.X Review of Firebreak Order

Date of Report:	DD Month 2017
Name of Applicant / Proponent/s:	Community Emergency Services Manager
File Reference:	COC3
Author:	R Koch – Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM)
Responsible Officer:	S Scott – Chief Executive Officer
Previously Before Council:	Nil.
Author's Disclosure of Interest:	Nil.
Nature of Council's Role in the matter:	Executive.
Attachments:	1. XXXX
Voting Requirements:	Simple Majority

#### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To receive and consider the recommendations for a revised Firebreak Order for the Shire of Toodyay.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Under Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954, Local Government is authorised to direct landholders to undertake actions relating to reducing bushfire risk.

The Shire has for many years issued a Firebreak Order as permitted by the Act, with the last review/changes occurring in 2010.

The Shire's Strategic Review of Bushfire Policy, made comment and recommendation relating to the current Firebreak Order.

*[Comment Page 17] – ‘...Bushfire Prone Planning would recommend that the Shire adopt a single consistent policy that applies to all landowners equally, under the aegis of the Annual Firebreak Notice.’*

*[Recommendation 9.2 (1)] – ‘In general the Shire of Toodyay should abandon its policy of installing strategic firebreaks around the outside of all estate areas;’*

*[Recommendation 9.2 (2)] – ‘Instead the annual Firebreak Notice should be enforced annually and equally, and all private and public blocks in the Shire should have properly installed and maintained perimeter firebreaks to allow fire service access for firefighting;’*

## **CONSULTATION IMPLICATIONS**

During Strategic Review of Bushfire Policy, which was conducted by consultants Bushfire Prone Planning, a workshop was held which included attendance from, Bush Fire Brigades, Fire Control Officers, Shire and Department of Fire and Emergency Services staff for input into items covered by the review. This included the Shire's Firebreak Order.

The Bushfire Advisory Committee were subsequently consulted for comment and feedback during the authoring process for the recommendation in this report.

## **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

Bushfire Management is an outcome that the Council has identified to meet the aspirations for Toodyay as a liveable and thriving Shire in Toodyay 2023 Strategic Community Plan.

## **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

This report and recommendation aligns the Shire's Firebreak Order to the recommendations of the 2015 Strategic Review of Bushfire Policy.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no adverse financial implications envisaged from this report.

## **LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

The authority of this this recommendation is covered Under Section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*.

## **RISK IMPLICATIONS (including DAIP)**

The purpose of the Firebreak Order is to reduce risks associated with bushfires. It should however, not be viewed removing all risk.

## **SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no adverse social implications envisaged from this report.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no adverse environmental implications envisaged from this report.

## **ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS**

There are no adverse economic implications envisaged from this report.

## **OFFICER COMMENT / DETAILS**

In reviewing the current Firebreak Order, the Shire has canvassed the orders and educational material of a number of other Local Government including: Northman, Chittering, Mundaring, Gin Gin, Dandaragan and Murray. This revealed that complexities in the Shire of Toodyay's current order being;

- (a) The only Shire to refer to individual lots;
- (b) The only Shire to enforce extra requirements at the edge of subdivisions;
- (c) Only one of Two Shires enforce extra requirements at a subdivision; basis; and
- (d) The only Shire to refer to (exclude) plant species by name.

In making recommendations in this report the following criteria/recommendations/guidelines were utilised:

- Achievable
- Enforceable
- Simple (Understandable)
- Equitable
- Recommendations of the Strategic Review of Bushfire Policy
- Planning for Bushfire Protection Guidelines (Western Australian Planning Commission)

The following items/issues have been identified to be addressed by the recommendation of this report:

Building Protection Zone, Hazard Protection Zone and Low Fuel Areas

(Items 1.3, 1.6 & 2.1 of existing order)

The existing order attempts to reduce fuel load around buildings in a number of ways which based on;

- townsite land (and lot size variation thereto);
- a requirement for Building Protection Zone, Hazard Protection Zone for three subdivision areas (Majestic Heights, Majestic Waters, Vernon Hills)
- a 'Low Fuel Area' for all other non-townsite (Rural Residential and Rural Land).

The above represents a fragmented approach to the control of fuel loads around assets. It is also noted that the Building Protection Zone, Hazard Protection Zone requirements defines some 18 additional points of compliance, which is deemed both overly cumbersome to both comply with and enforce.

It is proposed that the approach to hazard reduction around assets is consolidated to be consistent for all properties. The recommendation in this report is for an Asset Protection (Low Fuel) Zone consisting of a 50mm maximum height requirement for grass fuels, with an overall available fine-fuel load of 2 tonne per hectare.

Double Width External Fire Breaks (Item 1.7 of existing order)

The existing Firebreak Order specifies that the perimeter firebreak on some subdivisions (and in some cases individually listed lots) adjacent to the edge of the subdivision area to be double to usual width (6m wide).

The application of this current requirement is not consistent across all subdivision areas within Toodyay. In some cases, it would appear the aim of the item 1.7 of the existing order was to protect legacy (previously) Shire maintained 'strategic' fire breaks by handing responsibility of their maintenance to the individual land holder.

Such perimeter firebreaks are regarded as having limited value as they do not provide the quickest and safest means of access to crews responding to a bushfire as the predominately mimic the internal subdivision road pattern (Recommendation 9.1 (1)). Additionally, as there is no requirement for such

individual firebreaks to link with the adjoining property, many of these firebreaks cannot be traversed in a continuous fashion from one property to the next.

As highlighted in the Strategic Review of Bushfire Policy, this requirement on a number of properties in the Majestic Waters subdivision did not take into account terrain and associated issues:

*[Comment Page 25] – ‘...Firebreak notice has required properties in Majestic Waters on Sesselis Road, Hatfield Place and Broadgrounds Place to install 6m wide firebreaks around property perimeters. These have been required on very hilly terrain characterised by steep slopes and often in areas where installation increases erosion and serves no purpose from a firefighting sense. Bushfire Prone Planning recommends that all firebreaks required under the Annual Firebreak Notice be constructed to a single standard rather than implementing special cases such as this for particular areas.’*

It is proposed that all properties (excepting town site properties less than 1ha), have the requirement for a 3m perimeter firebreak applied equally.

#### Vertical Clearance of Firebreaks (Item 1.1, 1.2 & 1.3 of existing order)

Items 1.1 and 1.2 of the current order require for 3m vertical clearance on firebreaks. This requirement is not sufficient to provide safe unhindered access by all Bush Fire Brigade appliances. Larger appliances (such as 4.4B and 3.4U variations) which are becoming more common as the fleet is renewed require an increased vertical clearance. Item 1.3 of the current order does not specify a vertical clearance. As such it is recommended that the vertical clearance requirement of firebreaks is increased to 4m to ensure they are trafficable by all response appliances.

#### Land Clearing Vegetation

Item 1.5 (of existing order) requires a 20m firebreak around all land which has been cleared and has piles of vegetation. It is unclear what constitutes clearing and piles of vegetation in respect to this requirement. The requirement also presents risk of forcing additional clearing (particularly on smaller lots) in installing the 20m wide firebreak. This may cause risks such as loss of habitat, increased erosion or be at odds with other land clearing policy or legalisation.

Section 33 (1b) of the Bush Fires Act 1954 allows individual notices to be issued with respect to anything which is upon the land, and which in the opinion of the local government or its duly authorised officer, is or is likely to be conducive to the outbreak of a bush fire or the spread or extension of a bush fire.

It is recommended that this requirement is removed from the Firebreak order and such risks be managed on a case by case basis as per the provisions of the Act.

#### Planning for Bushfire Protection Guidelines (Western Australian Planning Commission)

The Planning for Bushfire Protection Guidelines, a publication of the Western Australian Planning Commission has been referred to in arriving at the recommendations in this report. It is important to note that original intent of these guidelines is for new development and are not intended to be applied retrospectively. The table below investigates each of the guidelines for an Asset

Protection Zone (APZ) and the rationale behind the adoption or exclusion from the recommendation of this report.

<b>WAPC Guideline</b>		<b>Adopted in Recommendation</b>
a.	Width: 20 metres measured from any external wall of the building or building envelope. Where the slope increases above 10 degrees, the APZ should be increased to ensure the potential radiant heat impact of a fire does not exceed 29kW/m <sup>2</sup> . Where a full 20 metre APZ is not possible, the APZ should be sufficient enough to ensure the potential radiant heat impact of a fire does not exceed 29kW/m <sup>2</sup> ;	Yes (partially) The base line extent of 20m for an APZ has been adopted in the recommendation. Variation to this extent based on topography has not been recommended due to complexities in achieving widespread understanding and enforcement.
b.	Location: within the boundaries of the lot on which the building is situated;	Yes. The recommended Notice does not require or authorise any works to be carried out on neighbouring land.
c.	Fine Fuel load: reduced to and maintained at two tonnes per hectare;	Yes.
d.	Trees (crowns) are a minimum distance of ten metres apart. A small group of trees within close proximity to one another may be treated as one crown provided the combined crowns do not exceed the area of a large or mature crown size for that species;	No. Elements of this guideline were seen as being too vague and difficult to quantify and therefore enforce. It is recommended that this information is provided as general education.
e.	No tall shrubs or trees located within two metres of a building;	No. Elements of this guideline were seen as being too vague and difficult to quantify and therefore enforce. It is recommended that this information is provided as general education.
f.	No tree crowns overhang the building;	No. It is recommended that this information is provided as general education.
g.	Fences within the APZ are constructed using non-combustible materials (e.g.	No.



WAPC Guideline		Adopted in Recommendation
	iron, brick, limestone, metal post and wire); and	This is planning/building related item.
h.	Sheds within the APZ should not contain flammable materials.	No. This is planning/building related item.

#### Education

The adoption the recommendations within this report would also necessitate the revision of the supporting literature which accompanies the Firebreak Notice.

The officer proposes to utilise scrub fuel load calculation method from the Forest Fire Behaviour Tables for Western Australia” by R J Sneeuwjagt & G B Peet 1998, to provide the necessary tools by which owners & occupiers may assess their fuel load. This would also act as a common means by which to assess fuel load for assessment purposes. This approach is currently being utilised by the Shire of Mundaring.

#### Variations

The ability to grant variations for properties where it is not possible to comply will remain in place as part of this proposal.

#### Timing

It is proposed the recommended notice be applicable and enforceable from 01 November 2017. The current notice would be enforceable until the 30 April 2017.

### **OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATIONS**

That Council resolve to adopt the below firebreak notice to commence 1 November 2017.

*Pursuant to Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954, all residents and ratepayers within the Shire of Toodyay are required to clear a fire break of all inflammable material on their land as set out below.*

**Due Date:** 1 Nov YYYY    **Maintained Until:** 30 Apr YYYY

**NB:** If you purchase land during this period you have 14 days from purchase to comply with this order.

**Failure to comply may result in a fines or prosecution**

#### **Rural Residential and Rural Land**

*Is all land outside the Gazetted Toodyay Townsite and Gazetted West Toodyay Townsite.*

1.1 Land up to and including 200 hectares in size requires a minimum of a 3 metre wide and 4 metre high fire break within 10 metres of the external boundary.

1.2 Land exceeding 200 hectares in size requires a minimum of a 3 metre wide and 4 metre high fire break to divide the property into 200 hectare parcels of land.

1.3 A firebreak a minimum of 3 metres wide and 4 metres high shall be cleared and maintained within 7 metres from external walls of buildings and around haystacks, fuel storage areas.

1.4 A 20 metre wide Asset Protection Zone (low fuel area) shall be maintained from external walls of buildings and around haystacks, fuel storage areas such that:

- grass height does not exceed 50mm; and
- total available fuel load is maintained at 2 tonnes per hectare or lower.

1.5 A firebreak a minimum of 3 metres wide shall be cleared and maintained immediately surrounding a stationary motor.

**Townsite Land**

*Is all land within the Gazetted Toodyay Townsite and Gazetted West Toodyay Townsite.*

2.1 All Townsite Lots with an area less than 1 hectare (2.47 acres) are required to be fire hazard reduced by ensuring:

- grass height does not exceed 50mm; and
- total available fuel load is maintained at 2 tonnes per hectare or lower.

2.2 All Townsite Lots with an area greater than or equal to 1 hectare (2.47 acres) shall comply with clauses 1.1, 1.3 and 1.4 of this Order.

Pursuant to Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954, all residents and ratepayers within the Shire of Toodyay are required to clear a fire break of all inflammable material on their land as set out below.

**Due Date:** 1 Nov YYYY **Maintained Until:** 30 Apr YYYY

**NB:** If you purchase land during this period you have 14 days from purchase to comply with this order.

**Failure to comply may result in a fines or prosecution**

**All land less than or equal 1 hectare**

- 1.1 All Townsite Lots with an area less than 1 hectare (2.47 acres) are required to be fire hazard reduced by ensuring:
- grass height does not exceed 50mm; and
  - no tree crowns overhang the building; and
  - total available fuel load is maintained at 2 tonnes per hectare or lower.

**All land greater than 1 hectare**

- 2.1 Land up to and including 200 hectares in size requires a minimum of a 3 metre wide and 4 metre high fire break within 10 metres of the external boundary.
- 2.2 Land exceeding 200 hectares in size requires a minimum of a 3 metre wide and 4 metre high fire break to divide the property into 200 hectare parcels of land.
- 2.3 A firebreak a minimum of 3 metres wide and 4 metres high shall be cleared and maintained within 7 metres from external walls of buildings and around haystacks, fuel storage areas.
- 2.4 A 20 metre wide Asset Protection Zone (low fuel area) shall be maintained from external walls of buildings and around haystacks, fuel storage areas such that:
- grass height does not exceed 50mm; and
  - no tree crowns overhang the building; and
  - total available fuel load is maintained at 2 tonnes per hectare or lower.
- 2.5 A firebreak a minimum of 3 metres wide shall be cleared and maintained immediately surrounding a stationary motor.



# Shire of Goomalling

Office Address: 32 Quinlan Street, Goomalling  
Postal Address: PO Box 118, Goomalling WA 6460  
Telephone: (08) 9629 1101 Facsimile: (08) 9629 1017

All communications to be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer

Est. 1895

SHIRE OF TOODYAY
Record Number: ICR42104
6 - DEC 2016
Officer / Dept: CESM
File Number: FIR18

In reply please quote ref:

Our Ref CK: TB 26

Your Ref CK16115

28 November 2016

Toodyay Fire Brigade  
PO Box 96  
TOODYAY WA 6603

Dear Bush Fire Control Officer's, brigade and community members

**RE: GOOMALLING BUSHFIRE, SATURDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2016**

The bush fire event that took place Saturday 26 November Kunzia Way Goomalling was unexpected and frightening, its proximity to Goomalling town site and its intensity could've been devastating for our community.

Thankfully the quick response from sixteen (16) bush fire brigades, volunteer and rescue units including yours, DFES and everyday heroes aided the control before there could be damage to property.

Damage report indicates 225 hectares of bushland and agricultural land was destroyed, 66% was unharvested crop. No houses were damaged.

Thank you for coming to our community in a time of need, your action is a testament of the compassion and resilience in our region.

With immense gratitude

Clem Kerp  
Chief Executive Officer

CC: Shire of Toodyay

## Maria Rebane

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**From:** Pasotti, Michael <Michael.Pasotti@DPaW.wa.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 January 2017 8:48 AM  
**To:** Rob Koch  
**Cc:** O'NEILL Jamie  
**Subject:** RE: Thankyou...

Hi Rob

Please also pass on our thanks to the local BFB's from Toodyay & Chittering who put in a huge effort at the fire.

Even when the fire was transferred to P&W responsibility the ongoing support that they provided was greatly appreciated.

Regards

Michael Pasotti

Department of Parks and Wildlife

District Fire Coordinator

Perth Hills District

Ph: 9290 6100

Fax: 9290 6101

Mobile: 0427 386 598

**ARE YOU BUSHFIRE READY?**

**It's a team effort. Go to [emergency.wa.gov.au](http://emergency.wa.gov.au)**

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**From:** Rob Koch [mailto:CESM@toodyay.wa.gov.au]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 31 January 2017 8:35 AM  
**Subject:** Thankyou...

Hi All,

As we all enjoy a good drop of rain I thought I'd pen a wide ranging email to thank all involved for the busy period late last week. I would ask that you forward this email to others from your respective organisation who were involved.

The response and support to the Australia Day fire in Julimar Forrest involved a large cast involving, Shires of Toodyay & Chittering, DPaW, DFES, Police (investigation), ADF/Broadspetrum (access to water).

This incident also was a good reminder to keep your eyes peeled for anything a little suspect. A big congratulations to the BFB crews who reported a suspect individual and campsite located in the forest. This resulted in apprehension of an individual in relation to this fire.

Thanks again to all for you hard work and assistance.

Regards. Rob.

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**Robert Koch**

*Community Emergency Services Manager*  
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