



CITY OF HOBART

# **AGENDA**

## **Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting**

### **Open Portion**

**Thursday, 12 March 2020**

**at 5:15 pm**

**Lady Osborne Room, Town Hall**

### **SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM**

#### **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- 11. BUSHFIRE PREPAREDNESS - UPDATE..... 3**

**The General Manager reports:**

“That in accordance with the provisions of Part 2 Regulation 8(6) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, these supplementary matters are submitted for the consideration of the Committee.

Pursuant to Regulation 8(6), I report that:

- (a) information in relation to the matter was provided subsequent to the distribution of the agenda;
- (b) the matter is regarded as urgent; and
- (c) advice is provided pursuant to Section 65 of the Act.”

**11. Bushfire Preparedness - Update**  
**File Ref: F20/27505**

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Memorandum of the (Acting) Director City Amenity of 11 March 2020 and attachments.

Delegation: Committee



City of **HOBART**

## **MEMORANDUM: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

### **Bushfire Preparedness - Update**

The City of Hobart continues to work in partnership with key agencies and research bodies to ensure the organisation and the Hobart community is suitably resourced, informed and prepared for bushfire.

A Council briefing to be held on Thursday 12 March 2020, will provide an update to elected members.

#### **Tasmania Fire Service**

The Tasmania Fire Service will be presenting the summary of the 2019/20 bushfire season and will discuss plans that have been made for the current Autumn 2020 burning season.

The Program commenced on Wednesday 11 March with a joint TFS and Glenorchy City Council burn in the Limekiln Gully area.

The City of Hobart and the TFS hazard reduction burn is scheduled in the Junction Cabin area of Wellington Park Thursday 12 March 2020.

The TFS will also update the briefing on the progress of implementation of the 2019 AFAC (the Australian and New Zealand National Council for fire, emergency services and land management) Operational Review and a review of the implementation actions identified in that review of the 2019 Bushfire Response.

#### **University of Tasmania**

The City partnered with UTAS to investigate community attitudes to bushfire risk and mitigation measures in high risk suburbs of the City.

Dr Chloe Lucas will be briefing elected members of the research (undertaken through an online survey) that provides interesting insights into the perception of risk in what are considered to be high bushfire risk suburbs and the reaction people have to the likelihood of a bushfire impact upon their property. Some of these findings illustrate the need for greater direct engagement and information sharing with at risk communities and better informed communication to specific property owners.

The research also showed a high level of regard for the work undertaken by the City of Hobart to manage bushfire risk and the level of work undertaken to protect individual properties. Of particular interest are the additional comments provided in Question 54 of the survey which raise a number of side issues and qualitative comments which will be considered for future research. The responses are provided as an attachment.

### **City of Hobart**

The Acting Director City Amenity will provide elected members with a short overview of the 2019-20 bushfire season from a City of Hobart perspective and details of the Autumn burning program to be undertaken by the City.

In addition, a preliminary scoping of the review of the value of an Ember Attack Strategy for the City of Hobart, requested by the Council in February 2020.

The Ember Attack Strategy has involved a review of the Greater Hobart Bushfire Mitigation Plan project which is currently underway through the Tasmania Fire Service. This is developing a broader risk management matrix for human settlement areas and utilising the Phoenix Rapid Fire Model to determine exposure to bushfire attack (direct impact, radiation and ember attack potential) for the Greater Hobart Region. This exposure layer and the assignment of relative values to assets and critical community infrastructure.

A review of the currently available information provided to the community by emergency services authorities is underway to determine if there is new or innovative messaging that can be used to better inform the community in Hobart of the requirements to prepare their property for the impact of bushfire.

The University of Tasmania has been approached for a joint proposal for a research project to better understand fine detail exposures of human settlement areas in the Great Hobart Region to bushfire attack. This proposal is likely to provide a measurement tool to allow the City to demonstrate the residual risk delivered by the various fine scale mitigation measures undertaken by the City in our bushfire mitigation program. This is developing into a PhD stipend top up for a PhD candidate supervised by Prof Bowman at the University of Tasmania Fire Research Centre. The project will be using SPARC as a modelling tool to determine bushfire risk exposure and modifying parameters relevant to the bushfire mitigation program undertaken by the City. This will allow future modelling of proposed action to determine a level of risk reduction achievable by specific works.

The City is also undertaking a review of the community engagement tools it has used over the past three years and comparing that with web based survey results in order to improve and expand its information.

A summary of these is attached that demonstrates the wide range of tools used to date and the potential for expansion of these into different messaging and specific target areas of the community as required.

**RECOMMENDATION**

***That the information contained in the memorandum be received and noted.***

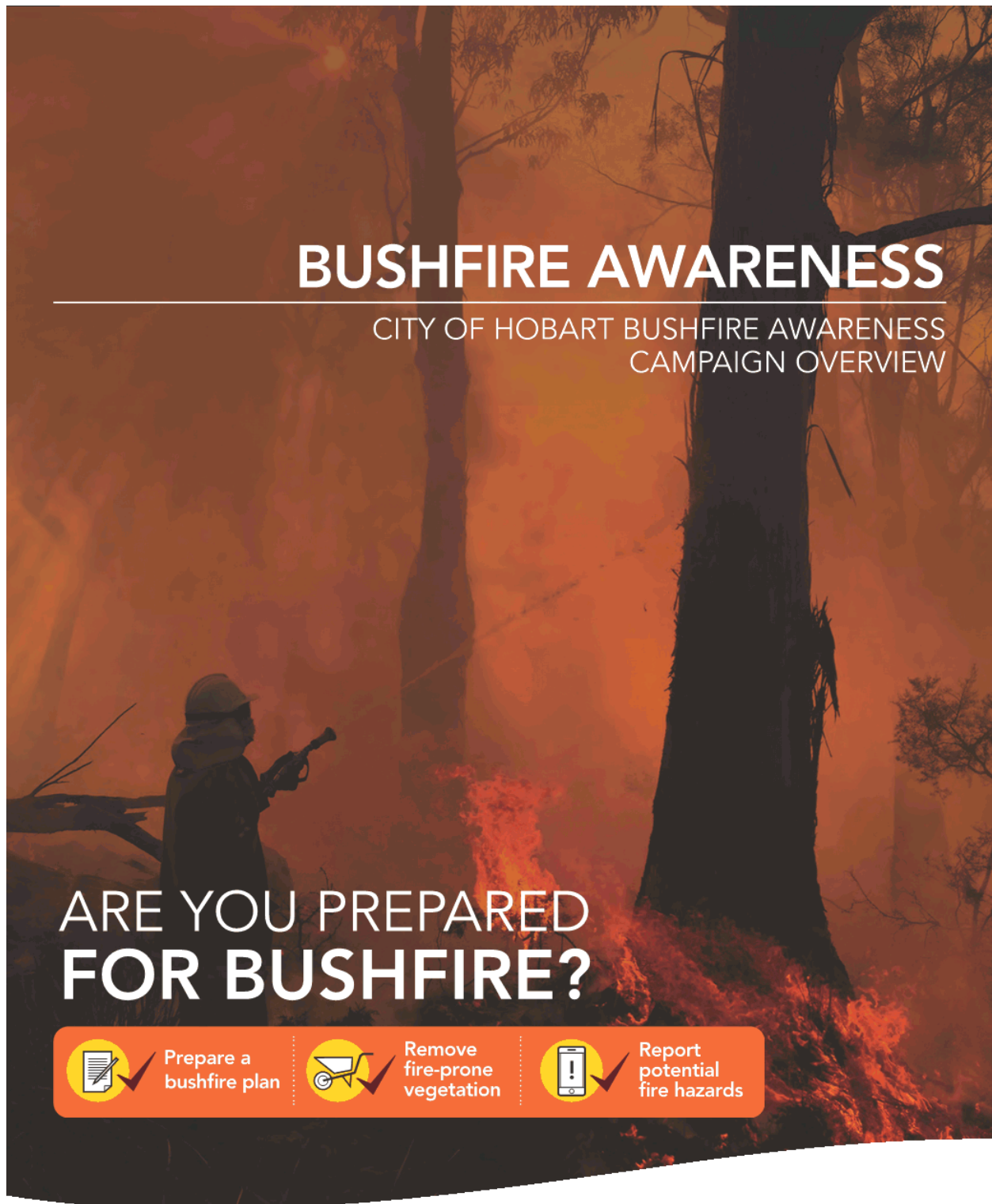
*As signatory to this report, I certify that, pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, I hold no interest, as referred to in Section 49 of the Local Government Act 1993, in matters contained in this report.*



John Fisher  
**(ACTING) DIRECTOR CITY AMENITY**

Date: 11 March 2020  
File Reference: F20/27505

Attachment A: Bushfire Awareness Campaign 2019/2020 ↴  
Attachment B: Survey Responses ↴



Published: 2020

## OVERVIEW

Every year the City of Hobart carries out extensive fuel reduction burns to protect life, property and the City's bushland reserves from destructive wildfire.

The work is intensive, involves a large number of staff, and costly. We do everything we can to minimise the risk of bushfire to the community, but if individual house owners fail to make their properties bushfire safe by cleaning gutters and minimising the amount of fire-prone vegetation on their property, they remain at risk from fire.

For this reason the City's fire and biodiversity unit has worked closely with the City's communications team on a fire awareness campaign that began with a soft launch over the summer of 2018-19, and was amplified in the lead-up to the 2019-20 bushfire season with improved and sharpened key messages and communications products.

## CAMPAIGN GOALS

1. Encourage people to get rid of fire-prone vegetation by cleaning up their gardens and taking advantage of the City's free tip days to dispose of garden refuse.
2. Raise awareness in the community, especially for people living close to bushfire reserves, of the need for them to make their properties bushfire safe.
3. Raise awareness within the community of the dangers of bushfire in Hobart and the great work the City does in preventing destructive wildfire in our bushland reserves.

## COMMUNICATION TOOLS

To run an advertising campaign that takes advantage of social media, traditional media and display ads we listed a number of possible communication tools.

1. Simple and effective ad design that can be used in digital and print mediums.
2. Key messages to be used in all communication tools and that can be used by aldermen and staff when talking about the City's bushfire strategy and the need for people to be bushfire ready.
3. Create a fire awareness brochure that can be

downloaded from the City website, handed out at bushfire talks, delivered to ratepayers.

4. Create a series of 'Prepare for bushfire' videos that can be used on the City website and social media.
5. Update the City's bushfire landing page with more relevant information, a downloadable brochure and better photos, possibly a video message.
6. State cinema ad targeting home owners that live next to bushland.
7. Paid Facebook advertising.
8. Create a fire awareness window display for the City's information centre encouraging people to make their homes bushfire ready. This is a high visibility ad in a highly-traffic part of Hobart.
9. Design posters and large-format ad with a great photo of our fires at work and one key message.
10. Display posters as Metro bus ads, notices put up in local parks.

## DEVELOPING KEY MESSAGES

A successful public awareness campaign needs to develop simple, effective key messages. In this campaign the key messages put the onus of bushfire preparation on individual householders:

Key messages were developed from these points:

- The City of Hobart is in the middle of its largest ever bushfire mitigation program. We've prepared for bushfire season, have you?
- The City of Hobart has reduced the risk of dangerous bushfires by managing fuel loads in our bushland reserves and creating fuel breaks to protect life and property.  
But we can't do it alone. We need the people of Hobart to prepare for bushfire season too.

## FINAL KEY MESSAGES

The City's communications team developed key messages that are now being run across all bushfire awareness campaign materials:





Six panel DL brochure designed for the City of Hobart's bushfire awareness campaign. Distributed to ratepayers with rates notices.

### PREPARE NOW FOR BUSHFIRE

Hobart is one of Australia's most bushfire-prone cities. To lower the risk, the City of Hobart has created fuel breaks near homes and reduced flammable materials in our forests.

We've done everything we can.

It is now your turn to take steps to keep your life and property safe from the threat of fire.

#### Secondary key message

Do your bit to help keep Hobart safe from bushfire this summer.

#### HOW TO GET BUSHFIRE READY

1. Prepare a bushfire plan.
2. Remove fire-prone vegetation.
3. Report potential fire hazards.

### MEDIA

As part of the fire awareness campaign the City' targeted TV, radio and print media with fire awareness raising stories. John Fisher, manager of Bushland, has

extensive bushfire management and media experience and has provided an authoritative voice on bushfire issues for the Hobart media.

Below is part of a developing list of media opportunities and ideas:

1. Aim for at least one editorial in the Mercury newspaper about the need for householders to take personal responsibility and prepare for the bushfire season. Discuss fact Hobart is one of the most fire-prone cities in the world, the fact the City has run its largest ever fuel mitigation program, but needs its citizens to do their bit.
2. Aim for one soft news story. The City uses an unusual technique to create 'green buffers' between its bushland areas and private properties, relying on native animals to keep flammable ground cover under control. It turns out native marsupials are highly cost-effective lawn mowers.
3. Aim for one to two hard news stories about the fact the City is conducting its largest ever bushfire mitigation program. Ensure key messages get into the story – we've prepared for bushfire, have you?

## COMMUNICATIONS PRODUCTS

Communications products created for the City of Hobart's bushfire awareness campaign, 2018-20:

### Video clips

- **Reserve closures:** John Fisher explains why the City closes bushland reserves on high bushfire danger days.
- **Free green waste disposal:** An upbeat video encouraging people to clean up fire-prone vegetation and dispose of it free at the tip.
- **Hazard reduction burn:** Clip shows the City's fire crews conducting one of its biggest-ever fuel reduction burns in Knocklofty Reserve – we are doing all we can to keep people safe from bushfire.
- **Prepare for bushfire now:** Forceful video clip urging residents to prepare for bushfire now, echoing the campaign's key messages.

### Media releases

**Controlled burns continue:** Controlled burns are continuing this week under the City's annual bushfire fuel reduction program.

**Knocklofty fuel reduction targets threatened species habitat:** The City of Hobart starts its autumn bushfire fuel reduction program today, targeting bushland in Knocklofty Reserve to protect threatened species habitat and the largest stand of high conservation value old growth trees left in Hobart.

**Queens Domain bushfire fuel reduction burn targets threatened species habitat:** The City of Hobart starts its autumn bushfire fuel reduction program today, targeting bushland in the Queens Domain to protect habitat of the nationally endangered eastern-barred bandicoot and other threatened species.

**Hobart rolls out autumn bushfire fuel reduction program:** The City of Hobart starts its autumn bushfire fuel reduction program today, targeting bushland surrounding Ridgeway.

**Increased bushfire risk put to panel discussion:** Risks associated with what is expected to be a long and dangerous bushfire season will be discussed at a

public forum featuring a world-leading risk expert.

**Severe fire threat forces Hobart to close bushland reserves:** The City of Hobart will close its network of bushland reserves later today ahead of tomorrow's Total Fire Ban and severe fire danger warning.

All bushland reserves will be closed from 5pm Thursday 24 January and are expected to re-open once the severe fire danger threat has passed.

**Bushfire hazard reduction needs joint effort:** The City of Hobart is calling on residents living adjacent to bushland reserves to do their bit to protect their homes from bushfire after it created new green fuel breaks at Fern Tree.

### Other communications products

- Prepare Now brochure distributed to City of Hobart ratepayers via their ratepayer notice.
  - Prepare Now posters displayed in highly visible areas on the inside of Metro buses.
  - Very large Prepare Now poster displayed on the outside window of the City's 16 Elizabeth Street building. The poster is in a highly trafficked area for pedestrians, bus commuters and cars.
  - Prepare Now ad and editorial run in The Mercury's Fire Awareness special liftout.
  - Bushland unit vehicles wrapped in special Prepare Now display graphics with key messages.
  - City's key bushfire web page updated to reflect new key messaging and materials.
  - Held community forums and talking posts in one of Hobart's most at risk suburbs, Fern Tree, attracting hundreds of people.
  - Sponsored two major public forums at the University of Tasmania. The first addressed the latest science on the use of green fuel breaks for reducing bushfire risks, and the second included an international expert in bushfire risks and under-insurance.
14. Published a special edition of the Bandicoot Times focusing on bushfire risks to the environment and featuring a story about a local family who is doing all the right things to be bushfire safe.





VIDEO



Bushfire awareness campaign video clips.



VEHICLE WRAPS

City of Hobart bushland vehicles wrapped in Prepare Now publicity graphics and key messages.

## POSTERS

**PREPARE NOW**  
FOR BUSHFIRE

- Prepare a bushfire plan
- Remove fire-prone vegetation
- Report potential fire hazards

Hobart is one of Australia's most bushfire-prone cities

hobartcity.com.au/bushfire

City of HOBART

**PREPARE NOW**

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hobartcity.com.au/bushfire

City of HOBART

## NEWSPAPER FEATURE

## 66 FEATURE

FIRE AWARENESS  
FAMILY PLANS AHEAD

ROBYN Thomas knows she has to be off the mountain with her family well before a serious bushfire threatens her home. This message has been drilled into her through neighbourhood bushfire meetings. And, in case she forgets, Robyn keeps little reminders of what happened last time a fire came knocking on Fern Tree's door. One is a set of marbles fused together when the 1967 bushfire came roaring in from the north-west. The house that used to stand on the site was razed to the ground.

"I can get quite anxious when I know hot weather is coming," said Robyn. "But then I look out the window towards the mountain and the Organ Pipes and realise just how lucky I am to live in such an incredibly beautiful place."

Robyn moved to Fern Tree about 10 years ago with her husband Julian and sons Tom and Bill. "We have done as much as we can to create a buffer zone between our house and the edge of nearby forest, and we have a bushfire plan that we practice," she said. "Last year we took down a large gum tree that had branches hanging within a few metres of the house. It was a beautiful big tree, and it was hard to watch it go, but it was too much of a fire hazard."

"The area around the house has been cleared of dry leaves and dead timber and the garden is now home to less fire-prone native grasses and plants. A vegetable garden between the house and forest acts as a natural firebreak."

Robyn and her husband, a fire brigade volunteer, have checked the house for signs

where embers could get in and would them off. They also have water tanks and a fire pump. "Plan A is to not be at home if there is a severe or higher bushfire danger rating," said Robyn. "Plan B is to make the house as defensible as possible."

"All families in our street participate in the Tasmania Fire Service's Bushfire-Ready Neighbourhoods program that helps local communication plan and prepare for bushfire."

"We all get together to talk about what to do if a bushfire comes, how we will all react and what plans we have in place."

"Working together as a community helps us feel safer and more prepared for bushfire conditions."

For help preparing your own bushfire-ready area visit hobartcity.com.au/bushfire



BUSHFIRE READY: Robyn Thomas and sons Tom, left, and Bill, are primed to enact their bushfire plan if needed.

## GLENORCHY CITY COUNCIL

BUSHFIRE SEASON  
THE TIME TO PREPARE OUR COMMUNITY IS NOW!

With the Summer Fire Period soon to arrive, Glenorchy City Council strongly encourages all property owners to take steps to reduce any potential fire risks on properties. All potential fire risks and around properties should be assessed and addressed. Fire risks include overgrown vegetation and grass, piles of vegetation clippings, rubbish and other combustible material. Before considering any burning off, it is important to call the Tasmania Fire Service (TFS) Information Line on 1800 000 000 (free call) as the risk for burning off may have recently changed. If you are concerned about the condition of your land and are unable to carry out the work personally, Council recommends that you engage a private gardening contractor to assist you. Council also encourages residents within our community to be fire safe and aware by:

- checking the TFS website ([www.tasfire.tas.gov.au](http://www.tasfire.tas.gov.au)) for updates and information on protecting you and your property, or calling the TFS Information Line on 1800 000 000 (free call);
- creating a Bushfire Survival Plan for your household;
- speaking with your neighbours, friends and family – and sharing your Bushfire Survival Plan with them;
- knowing your Bushfire Survival Plan well and acting on it if it needs to be activated;
- planning and considering how you will care for livestock and pets in the event of a fire threat.

Bushfire Survival Plan Period usually gives rise to an increased level of fire threat across the State and the impacts from a potential fire can be severe. Hazards prepared, remove fire risk sources, be prepared, keep an eye out for your family and neighbours, know your Bushfire Survival Plan and keep safe!

If you require further information about how to prepare yourself and your property for the upcoming Summer Fire Period, please call the TFS Information Line on 1800 000 000 or alternatively you can visit Council on (03) 4214 4800.

Tony McMullen  
GENERAL MANAGER

Are you ready this  
bushfire season?

Get your pump ready for when you need it most.  
The best time to check your pump is NOW!

ALPHA ELECTRICS  
Burnie  
24 Scarle Street, Camdrie ph 5435 1708  
Devonport  
2/144 Don Road, Devonport ph 6424 9272  
Hobart  
44 Browns Road, Kingston ph 6229 1027

## One destination for pump

ALPHA ELECTRICS is Tasmanian owned and operated and is a family business specialising in the sale and servicing of electric motors, pumps and generators. It has a proud history of delivering quality solutions, with innovative efficiency and to the highest level of customer satisfaction. The results-driven focus of the business is borne in the respect and trust placed in ALPHA ELECTRIC skilled staff, including many long-time employees who started with the company as apprentices. The business provides a statewide service from its three well-equipped branches at:

- BURNIE: 24 Scarle St (head office), ph 5435 1708;
- DEVONPORT: 2/144 Don Rd, ph 6424 9272; and,
- KINGSTON: 44 Browns Rd, 6229 1027.

Alpha Electrics is the only Tasmanian Master dealer for Davoy water products in

## FIRE H

Tasmania and has a large range of Davoy products in stock. Alpha Electrics services what it sells and they are Visit all

## FIRE AWARENESS

## PROTECTION IS KEY FOCUS

Owners and occupiers of land in the Tasmanian bushfire season need to ensure their property and remove potential fire hazards. Council seeks the cooperation of ratepayers ensuring that their property does not contribute to the bushfire risk. Inspections of properties are currently being conducted by Fire Hazard Assessors in accordance with the requirements of the Bushfire Hazard Assessment Policy and the Local Government Act 1993. Failure to comply with an Assessment 1 or Assessment 2 notice may result in a fine. For further information or to report a hazard, please contact the Council on (03) 4214 4800.





# BANDICOOTtimes

Summer 2019 | No 75

## ARE YOU PREPARED FOR BUSHFIRE?

Prepare a bushfire plan | Remove fire-prone vegetation | Report potential fire hazards

hobartcity.com.au/bushcare

A PRESENTATION OF  
City of HOBART



### A bushfire season that never really left us



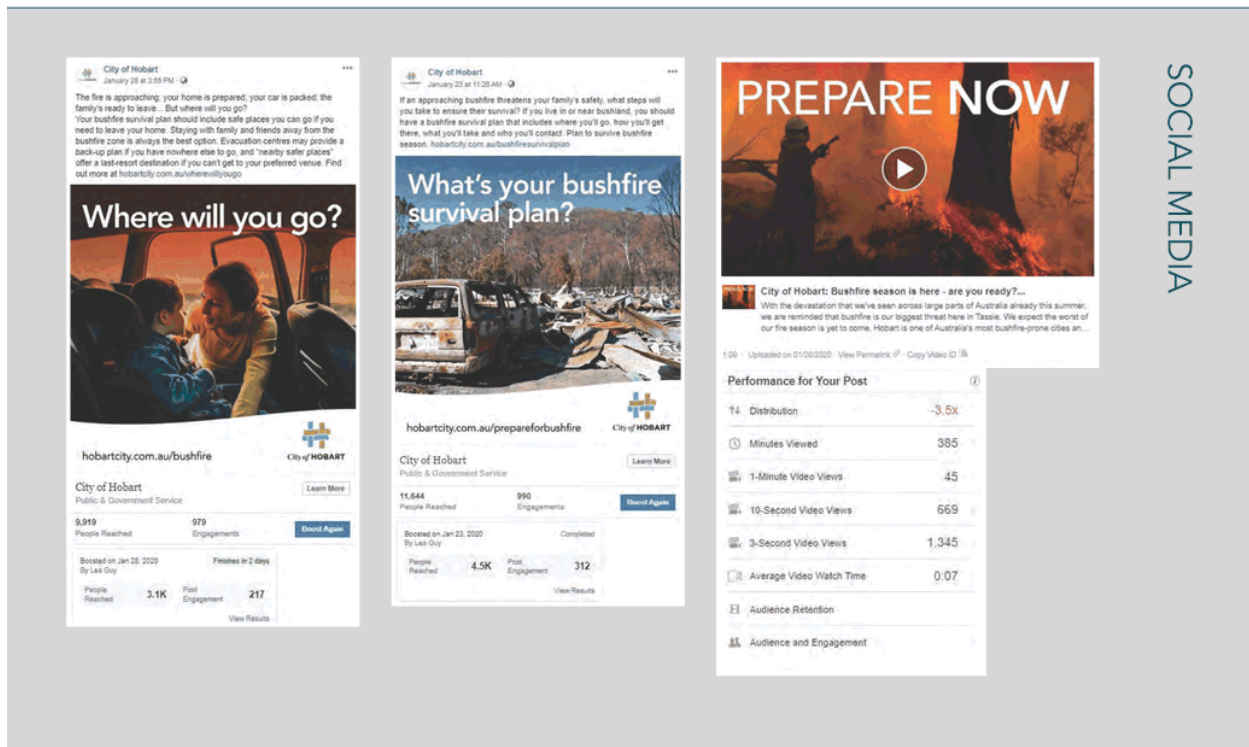
### Protecting home and hearth a family affair



### Prepare your home before bushfire arrives

### Keep your garden wildlife friendly

BANDICOOT TIMES SPECIAL EDITION



## Where will you go?

hobartcity.com.au/bushfire

City of Hobart  
Public & Government Service

9,919 People Reached | 979 Engagements

Boosted on Jan 23, 2020  
By Lea Day

People Reached: 3.1K | Post Engagement: 217

## What's your bushfire survival plan?

hobartcity.com.au/prepareforbushfire

City of Hobart  
Public & Government Service

11,644 People Reached | 990 Engagements

Boosted on Jan 23, 2020  
By Lea Day

People Reached: 4.5K | Post Engagement: 312

## PREPARE NOW

City of Hobart: Bushfire season is here - are you ready?...

With the devastation that we've seen across large parts of Australia already this summer, we are reminded that bushfire is our biggest threat here in Tassie. We expect the worst of our fire season is yet to come. Hobart is one of Australia's most bushfire-prone cities an...

1:09 | Uploaded on 01/03/2020 | View Permissions | Copy Video ID

### Performance for Your Post

Metric	Value
T4 Distribution	-3.5x
Minutes Viewed	385
1-Minute Video Views	45
10-Second Video Views	669
3-Second Video Views	1,345
Average Video Watch Time	0:07
Audience Retention	
Audience and Engagement	

SOCIAL MEDIA



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E [coh@hobartcity.com.au](mailto:coh@hobartcity.com.au)  
W [hobartcity.com.au](http://hobartcity.com.au)

## Bushfire preparedness and risk reduction in Hobart pilot study

## Q54 If you would like to make any further comments, please do so here.

Answered: 76 Skipped: 134

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	As a result of this recent fire season we have made the decision to move from where we live to a location that is not in proximity to a large area of bush.	3/25/2019 9:42 AM
2	Excessive removal of native vegetation and conversion to lawns and introduced flora removes native wildlife and introduces feral animals: blackbirds, starlings, rabbits, etc. It is no longer a bushland suburb.	3/21/2019 11:42 AM
3	A lot of bark , sticks , large logs (trees cut down),drying grass is left behind when Charlies and whipper snipper gangs move through , one of your photos shows a real fire hazard area that is suppose to be a fire break near homes ! A lot more can be done to reduce risk by clearing away dry loose bush debris , this more important than cutting down lovely mature and developing gum trees and some other trees , it's un utter disgrace just leaving those large sections of dea trees lying in the bush close to walking tracks . Approve of controlled burns but they do initially leave an ugly sight .	3/17/2019 10:55 AM
4	My experience from living here 30 years is that hazard reduction burns encourage flammable species and kill some smaller trees creating more flammable material. The green barrier and some simple preparations around the house should help protect against fire conditions less than severe. Generally, I think fire conditions severe and above are probably not worth risking my life (and the life of firefighters!) to protect my house - better to take the risk that it might burn down. I accept that risk as part of the fantastic way of life I can live in this part of Hobart.	3/17/2019 12:51 AM
5	Thank you :-)	3/14/2019 3:20 PM
6	I live with a bush area at the back of us that backs on to Mt Wellington Park and I feel it needs to be cleaned up & burnt off regularly which it has not been done in the past.	3/12/2019 3:03 PM
7	In an urban setting we put a great reliance on the continuation of water supply and the ability of the Fire Service to respond. In a catastrophic situation this trust may be misplaced.	3/11/2019 1:23 PM
8	NONE of my neighbours have a clue about anything related to bushfire risk and risk management on their properties, in particular seasonal bushfire preparations. I am doing the right thing but no one else is around our property. That is a cause for great concern and frustration. My sense is that if neighbours think a problem is developing, they will just ring 000 and the Fire Brigade experts will miraculously appear and put out the fire. We need a targeted education campaign in this local area well before next spring and summer 2019, i.e. now. Thanks!	3/11/2019 12:53 AM
9	I wish the council and mountain park would do more to clear land around our house and be more enforcing of other home owners to do the same	3/9/2019 8:28 PM
10	I support an active program of fuel reduction and strategic firebreak maintenance.	3/9/2019 9:29 AM
11	IN our household, as soon as there is a watch and Act, we have the children taken away, or take them away. We stay and defend our house but leave when the FDR reaches catastrophic.	3/8/2019 12:22 AM
12	Nearest "safe" place is in our dam, 30 m from our house. Otherwise it is Hobart city.	3/4/2019 11:18 AM
13	There needs to be some changes to the abc radio fire updates as they only repeat (word for word) everything on the TFS website and it can take up to 10 minutes to get to the relevant section.	3/4/2019 7:48 AM
14	I think vegetation management can be done in a way that can preserve the values of what attracted me to live in the area. Its not that far to walk to unmanaged vegetation that is at a safe distance anyway.	3/3/2019 12:57 PM
15	There is no nearer safer place in Fern tree	3/3/2019 9:41 AM
16	Ban pinebark & other fine fibrous mulches from urban areas	3/1/2019 9:26 PM
17	We have another house in cygnet that we would evacuate to - depending on the fire conditions. Otherwise we'd take camping gear with us.	2/28/2019 10:43 PM

**Bushfire preparedness and risk reduction in Hobart pilot study**

18	Our risks vary greatly with wind direction and direction of fire front. Our absolute worst case scenario would give us almost no time to act or leave but I am confident the house would provide protection. Information on expected mains water pressure would be useful (good gravity pressure but would demand drop the pressure).	2/28/2019 9:17 PM
19	Glebe does not have a TFS Community Protection Plan. HCC's Fire Management Plan for the Domain is 11 years old.	2/28/2019 3:39 PM
20	Photo didnt load for questions 23-25.	2/28/2019 3:38 PM
21	Sorry, in living alone and in virtually inner Hobart, my answers may bias your survey. Please refer esp to questions 33 etc	2/28/2019 3:09 PM
22	We have plantations very close to residential. The younger plantations fared well and fire moved through fast...it is the older ones that I worry about. I would like to see improved plantation management here in Tasmania. I would also like paddocks being turned into plantations investigated as I find open land serves as a better, easier managed buffer. Thank you for setting up this survey.	2/28/2019 2:18 PM
23	We need to stuff the look of things and do more back burning, I know this effects asthma people but bush fires burn hotter and less controlled so produce more smoke so they are better off with the burn offs.	2/28/2019 2:02 PM
24	There are fundamental flaws in his survey. 1. There is an undefined term in the question asking about the slope AROUND our house. Do you mean "on the block"? Or in the general vicinity, as a key variable in governing fire behaviour. I have answered for 'on the block', which is essentially meaningless. Our block has gentle slopes (which is one reason why we live here). But there are very steep slopes to the north, upwind direction. Both are true; you need to clarify which you want. 2. Question 35, on the fire conditions under which we would leave the house. You have not specified the location of the nearest fire which could threaten our house. There is a world of difference between a fire on Old Farm Road, to the north east of our house, and the Huon Highway, to the south and west. 3. In order to be able to answer several of the questions I was forced to choose a response which was simplistic, not allowing the reality of a complex situation to be dealt with.	2/28/2019 11:24 AM
25	I wish we could be educated to perceive well-managed burnt forests as good and beautiful and understorey that has been left to grow wild as "dirty".	2/28/2019 8:40 AM
26	Q. 34 does not have an option for single person households...so I found it difficult to answer accurately.	2/27/2019 8:36 PM
27	Nearest safe place is a long way from Fern Tree. We plan to leave early but if daughter in a rapidly changing situation we plan to use our bushfire shelter. We will not travel at the last minute. Most houses in Fern Tree are not defensible	2/27/2019 8:14 PM
28	It is inevitable that fire will again burn through Fern Tree, it is a risk our group accepts as part of the uniqueness of being on the mountain. With clearing much of the native wildlife lives in the understorey vegetation zone - birdlife especially, wildlife here is part of the specialness of the mountain.	2/27/2019 7:41 AM
29	More regular fire reduction burns around Mt Wellington to reduce the risk to Fern Tree and the outer suburbs of Hobart. Less notice taken of the Greens, the indigenous population had the right plan of routine fires depending on the season to encourage new growth and continual feed for the native animals thus ensuring that they had a continual supply of food for themselves.	2/25/2019 3:23 PM
30	Strongly in favour of any fire risk management that can be done!	2/25/2019 1:01 PM
31	1. Our neighbours have some trees which compromise our defensible space. The issue of inappropriate private vegetation should be addressed as a community safety initiative. The local residents (Bracken Lane/Pillinger Drive) need to plan for a catastrophic bushfire day. It will come. Therefore fire breaks and managed burns need to be instigated during periods conducive to burning. This would pose some risk to residents and they need to be prepared for it. 3. Under planning regulations, new dwellings with no access to town water must have a water tank. Dwellings within 120m of a street hydrant do not require a water tank. This is strange anomaly because residents cannot operate street hydrants. I personally would not trust the town water supply during a bushfire. 4. Education. I think that most residents do not understand the limitations of the town water supply during an emergency. There should be no fixed sprinklers defending dwellings during a bushfire.	2/24/2019 1:43 PM



## Bushfire preparedness and risk reduction in Hobart pilot study

32	1. Who would be going to finance bush readiness for fire? I am surrounded by hobart city council property and they have said they are going to be doing something to protect Fern Tree for years. Most (if not all) landowners along our north-east facing slope welcome some kind of burn off (eg aboriginal cold burning) that does not open for weeds but reduces fuel load every few years. Why are the aboriginal community not being consulted and used in this process as they have recently returned from a NSW indigenous fire fighting workshop (eg Cody Summers, Risdon Vale was a participant). 2. Mechanical clearing around edges of property is my preference and which we are trying to do also. 3. Need a back up fire fighting service for any patchwork fuel reduction burns. Fern Tree fire brigade refuse to do this but Dodges Ferry fire service have agreed. Why is there this difference in approaches between different brigades? Is there legislation that stops them assisting burn offs? I wish to know this as this makes me feel very unsafe as they have not even been down to check out the access to my place? 4. re education - Peter Middleton said he would not visit community if not invited by Fern Tree fire brigade. That is ridiculous and disempowering us community members. We dont feel fern tree brigade should represent or speak on our behalf. 5. Community to understand before any survey like this the practical vegetation forest management options for the various community types. Education, education, education please.	2/23/2019 12:10 PM
33	I have no vehicle transport and would rely on walking into my suburb away from the bush in the event of a fire.	2/22/2019 11:47 PM
34	I back on to a council reserve. large gum trees from the reserve overhand my back yard. I would like these removed, as in a bushfire the radiant heat will shatter my windows. The leaves also fill up my yard as a fire hazard.	2/22/2019 11:01 PM
35	As a 40 year volunteer fire fighter i know what i will be doing, fighting the fire with the rest of my brigade members	2/22/2019 4:50 PM
36	I would like to see TFS do controlled burns on private property in Fern Tree.	2/22/2019 2:59 PM
37	Re burning off. In the wet sclerophyll around here the forest that has not been subjected to burning off appears to have a clearer understory as it has matured after 1967 fires regrowth. Around here the HCC is to be commended for its maintenance of the main fire trails. Also fire group members had assessments done re fire risk to individual properties and general assessments were done on a group walkaround basis - a TFS and HCC initiative that was very valued. TFS ran excellent education programs to help raise community awareness several years ago. There may need to be refreshment courses at least every decade as neighbourhoods change. I have seen this lapse before - groups were set up ~ 1998 and while important changes were made in this area then, the group disintegrated and awareness dropped until ~ 2014 with the recent revived neighbourhood group initiative.	2/22/2019 9:42 AM
38	The bush area in South Hobart needs to have the undergrowth and the firebreaks cleared, even if the Greenies don't approve. Most were not here in the 1967 bushfires so wouldn't have a clue.	2/21/2019 6:51 PM
39	I think this survey is very useful. People living in the conditions that we live in should be very aware of the dangers. New people move to these areas regularly and may not consider the dangers, so it is important to continuously keep the topic in people's minds. I thought the ABC radio coverage on the recent bushfire emergencies was very good. It kept information very current rather than just repeating the same information regularly i.e. every report from authorities changed slightly, with comments about what to wear, which roads to use etc. I was also very pleased with the emphasis on animals, both large and small. To many people, myself included, our animals are a part of the family, so abandoning them in a crisis is not something easily done. I am aware that in the Black Friday fires some people lost their lives attempting to rescue their horses. So I am pleased that their care is now being taken seriously.	2/21/2019 2:24 PM
40	Fern Tree doesn't have a safer place. We'd leave to stay with family in Northern Suburbs	2/21/2019 1:43 PM
41	More emphasis should be placed on land use planning to avoid location assets in high risk areas. Also, property owners should accept more responsibility for bushfire risk reduction of their properties rather than rely on risk reduction on adjoining public land	2/21/2019 1:37 PM
42	We would like the government and fire service to work together to conduct significant reduction burns in our area	2/21/2019 12:58 PM
43	Support fire reduction burns whenever and wherever practical.	2/21/2019 12:55 PM
44	There is no Nearby Safer Place for Fern Tree.	2/21/2019 11:32 AM
45	Governments need to enact, police, and enforce regulations regarding what can be maintained and grown around homes and on properties, with the aim of reducing the risk if fires threaten built up areas.	2/21/2019 11:08 AM

**Bushfire preparedness and risk reduction in Hobart pilot study**

46	It is interesting whilst completing this survey whilst talking to my partner that we both cannot come to an agreement about how we feel about safety and clearing around our home. We are long term, (36 years) Ferntree residents and I am aware that plans to stay and protect our house changes.	2/21/2019 10:50 AM
47	I have contacted the Hobart City Council over the last 30 years about fire safety in O'Conor Court, Sandy Bay. I did this prior to the fire of 1998 and was ignored. After the fire of 1998, I contacted the Council again and Fire Hydrants were installed were in O'Conor Court. After that time, despite further representations to Council nothing happened until the major Victorian fire of ten years ago. I am glad that new fire tracks have been cleared and a new fire road has been built on Mt Nelson. I approve of the fire hazard reduction burns. I maintain short grass on my property during the summer. I look forward to the Council continuing the hazard reduction. Thank you	2/21/2019 10:34 AM
48	good to see this sought after survey taking place!	2/21/2019 9:43 AM
49	We have lived her for 37 years and after many approaches to council and fire dept. and promised that a reduction burn was going to be done, it has never occurred, this land beside us has lots of dry flammable material owned by the Cascade Brewery.	2/21/2019 9:21 AM
50	I asked Council to clear the land around my home in 2012 but the council took no action and I cleared some dangerous trees near my house. I feel they did not take my request seriously.	2/21/2019 8:53 AM
51	Fern tree doesn't have a NEAREST SAFER PLACE Council needs to create one for the residents and maintain it for future use should vegetation fire occur that threatens our community	2/20/2019 11:31 PM
52	The more that can be done in Fern Tree to reduce risk is preferred however as the fire risk gets higher we have become more accepting of the risks and plan to leave early and on high risk days.	2/20/2019 10:19 PM
53	please do more burns and generate firebreaks	2/20/2019 8:44 PM
54	We would leave when it is a total fire ban and if the mountain road is closed, even if there is no fire in our area. If the road is not closed, we would be packed and ready to go while remaining in touch with information.	2/20/2019 7:28 PM
55	Thank you :)	2/20/2019 7:20 PM
56	My major concern is that land around my house is privately owned by Cascade brewery and isn't managed for fire risk. So while I could do more to prepare my house its completely redundant because of the surrounding privately owned land. I'd like some sort of fire risk management to happen on this land.	2/20/2019 7:05 PM
57	What about someone doing something to prevent neighbours from growing fire prone trees (eucalypts and wattles close to the boundary. No one will consider this issue.	2/20/2019 6:29 PM
58	Please burn to reduce understory to the north	2/20/2019 5:42 PM
59	Q37 was impossible to answer because we are repeatedly told by the TFS at BRN meetings etc that there isn't one in Fern Tree! So, do I say Yes or No when asked if I know where it is??? I answered, "Yes, I know where it is, [it is nowhere]." (Instead of "No, I don't know where it is." because I think that would signify ignorance and confusion.) The questions with "dry forest", "wet forest" etc were very hard to answer because it was very hard to match the nearby forest against your vague pictures with no written details around how the classification is defined. I know my nearby bushland intimately but I don't know its scientific classification. The "Would you stay or leave early depending upon conditions?" question was not possible to answer well because our plan includes both BUT under very different conditions. We would stay and defend/protect if there was a demonstrably low threat nearby fire on a lower rating day (as I have experienced) BUT would leave early for Extreme and Catastrophic (and some Severe too - a judgement based on whats going on re fires nearby etc.).	2/20/2019 5:10 PM
60	It is good that there is now raised public education and awareness of the risks of bushfires, through the Bushfire Ready Neighbourhood Groups, and coordination between Fire Services, City and local Councils and Emergency and Support Services. This has been evident with the recent bushfires in the Huon Valley, the Central Highlands and the South West Wilderness areas, where Evacuation Centres were set up for people who needed to evacuate due to ongoing risks of bushfires. The amazing work and coordination of the fires and other emergency services from Tasmania, mainland states and New Zealand, was exemplary, especially as it was uncertain how long these fires would last, and the fact that they were started by dry lightning, and often in inaccessible areas. Well done to everyone!!	2/20/2019 4:40 PM
61	I have completed the survey twice in respect to the two properties we own in Strickland Ave. One is a new build compliant with a BAL29 rating. One is an old dwelling that does not conform to any BAL rating.	2/20/2019 4:07 PM

## Bushfire preparedness and risk reduction in Hobart pilot study

62	Management of the first understory is critical in reducing the severity of bushfire. We should pay respect to the first Australians by incorporating their land management practices into our bushfire hazard reduction efforts.	2/20/2019 3:57 PM
63	There was a fire reduction burn in the reserve behind our home. Was perplexed to work out how discriminatory this occurred as some dead dry trees left other burnt. The landscape was left looking very ordinary indeed - we love the bush and felt the fire reduction was ugly.	2/20/2019 3:57 PM
64	Every year before the fire season, we make a commitment to devote two or three weekends to clear gutters, debris etc, review our evacuation plans, pack precious items etc. We are constantly reviewing the landscaping near to the house to reduce vegetation. We have had fire screens placed on all our external doors and the house has been wrapped in the fire retardant material. Ultimately though we accept that we have chosen to live in a high risk area and there may come a day when we lose it all. We have no hesitation in evacuating early, especially as my biggest concern would be the roads. We only have Huon Road and Summerleas as an exit route. Having the Pinnacle Road closed this year on the extreme fire danger days did bring some reassurance that there was less traffic on the road with tourist etc. It also enabled the fire trucks to patrol freely.	2/20/2019 1:16 PM
65	Disturbed that Commercial News at 1600 is all from Melbourne and had no fire information ... very grateful for ABC Radio	2/20/2019 12:25 PM
66	I would really like it if the council cleared the trees from overhanging my house on the council easement nextdoor. I have called after large branches have fallen into my property but no action	2/20/2019 11:25 AM
67	I don't like the look the freshly back burned areas or of the destruction of trees for fire breaks, but lets face it the mountain will look far worse in the event of catastrophic bushfire. I think we need to do everything in our power to prevent a bushfire catastrophe.	2/20/2019 10:46 AM
68	I would like to see frequent and regular burning of understorey behind our property in the Bicentennial Reserve and to remove all trees from the existing firebreak 10-15 metres wide and not leave selected trees as occurs at present and to continually clear the firebreak.	2/20/2019 10:04 AM
69	We believe that further tree (mechanical) reduction on the edge of the Rialannah Road fire trial would be a large mitigating risk to our, along with other, houses along the Northern Face of Mount Nelson. As per questions 17,18 & 19 with a 20-30 metre clear setting between bush & Fire Trail.	2/20/2019 9:52 AM
70	Concerned that controlled burn offs do not actually have much effect on risk where we are, as there's already so much fuel and it accumulates rapidly. Our preference is to learn to live with the risk of large fires and subsequent losses rather than dramatically changing the landscape here in order to attempt to prevent fires.	2/19/2019 11:20 PM
71	Re Q38 there is no safer place in Fern Tree and no plan to create one. I think the Fern Tree hotel is ripe for redevelopment and could provide a safer place if the site and surrounding area was redeveloped and managed with that intent, however the fire plan was just a box ticking exercise. The clear subtext was "you're on your own" so I'm not expecting any meaningful assistance. What would be helpful would be cooperation from the Council & TasNetworks with removing small to medium eucalypts near powerlines and/or Council land and infrastructure. Publicly-owned land and infrastructure is limiting my ability to reduce the fire hazard on my land due to the risk tree-felling could pose to that infrastructure or the public if something went wrong.	2/19/2019 10:18 PM
72	Free Kerb side green waste collection in Oct and Nov would be good for some people and may encourage some people to be more prepared for bushfire season.	2/19/2019 9:42 PM
73	Governments should govern for everyone not just the Greens,I am a realist and believe in responsible fire reduction programs on a yearly basis and reducing fire hazards with trees in our area too close on arterial roads	2/19/2019 7:50 PM
74	The Hobart City Council cut down a large amount of trees in front of our house and cleared a lot of under growth. This was then heaped into large piles 3m square. Two of these were burnt but the remainder are still lying there which has put our area and the houses around us at increased risk I feel over these hot months as now all of the growth has dried out. I don't feel that this is acceptable for bushfire risk.	2/19/2019 7:47 PM
75	Very supportive of mechanical and burning activity to reduce fire risk, and the establishment and maintenance of green fire breaks throughout the city and our neighbourhood.	2/19/2019 7:16 PM

Bushfire preparedness and risk reduction in Hobart pilot study

76	Trying to get back to Fern Tree on 7 February 1967 we had to stop close to dozen times to remove fallen power poles etc, but only once for a piece of timber from a tree. Dead sticks burn much easier than green trees - I would like to see more under-grounding of power-lines along bush-land roads - ensuring people aren't trapped by blocked roads is way more important than under-grounding just for aesthetic purposes in well to do suburbs. (ps. my perspectives are informed not just by my 1967 observations but also from experienced gained while I was captain of the Smokewalkers Rural Fire Brigade established to fight fires in national parks back in the mid-late 1970s)	2/19/2019 5:31 PM
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