



# Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

## Answer to question on notice

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Asked by: Ms Deborah Morris MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services

Reference: Police, Fire and Emergency Services – JACS

Hearing: 20 November 2025

In relation to: Emergency Response Driver Recertification

Question received: 27/11/2025

Answer Due: 04/12/2025

- (1) How do Emergency Response Drivers (ERD) certify their ERD driver status?
- (2) When are applicants able to apply for certification?
- (3) How do ERD drivers recertify their ERD driver status?
  - (a) How often do they need to recertify?
- (4) The recertification process for ERD drivers is currently underway, why was the process not completed before the start of the bushfire season on 1<sup>st</sup> October?
- (5) The current recertification deadline is 5th December, why is 5th December the chosen deadline?
- (6) If ERD drivers have their endorsement revoked as a result of failing to complete their recertification before the deadline, what is the process for reapplying for certification after the deadline?
- (7) The ERD SOP and associated policies are currently under review, why is the ERD SOP and Associated policies under review?
  - (a) why was the review not completed before the recertification process?
  - (b) How are drivers meant to train and certify for something that is not yet finalised?

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DR MARISA PATERSON MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

(1 & 2) In line with the RFS SOP 2.2.15 – to be certified for ERD a driver must:

- a. Hold their licence without restrictions for a minimum of two (2) years
- b. Have supplied a copy of their Licence to the RFS Membership Officer
- c. Be an active RFS Member for a minimum of two (2) years
- d. Have obtained the Unit of Competency *PUAVEH001 – Drive vehicles in operational conditions*
- e. Have received endorsement from both their Brigade Captain and Chief Officer


(3 & 4) ERD Drivers recertify internally through the Service by completing an online Theory Refresher and by providing relevant entries of their RFS Driving Logbook for review. Recertification is scheduled periodically and is based on Service endorsement and licence dates, not seasonal timelines. The current process aligns with these requirements.

(5) The current recertification deadline of 5 December 2025 was selected to allow the RFS membership ample time to complete the recertification from the time of announcement.

(6) Members who miss the recertification deadline will not be endorsed for ERD until recertification is complete. Recertification can be completed at any time by undertaking the recertification process and receiving endorsement from ACTRFS.

(7) The Service conducts regular reviews of SOPs and policies. While the scheduled review date for SOP 2.2.15 was not due, this SOP was prioritised as part of a rolling review to ensure currency and compliance. The SOP review and recertification are separate processes and can occur independently. The current ERD certification standard was finalised in 2022 and remains in effect. Brigades were reminded of the process in January 2025.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs

Signature: 

Date: 5/12/25

By the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services, Dr Marisa Paterson MLA