



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES
Jo Clay MLA (Chair), Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy), Mark Parton MLA

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2020-2021

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE 49

Michael Pettersson MLA: To ask the Minister for Planning and Land Management

Ref: Budget Statements Output Class 2.2 Parks and Conservation

In relation to:

1. Is the ACT Government prepared for the upcoming fire season?
2. Are all relevant positions in teams that deal with fire preparedness filled?
3. How is EPSDD implementing the Union Encouragement Policy?

Minister Mick Gentleman MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

1. The ACT Parks and Conservation Service was well prepared for the 2021-22 Bushfire Season which commenced on 1 November 2021 and concluded on 16 March 2022. Seasonal firefighters had commenced and completed their basic training, staff rosters were prepared and all pre-season firefighting equipment and asset maintenance had been completed. All fuel management contracts were in place.
2. All relevant operational and planning roles within the ACT Parks and Conservation Fire Unit were filled.
3. The Union Encouragement Policy has been (and will continue to be) proactively communicated to EPSDD staff through regular internal communications channels (written and verbal) and is also published via the ACTPS Employment Portal and EPSDD's Intranet. The Policy is promoted at induction sessions for new employees and Executives, Managers and Supervisors have been made aware (with reminders from time to time) of their individual obligations under the Policy.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M.G.", is written over a horizontal line.

Date: 12/5/2022

Mick Gentleman MLA

By the Minister for Planning and Land Management