

ISSUES PAPER FIRE SERVICE ACT REVIEW JUNE 2018 – APPENDIX I –
SUMMARY OF QUESTIONS

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please refer following comments from the Director of Public Health, Department of Health, as a member of SEMC and a stakeholder engaged with TFS and DPFEM in general.

1	Should the purpose of the legislation more accurately reflect the range of activities undertaken?
2	How should legislation validate the delivery of the current range of non-fire services that communities and government expect TFS to deliver?
3	Do TFS firefighters have a role in Emergency Medical Response and, if so, should that role be reflected in legislation?
4	Should the State Emergency Service be included in the new legislation and removed from the Emergency Management Act?
5	Should a statement of commitment to volunteers be included in the new legislation and, if so, who and what should it cover?
6	Should the legislation provide PWS and forest officers with appropriate legislative authority to undertake fire control work and reflect contemporary Tasmanian practice in relation to Inter-Agency Incident Management?
7	Should the State Fire Commission remain as a Statutory Authority?
8	Should the State Fire Commission have the role of a governing Board?
9	Should members of the Commission be appointed as representatives of their organisation or on the basis of skills/knowledge that they possess?
10	What should be the State Fire Commission's role and function and should it include the strategic policy setting and administrative oversight of the State Emergency Service?
11	What structural arrangements would best allow the Commission and TFS to achieve their objectives while operating in a departmental environment?
12	How should the Chief Officer be appointed and to whom is he responsible?
13	Should it still be specified that the Chief Officer is to have expertise and experience in fire service administration and in the management of fire-fighting operations?
14	How should potential tensions between the roles and accountabilities of the Chief Officer TFS, the Director SES and the State Controller be best resolved?
15	What is the appropriate role and function of the SFMC and what should the relationship be with the State Fire Commission/TFS?
16	What is the appropriate membership of the SFMC and should the membership be prescribed in legislation?
17	Should the State Fire Management Council have the power to appoint permit officers?
18	Are the Fire Management Areas and the composition of the Fire Management Area Committees still appropriate?
19	What opportunities exist to streamline Fire Management Area Committees with Emergency Management Committees?

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20	Should fire and emergency services be funded through a single mechanism? If so, what is the appropriate model?
21	Should SES centrally manage and fund its volunteer unit facilities, its fleet and its operational expenses?
22	Should any new legislation bind the Crown?
23	How should response, command and control arrangements be handled in new legislation?
24	Should the Chain of Command be included in legislation with accountabilities included?
25	Should endorsement of Incident Controllers be legislated? Making it clear that all emergency responders present at an incident are in all respects subject to the Incident Controller's direction or should Incident Controllers be endorsed through policy?
26	Are the provisions relating to the establishment and composition of brigades still appropriate?
27	Should Industry Brigades be recognised in legislation and have the ability to assist in emergency response outside the industry boundaries?
28	Should the Act be amended to specify these activities are exempt from the provisions of the LUPAA?
29	Are the provisions relating to the declaration of Total Fire Bans still appropriate?
30	Should Community Education be an explicit function of SFC/TFS and should it include the SES? <i>Suggest community education would benefit from more holistic/all hazards approach, including other agencies management issues to provide improved community awareness and resilience.</i>
31	Is it still appropriate that TFS issues permits to install, maintain or repair fire protection equipment?
32	Should there be a whole of government Emergency Evacuation System that deals with all threats, not just fire risks, in the built environment? Should prescribed buildings be categorised by risk potential? <i>Yes, would be of benefit; management by risk categories based on evidence would be beneficial.</i>
33	Are the current levels and structure of penalties appropriate?
34	Are there other offences that should be considered for inclusion in new legislation?
35	Are the current protection from liability provisions appropriate?