



UNCONFIRMED

MINUTES

BUSHFIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

held

17th June 2026

At

Shire of Dardanup
Administration Centre Eaton
1 Council Drive – EATON

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VISION STATEMENT

“The Shire of Dardanup is a healthy, self-sufficient and sustainable community, that is connected and inclusive, and where our culture and innovation are celebrated.”

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS	1
2.	RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED	2
3.	PRESENTATIONS	2
4.	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	2
5.	ANNOUNCEMENTS OF MATTERS FOR WHICH MEETING MAY BE CLOSED.....	3
6.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST	3
7.	ACTION SHEET UPDATE	1
8	REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES	1
8.1	<i>Title: Update Report from Chief Bush Fire Control Officer</i>	<i>1</i>
8.2	<i>Title: Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions – Officer Report.....</i>	<i>3</i>
8.3	<i>Title: Department of Fire & Emergency Services (DFES) – Mr Ricky Southgate and Area Officer Preston – Kohdy Flynn</i>	<i>4</i>
8.4	<i>Title: Burekup District Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Clay Rose.....</i>	<i>6</i>
8.5	<i>Title: Dardanup Central District Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Brendon Putt.....</i>	<i>7</i>
8.6	<i>Title: Ferguson Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Lyndon Skeers</i>	<i>9</i>
8.7	<i>Title: Joshua Creek / Crooked Brook Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Jeff Duncombe.....</i>	<i>11</i>
8.8	<i>Title: Upper Ferguson District Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Ryan Gibbs.....</i>	<i>12</i>
8.9	<i>Title: Waterloo District Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Rob Drennan</i>	<i>12</i>
8.10	<i>Title: Wellington Mill District Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Russell Harvie.....</i>	<i>12</i>
8.11	<i>Title: West Dardanup District Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Neil Dyer.....</i>	<i>13</i>
8.12	<i>Title: Coordinator Health, Emergency & Ranger Services Report – Mr Stephen Loiterton.....</i>	<i>17</i>
8.13	<i>Title: Brigade Annual General Meeting Minutes</i>	<i>29</i>
8.14	<i>Title: Endorsement of Bushfire Control Officers (FCOs)</i>	<i>30</i>
8.15	<i>Title: Election of Chief Bushfire Control Officer.....</i>	<i>30</i>
8.16	<i>Title: Election of Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer – (North).....</i>	<i>31</i>
8.17	<i>Title: Election of Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer – (South)</i>	<i>31</i>
9.	NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE	32
10.	CLOSURE OF MEETING.	32

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Mr Chris Hynes	-	CBFCO Eaton Townsite District
Mr Clay Rose	-	DCFCO (North) / FCO Burekup District (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Robert Drennan	-	DCFCO (South) / FCO Waterloo District
Mr Lyndon Skeers	-	FCO Ferguson District
Mr Neil Dyer	-	FCO West Dardanup District
Mr Grant Ratcliffe	-	FCO Upper Ferguson District
Mr Brendon Putt	-	FCO Dardanup Central District
Mr Jeff Duncombe	-	FCO Joshua/Crooked Brook District
Mr Russel Harvie	-	FCO Wellington Mill District
Mr Alan Charlton	-	Fire Weather Officer
Mr Ricky Southgate	-	Department of Fire & Emergency Services
Mr Jewell Crossberg	-	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
Cr. T Gardiner	-	Elected Member (Chairperson)
Cr. R Trevathan	-	Elected Member
Cr. T Jenour	-	Elected Member (Proxy)

OBSERVERS

Mr André Schönfeldt	-	Chief Executive Officer
Mrs Susan Oosthuizen	-	Executive Manager Development Services
Mr Stephen Loiterton	-	Coordinator Health, Emergency and Ranger Services
Mr Paul Sydney-Smith	-	Senior Ranger
Mrs Rochelle Dodds	-	EA to Director Community and Economic Development

COUNCIL ROLE

Advocacy	When Council advocates on its own behalf or on behalf of its community to another level of government / body /agency.
Executive/Strategic	The substantial direction setting and oversight role of the Council eg. Adopting plans and reports, accepting tenders, directing operations, setting and amending budgets.
Legislative	Includes adopting local laws, town planning schemes and policies.
Review	When Council reviews decisions made by Officers.
Quasi-Judicial	<p>When Council determines an application/matter that directly affects a person's rights and interests. The Judicial character arises from the obligations to abide by the principles of natural justice.</p> <p>Examples of Quasi-Judicial authority include town planning applications, building licences, applications for other permits/licences (eg: under Health Act, Dog Act or Local Laws) and other decisions that may be appealable to the State Administrative Tribunal.</p>

DISCLAIMER

“Any statement, comment or decision made at a Council or Committee meeting regarding any application for an approval, consent or licence, including a resolution of approval, is not effective as an approval of any application and must not be relied upon as such.

Any person or entity that has an application before the Shire must obtain, and should only rely on, written notice of the Shire's decision and any conditions attaching to the decision and cannot treat as an approval anything said or done at a Council or Committee meeting.

Any advice provided by an employee of the Shire on the operation of a written law, or the performance of a function by the Shire, is provided in the capacity of an employee, and to the best of that person's knowledge and ability. It does not constitute, and should not be relied upon, as a legal advice or representation by the Shire. Any advice on a matter of law, or anything sought to be relied upon as a representation by the Shire should be sought in writing and should make clear the purpose of the request.”

SHIRE OF DARDANUP

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES FOR THE SHIRE OF DARDANUP BUSHFIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17TH OF JUNE 2026, AT SHIRE OF DARDANUP – EATON ADMINISTRATION CENTRE, AT 7.00PM.

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Chairperson, Cr TG Gardiner declared the meeting open at 7.02pm, welcomed those in attendance and referred to the Disclaimer and the Affirmation of Civic Duty and Responsibility on behalf of Councillors and Officers:

Acknowledgement of Country

The Shire of Dardanup wishes to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the Noongar people. In doing this, we recognise and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this region and pay our respects to their elders, past, present and emerging. The Shire of Dardanup also respects and celebrates all cultures of all our residents and visitors to our Shire.

Affirmation of Civic Duty and Responsibility

Councillors and Officers of the Shire of Dardanup collectively declare that we will duly, faithfully, honestly and with integrity fulfil the duties of our respective office and positions for all the people in the district according to the best of our judgement and ability. We will observe the Shire's Code of Conduct and Standing Orders to ensure efficient, effective and orderly decision making within this forum.

Committee members acknowledge that only the Chief Executive Officer or a member of the Shire of Dardanup staff appointed by the Chief Executive Officer is to have contact with consultants and suppliers that are appointed under contract to undertake the development and implementation of projects.

The exception to this Policy is when there is a meeting of the committee or working group with the consultant and the Chief Executive Officer or the Chief Executive Officer's representative is present.

Members of committees acknowledge that a breach of this Policy may result in a request to Council to have them removed from the committee.

Emergency Procedure

In the event of an emergency, please follow the instructions of the Chairperson who will direct you to the safest exit route. Once outside, please proceed to the Assembly Area points located to the western side of the front office car park near the skate park and gazebo where we will meet (and complete a roll call).

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF MATTERS FOR WHICH MEETING MAY BE CLOSED

None.

6. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Note: The Chairperson asked the Committee if there were any Declarations of Interest to be declared.

There was none.

7. ACTION SHEET UPDATE

PENDING ACTIONS:

ACTION & MEETING DATE.	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	ACTION	OUTCOME	STATUS
Action – 04/25 08/10/2025	Finn Dau	Mr Finn Dau will assist brigade members by demonstrating how to change their alert settings	Russel Harvie from Wellington Mills was the only person who came forward for assistance with the BART.	Complete
Action – 05/25 08/10/2025	BFAC committee	BFAC Committee requested that the Western Power connection for the new emergency water supply standpipe at the Sandpit Road development be monitored closely to ensure Western Power meets the committed connection date.		
Action – 01/25 09/07/2025	Stephen Loiterton	Investigate Saline water issue at the Waterloo Bushfire Brigade Bore	<p>The Shire has investigated the feasibility of desalination. Reverse osmosis requires a significant quantity of fresh water and is impracticable. The EMO liaised with the contractor who drilled the bore who advised the salinity is quite low. The EMO also liaised with pump manufacturers and was advised that the water may be used for firefighting, but the tank and pump must be rinsed with fresh water immediately afterwards to wash the saline water out.</p> <p>The bore water is only available for firefighting purposes (per regulations). Drilling the bore deeper to access less saline water will require extraction licences that the Shire does not have.</p>	

ACTION & MEETING DATE.	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	ACTION	OUTCOME	STATUS
			<p><i>Discussion:</i></p> <p><i>BFAC requested that further investigation be completed including confirmation of the regulations of firefighting water and the depths allowed from the department of water.</i></p> <p><i>Bring the information back to the next BFAC committee on 7th October 2026.</i></p>	

COMPLETED ACTIONS:

ACTION & MEETING DATE.	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	ACTION	OUTCOME	STATUS
Action - 03/24 09/10/2024	Stephen Loiterton	Provide information to FCO's on the current boundaries for each District	Brigades have been provided maps of boundaries for each brigade district. The boundaries have not changed. Brigades may request replacement maps if required.	Complete
Action – 02/25 08/10/2025	Stephen Loiterton	Confirm the location of the Burekup District fire truck and report back to Mr Clay Rose.	Burekup's vehicle is at station (14 Mar 26).	Complete
Action – 03/25 08/10/2025	Stephen Loiterton	Mr Stephen Loiterton to follow up HR regarding requirements for drug testing prior to reinstatement of a brigade member asap.	HR presenting AP022 Fit for Work policy to clarify requirements for drug testing.	Complete

8 REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

8.1 Title: Update Report from Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Reporting Department	CBFCO - Dardanup
Reporting Officer	Mr Chris Hynes

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

Activity Report since Last BFAC Meeting

<i>Fire Call Outs</i>	Thank you to all the Brigades and members that have responded to all the incidents around Dardanup and outside our Shire. It has been very reassuring when the call goes out, we are able to crew appliances. This shows how dedicated our volunteers are with positive feedback from the incidents they attend. Well done, Team
<i>Appliance and Equipment</i>	Replacement Appliances for JCB, Dardanup Central, how are they progressing?
<i>Training</i>	Good to see many brigades regularly adding their training events on Bart.
<i>Meetings Held</i>	Leadership meetings each month with Shire staff, DFES, fire weather officer, 2 DCBFCO and Myself CBFCO meet, if you have items, you need to discuss please contact myself for inclusion in meeting agenda.
<i>Membership – Recruitment/Resignation</i>	CESM where are we with the position fulfillment.
<i>Concerns</i>	What is being done to provide modern mapping tools that share information in real time across BGU as well DBCA and DFES. Note the outdated FES maps doesn't provide the modern interchange of information across the fire ground providing safety in real time visual information on progress of the incident to all the crews on the fire line with operational awareness.
<i>Initiatives</i>	Mapper App - continue to ask the question every opportunity I get with the Mapper trial. What will happen when the trial is complete, who will pay the fees, will it be covered in the LGGS. Will DFES adopt it as an operational tool given its positive usage for mapping fires and sharing information quickly and efficiently.
<i>Other News</i>	Work has progressed on Operational procedures, I've had Neil Dyer, Kaitlain Southgate, spend a lot of time going over this document editing it, to ensure it fits our brigades' requirements. We had a small group come together following Neil and Kaitlin's work to go over the operational procedures along with Ricky Southgate and Kohdy Flynn. Thanks for everyone's input.

Item/s For BFAC Discussion

Mapper App is a useful tool, and we need to have a plan to keep it available for volunteers to assess.

Discussion:

Mr Chris Hynes reiterated his advocacy for the permanent adoption of the Mapper application and noted the value of DFES formally recognising the platform, given its demonstrated effectiveness in supporting fire mapping and information sharing.

8.2 Title: Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions – Officer Report

Reporting Department

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

Reporting Officer

Mr Jewell Crossberg

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

Prescribed Burning

- DBCA Wellington District had a successful burning season.
- Approximately 25000ha treated.
- The link below is a good source to identify potential prescribed burns currently in the DBCA Burn Options Program (BOP).
- When inquiring about a specific area, use the prescribed burn number listed in the website. For example, WTN_146.

[Burn Options Program | Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions](#)

Bushfires

As at 05/06/2026, 131 bushfires recorded on DBCA managed tenure since the start of the 2025/2026 season.

Thank you to the Chief, and the Brigades for all your efforts with your local fires and the essential assistance with other DBCA and DFES fires.

A significant portion of bushfires recorded were caused by suspected arson. Thank you to WAPOL, LGA, DFES, and Project Vulcan for the ongoing efforts in combatting this act.

Staff/ Staff Changes

District Fire Coordinator Collie – Jewell Crossberg. (0427 412 828).

Fire Operations Officer – Darren Harvey (0428 552 793).

Fire Operations Officer – Vacant

A/Fire Operations Officer – Jacoba Webb (0400 968 106)

End of Report

8.3 Title: Department of Fire & Emergency Services (DFES) – Mr Ricky Southgate and Area Officer Preston – Kohdy Flynn

Reporting Department	DFES
Reporting Officer	Mr Ricky Southgate

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

DFES Southwest BFAC report as of 02/06/2026 Fire Season 25/26

DFES would like to thank the Shire of Dardanup for the ongoing support across the 2025 / 2026 season across the state. With brigades providing multiple shifts across other Shires as far as Shark Bay to the North and Boddington to the East.

Training

The DFES Southwest region has released the 2026 training Calendar and encourages people to apply, with courses already being oversubscribed.

Thank you to the Shire for providing access to Waterloo station for regional training to occur.

Very good to see the Shire holding the Bushfire training courses for new members. The work of Kaitlin to facilitate the course, along with the coordination of the Shires 9 trainers across the weekend was good to see and one worthy of recognition.

Mitigation works through Department of Justice

The DFES SW region is now utilising s95 crews from the Bunbury regional prison and Karnet Prison to carry out mitigation work on UCL UMR within gazetted town sites. DFES state mitigation branch is now providing support across the state for mitigation with machine operators and crew employed within Perth.

High Season Fleet

DFES SW is maintaining 1x 3.4 and 3x LT for mitigation fleet to aid in completing prescribed burns. Thank you to West Dardanup for continuing to accommodate the 3.4.

Southwest Enhanced Response

DFES Southwest continues to work within the enhanced mobilisation, a review will be conducted with minor adjustments made as required. This will then be circulated for comment / consideration for the ongoing 26/27 fire season.

Suspicious fire

Several suspicious fires have occurred in various Southwest local governments this year and DFES asks that if you observe any suspicious behaviour to call 000 immediately. If you suspect someone of arson or fire lighting, make a report online or call Crime Stoppers on 1300 333 000.

Thank you to the FCO/ Captains that have been sending details through to me, I will continue working with WAPD.

Discussion:

Mr Ricky Southgate thanked the Shire for its continued support of volunteer bushfire brigade training, as detailed in the report. He acknowledged the successful delivery of the recent Bushfire Awareness training for new members and commended Kaitlin and the Shire's nine volunteer trainers for their efforts in coordinating and delivering the training over a recent weekend.

8.4 Title: Burekup District Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Clay Rose

Reporting Department	<i>Burekup BFB</i>
Reporting Officer	<i>Mr Clay Rose - FCO</i>

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

Activity Report Since Last BFAC Meeting

<i>Fire Call Outs</i>	Arson fires Dowdells Line 4 ignitions 17-4-26 accidental ignition (burn off by owner 10 days prior) 26-5-26.
<i>Appliance and Equipment</i>	Sump plug leaking oil after last service, suspect no copper washer fitted at last service.
<i>Training</i>	None
<i>Meetings Held</i>	AGM 24-3-26. Committee meeting 19-5-26 shire meeting 5-5-26. Eaton. Handbook meeting 7-5-26 Waterloo.
<i>Membership – Recruitment/Resignation</i>	brigade currently updating membership status list.
<i>Concerns</i>	Deliberately lit fires Dowdells Line & Lennard Road Could shire staff responsible give an update on future development plans to the east end turn around area Collie River Road Burekup.
<i>Initiatives</i>	Attended ANZAC service 24-4-26 at River Valley Primary School. 10 members attended the shire / state government thank a volunteer sundowner at the Burekup Hall on 21-5-26.
<i>Other News</i>	None

Item/s For BFAC Discussion

Regarding the east end Collie River Road turn around area , my recommendation would be the shire resume or buy land to the north from the Krone family explaining to them how the late Jorge Krone constructed a turning area car park, pipe valve concrete lined pit on shire land & private property & dug up the bitumen road to lay a 250 mm pipe.

Officer Comment – Mr Stephen Loiterton

Given weight of numerous other priorities this matter has stalled.

8.5 Title: Dardanup Central District Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Brendon Putt

Reporting Department	Dardanup Central BFB
Reporting Officer	Mr Brendon Putt

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

<i>Fire Call Outs</i>	10 call outs since last BFAC
<i>Appliance and Equipment</i>	Appliance fault recorded in vehicle log to repaired at next service
<i>Training</i>	Training held two weeks ago will most likely monthly
<i>Meetings Held</i>	Leadership meeting held existing team have met with some changes at the recent AGM
<i>Membership Recruitment/Resignation</i>	– Nil
<i>Concerns</i>	Fit for duty policy is causing a lot dissatisfaction with members, particularly with increased administration
<i>Initiatives</i>	Nil
<i>Other News</i>	Nil

Item/s For BFAC Discussion

- *New appliance Update for Dardanup Central*
 - Where are we currently at Dardanup Central 2.4 is 19 years old, LGGs Manual states that tankers are replaceable from new until 16 years old

Officer Comment – Mr Stephen Loiterton

The Shire is aware that four brigades have been identified to have appliances replaced over the past several years. The Shire understands that the Department of Fire and Emergency Services has experienced supply chain issues since Covid-19 that have yet to resolve. The Shire has received no advice on when any one of the four appliances may be expected.

- *Shire of Dardanup Risk to resource (R2R) assessment*
 - Has this occurred recently and what was the outcome?
 - Ie With the increased growth to the Dardanup townsite, plus Dardanup West area, is their scope to increase the capability of brigades ie LT for Dardanup Central plus a permanent second appliance at Dardanup West

Officer Comment – Mr Stephen Loiterton

There has been no Risk to Resource assessment conducted in the past several years. Such an assessment will need to be undertaken to inform any decision on alternative or additional appliances.

Discussion:

Mr Brendon Putt queried the status of the Risk and Resource Policy and when it is expected to be implemented.

Mr Stephen Loiterton advised that implementation will be deferred until the Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM) is appointed.

- *Workbook Draft, existing Managing Conduct, Performance, and Membership Matters, page 26*
 - *This current policy APO25 is unworkable, we have been working closely with the shire on a matter regarding code of conduct breeches, and failure comply with shire brigade policy. This issue has been with the shire before the 16/1/2026 prior to this we have had meeting with shire personal.*
 - *We have requested updates on outcomes and direction on many occasions and no reply? clearly the local government law, and the bush fires act of 1554 is not being followed, the directive that the shire control totally the outcome of the finding, without a brigade having a say in the matter is unworkable, it is unfair to the volunteer involved plus the brigade members.*
 - *I would recommend that this be a combined committee, with a representee of the brigade present, on the committee so that the correct outcome is balanced and fair to all those involved, I have been involved in this matter for over two years with reports and documentation gathered and passed on to the shire.*

Discussion

Mr Putt raised concerns regarding the current provisions of Policy AP025, noting that disciplinary actions, including reprimands, suspensions and demotions, are currently managed solely by the Shire. Mr Putt suggested the policy be reviewed to consider the inclusion of brigade representation as part of the disciplinary process.

The Chair noted that the matter relates to the relevant operating procedure and advised that it would be considered later in the meeting under the appropriate agenda item.

8.6 Title: Fergusson Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Lyndon Skeers

Reporting Department	<i>Fergusson BFB</i>
Reporting Officer	<i>Mr Lyndon Skeers</i>

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

Activity Report since Last BFAC Meeting

<i>Fire Call Outs</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 • Controlled burn carried out at property belonging to Phil Smith. Several members attended as a training exercise. Thanks to Chris Hynes for assisting.
<i>Appliance and Equipment</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Season vehicle has been returned. It performed well throughout the season. • Lay flat hoses in LT tested, 2 tagged as failing testing however they were placed back into the vehicle. Please advise next steps. One hose with 'pin hole' leaks under pressure, one hose leaking at male fitting.
<i>Training</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training once per month. • Members participating in additional training including crew leader and on road driving. • New member Chris Walton has now completed all training
<i>Meetings Held</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 including AGM
<i>Membership – Recruitment/Resignation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new members. • Loss of one of our founding members, Ian Blakiston
<i>Concerns</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lay flat hoses failed testing and replaced into vehicle, discovered when attending Simpson Road fire.
<i>Initiatives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding received for fire prevention/community awareness banners to be placed prominently on road side.
<i>Other News</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several members from Dardanup brigades together with CBFCO Chris Hynes attended the memorial service held for Ian Blakiston in April. Brigade members formed a Guard of Honour for the family, Ian's helmet and medals were displayed at the service. Thank you to everyone that participated and paid their respects to one of Fergusson Brigade's founding members. • Several members attended the Volunteer Sundowner organized by Shire of Dardanup. It was well received. • Shed extensions progressing well

Item/s For BFAC Discussion*Discussion:*

Mr Lyndon Skeers raised concern regarding the recent hose testing program. Concerns were raised regarding communication following the testing process, particularly where hoses had failed testing and were returned to brigades without members being aware of the failures.

It was noted that a higher-than-anticipated number of hoses failed testing, resulting in resource and replacement challenges. Mr Stephen Loiterton acknowledged the issue and advised that discussions had been held at a leadership meeting to identify the shortcomings in the process and noted at this point in time there is not sufficient resources to replace the hoses.

Mr Stephen Loiterton noted that actions are being considered to improve communication and ensure similar issues do not occur in future.

8.7 Title: Joshua Creek / Crooked Brook Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Jeff Duncombe.

Reporting Department	<i>Joshua Creek / Crooked Brook BFB</i>
Reporting Officer	<i>Mr Jeff Duncombe</i>

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

Activity Report Since Last BFAC Meeting

<i>Fire Call Outs</i>	8
<i>Appliance and Equipment</i>	Nil
<i>Training</i>	3
<i>Meetings Held</i>	Nil
<i>Membership – Recruitment/Resignation</i>	3 new members.
<i>Concerns</i>	Nil
<i>Initiatives</i>	Nil
<i>Other News</i>	Nil

Item/s For BFAC Discussion

None.

8.8 Title: Upper Ferguson District Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Ryan Gibbs

Reporting Department	Upper Ferguson BFB
Reporting Officer	Mr Ryan Gibbs - Captain

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

Activity Report Since Last BFAC Meeting

Item/s For BFAC Discussion

None

8.9 Title: Waterloo District Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Rob Drennan

Reporting Department	Waterloo BFB
Reporting Officer	Mr Rob Drennan

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

Activity Report Since Last BFAC Meeting

Item/s For BFAC Discussion

None.

8.10 Title: Wellington Mill District Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Russell Harvie

Reporting Department	Wellington Mill BFB
Reporting Officer	Mr Russell Harvie

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

Activity Report Since Last BFAC Meeting

None.

Item/s For BFAC Discussion

8.11 Title: West Dardanup District Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Neil Dyer

Reporting Department West Dardanup BFB

Reporting Officer Mr Neil Dyer

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

Activity Report Since Last BFAC Meeting

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read out at the meeting)

<i>Fire Call Outs</i>	Have attended a total of 14 incidents for this period
<i>Appliance and Equipment</i>	1.4 has utilized where practical for incidents during this period. 3.4 (seasonal) is still on station and has also been utilized for incidents and controlled burns during this period. Having access to this vehicle for the period has been extremely useful and clearly demonstrates the need for a the permanent location of a vehicle of this type to be operated from this station.
<i>Training</i>	All active members meet the current training requirements. Training has now reverted to monthly session for the off-season period and will return to twice monthly by September to ensure skills are current for the new season.
<i>Meetings Held</i>	During this reporting period the Brigade has completed its AGM and has submitted the relevant information to the Shire and has continued to conduct the brigade leadership meetings on a monthly basis
<i>Membership – Recruitment/Resignation</i>	To ensure the Brigade maintains appropriate numbers, a door knock program has commenced in the brigade area. The intention of this program is to welcome new people to the area, provide information about the brigade and to seek people who may be interested in volunteering in the Brigade.
<i>Concerns</i>	<p>The West Dardanup brigade is seeking formal responses to the following concerns that have been raised though its Committee.</p> <p>1. Sandpits strategic firefighting water supply. As part of a development requirement in 2022 the developer of the land on Sandpits Rd was required to provide land and a strategic firefighting water point for the brigade to use. Although the infrastructure has been installed, to date the power has not been connected to the lot.</p> <p>Can the Shire please provide advice as to when this is likely to occur as the properties in this area are now being constructed with many of the properties are occupied?</p> <p>2. Sand Pit Road reserve.</p>

	<p>As a condition of development approval for the Sandpits Road subdivision it became necessary to contract a new road (Ficinia Gr). As a result, an existing section of approx. 450 meters of road reserve (Poad Rd) was not developed. This land is now creating a potential fire hazard for the adjoining property owner (L218 Sand Pits Rd).</p> <p>Does the Shire have any plans for this section of road reserve and if not, would it be possible for it to be added to the fire mitigation program to assist in mitigating the risk to the adjoining property?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3. Council policy for developer contributions - firefighting purposes.</p> <p>As the development of land continues within the West Dardanup brigade area, I again feel the need to raise the matter of Developer contributions for the purpose of fire protection.</p> <p>When first raised in 2023 the shire developed a detailed Strategic firefighting water tank standard which has been used on several subdivisions. While this standard works well, with the continued development in this area it does not enable funding to be allocated to the upgrade of existing firefighting water infrastructure to address issues such as the removal of overhead standpipes etc.</p> <p>The matter was given more consideration in 2024 at which time it was suggested that a policy be prepared by staff to address this concern. I have been unable to determine if this has occurred and if it has, what it contains.</p> <p>Can the Shire please confirm the status of the proposed policy and if it has been developed where it is able to be located?</p>
<i>Initiatives</i>	<p>During Volunteer week, the Brigade was able to undertake an 'end of season' and medal and recognition presentation away from the Station. This event was well received by all of the attending members.</p>
<i>Other News</i>	

Item/s For BFAC Discussion

1. Item One – Council Policy AP022 – Fitness for work

This item was raised at the previous BFAC meeting in March 2026. I understand that Council policy AP022- Fitness for Work is intended to replace the Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Fit for Duty Policy.

Notwithstanding that this item is recorded in the minutes as being resolved, I believe that the matter warrants further discussion as it raises several issues that could adversely impact brigade members undertaking their role as active firefighters. Unfortunately, I was unable to provide any comment regarding this item at the last meeting as I only became aware of it after the meeting commenced. Following the meeting seven questions relating to the policy were raised with the Shire which to date remain unanswered.

Although the intent of this policy is to protect the Shire, its employees and workers, which include volunteers, some parts of the document also has the potential to create serious implications for Brigade members undertaking active firefighting related work.

Can the shire please provide responses to the questions previously raised (email 21/3/2026) and advise of the process to have this matter reviewed to ensure the protection offered to volunteers is not compromised.

Discussion

Strategic Water Supply – Sandpit Road

Mr Neil Dyer requested an update on the Strategic Water Supply located on Sandpit Road, noting that the site is still awaiting a power connection.

Mrs Susan Oosthuizen advised that the matter is the responsibility of the Shire of Dardanup and confirmed that the power connection there is a solution is being investigated and may be resolved shortly, this will be reported back. The strategic water supply needs further investigation as drilling deeper for a bore may require an extraction license. The cost for this is quite significant and may need a resolution from Council.

Mr Ricky Southgate advised that grant funding opportunities may be available for water infrastructure projects, including water tanks, and suggested these be explored by the Shire of Dardanup.

Sandpit Road Reserve

Mr Neil Dyer raised concerns regarding a section of the Sandpit Road reserve requiring attention that is now creating a potential fire hazard for the adjoining property owner (L218 Sand Pits Rd).

Mr Stephen Loiterton advised that the Mitigation Officer is investigating the matter and is seeking to have the works included on the mitigation program. A response is currently awaited.

Water Supply Requirements for New Developments

Mr Neil Dyer raised the need for a policy relating to the provision of water tanks and pumps within new developments, noting the importance of ensuring adequate firefighting water supplies are incorporated into future subdivision planning.

Mrs Susan Oosthuizen advised that the matter will be investigated, including reviewing existing policies, subdivision conditions and any relevant provisions available under the applicable legislation.

The Committee discussed the importance of involving the Bush Fire Advisory Committee in the planning process for major developments and subdivisions to ensure bushfire considerations are appropriately addressed.

ACTION 01/26	<i>Development Water Supply Policy: Review current policies, subdivision conditions and legislative provisions relating to the provision of water tanks and pumps in new developments.</i>
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ACTION 02/26	<i>Major Subdivisions: Investigate opportunities to formally refer major subdivision and development proposals to the Bush Fire Advisory Committee for consultation and comment.</i>
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Fitness for Work Policy

The Committee discussed the Shire of Dardanup's *AP022 – Fitness for Work Policy* and the working implications on the Brigades. It was proposed that further negotiation was required with the Shire on the policy. Mr Neil Dwyer proposed the following motion.

BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

BFAC 06 – 26

Moved: Mr Neil Dyer

Seconded: Cr. R Trevathan

THAT the Bush Fire Advisory Committee requests the Shire of Dardanup investigate further the *AP022 – Fitness for Work Policy* and conduct workshops with the FCO's and the matter be brought back to the October 2026 Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting.

CARRIED

Note: Further discussion for this report is included in item 8.12.

8.12 Title: Coordinator Health, Emergency & Ranger Services Report – Mr Stephen Loiterton

Reporting Department

Shire of Dardanup

Reporting Officer

Mr Stephen Loiterton – Coordinator Health Emergency & Ranger Services

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

8.12.1 Summary of 2025/26

The Shire's Bush Fire Brigades reported that they attended 55 bushfires over the past year (cf 63 in the previous year). Of those, 39 occurred during the restricted/prohibited periods. However, DFES reports Shire Brigades were deployed to 168 incidents (including false alarms).

The longest incidents (4 days each) were:

- Incident 265644 Goldmine Road, Boddington
- Incident 765309 Gull Road, Keerlup
- with further 8 incidents spanning more than 1 day.

Of the Shire's fire fighters:

- 86 attended at least 1 operational response

of those:

- 60 attended between 1 and 5 operations;
- 19 attended between 6 and 10 operations;
- 6 attended between 11 and 20 operations; and
- 1 attended more than 20 operations

Other statistics to note over the past year:

- 25 new volunteers joined the brigades;
- 30 volunteers are no longer with the brigades (after contributing 209 years' service collectively);
- 3 DFES long service awards were received by members;
- 1 national long service award was received by members; and
- 48 Brigade training events were reported.

A full list of members who received awards is in Confidential Attachment – Under Separate Cover. Congratulations to those volunteers for their medals and thank you for your service.

The Restricted Burning period commenced on 2nd November 2025. The Prohibited Burning period commenced on 15th December 2025 and concluded 10th April 2026. The Restricted Burning period concluded on 8th May 2026.

There were 34 infringements issued to property owners that failed to comply with the Fire Protection Order; another 81 warnings were issued for incomplete compliance.

The Shire of Dardanup received a letter of appreciation from the Shire of Boddington regarding the Newmont Goldmine Bushfire and the Boddington Complex fires during the recent summer season – letter provided in (Appendix BFAC: 8.12.1B).

8.12.2 Mitigation Activity Fund

The Western Australian government has established the Mitigation Activity Fund Grants Program (MAFGP) to reduce bushfire hazards that present a high risk to assets throughout the State. The program supports local governments with endorsed Bushfire Risk Management Plans to treat bushfire risk in their communities on State land that they manage.

The Shire has been granted \$612,720 to fund 85 bushfire mitigation treatments over 3 years to mid-2028. The 3-year program should enable a little more flexibility with treatment scheduling. Table 1 shows the status of those treatments as of 7 April 2026.

Table 1: Treatment counts

	<i>Not commenced</i>	<i>Commenced</i>	<i>Completed</i>
Mechanical	27	6	0
Chemical	29	4	0
Access track	12	1	0
Access gate	1	0	0
Planned burn	2	1	0
Maintain firebreak	2	0	0

Please note all these treatments are over the 3-year period, not all to be completed this year.

8.12.3 Bush Fire Brigade Operating Procedures

The Bush Fire Brigade Operating Procedures (formerly referred to as the Handbook) has been awaiting Bush Fire Advisory Committee endorsement since the October 2025 meeting. Recently the procedures were edited by Brigades, resulting in a new draft distributed with this agenda. (Appendix BFAC: 8.12.2).

The Officer is now seeking advice from the Bushfire Advisory Committee on the fate of the Operating Procedures.

Discussion:

Mr Neil Dyer raised concern, and the Committee discussed the proposed Bushfire Brigade Operating Procedures and the inclusion of references to Council Policies AP022 and AP025.

The Committee discussed concerns regarding the inclusion of these policies within the Operating Procedures, noting that both policies require further review and consultation with the relevant BFAC committee members before being incorporated into the final document.

It was agreed that AP022 and AP025 should be removed from the Operating Procedures at this time and referred for separate review.

The Committee also discussed the importance of reviewing the Operating Procedures following implementation to ensure they remain fit for purpose and reflect operational requirements across the brigades.

Mr Neil Dywer proposed the following motion for Committee consideration.

BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

BFAC 07 – 26 Moved: Mr Neil Dyer

Seconded: Cr. R Trevathan

THAT the Bush Fire Advisory Committee recommend that Council:

- 1 Adopts the Bush Fire Brigade Operating Procedures as provide for in (Appendix BFAC 8.12.2) with the following amendments.**
 - **Removal of reference to Council Administration Policy AP022 – Fitness for Work.**
 - **Removal of reference to Council Administration Policy AP025 – Discipline**
- 2. Request that polices AP022 – Fitness for Work and AP025 - Discipline be reviewed by the Shire of Dardanup and the Bushfire Advisory Committee and brought back to the Bushire Fire Advisory committee for further considerations.**
- 3. Following Council adoption of the Bush Fire Brigades Operating Procedure – (Appendix BFAC: 8.12.2 and with amendments as per resolution 1) within 12 months of the adoption, a review of the document be made and any amendments be brought back to the Bushfire Advisory Committee meeting for further consideration and endorsement.**

CARRIED

8.12.4 Fire Prevention Order

The Fire Prevention Order is a standing agenda item at each June meeting of the committee.

There has been no indication that the order requires updating. A copy of last year's order, with years amended, is below for the committee's endorsement.

The Shire's media team may consider re-formatting to align with the Shire's new style templates.

Discussion:

The BFAC members discussed the proposed Restricted Burning Times and Prohibited Burning Times for the 2025/26 fire season, including the importance of maintaining alignment with neighbouring local governments where practicable.

BFAC members noted that neighbouring Shires have largely aligned burning period dates, with only minor differences relating to the interpretation of commencement and cessation times. It was emphasised that all declared dates remain subject to seasonal conditions and may be amended as required.

The importance of clear and timely communication to the community regarding changes to burning periods, permit requirements and ongoing restrictions within townsites was highlighted. BFAC members noted that public messaging should clearly state that advertised dates are subject to change and ensure residents understand any continuing restrictions that may remain in place.

The BFAC members also discussed the online burn permit application system. Several BFAC members noted the value of direct engagement between Fire Control Officers (FCOs) and permit applicants, particularly in assessing site-specific risks, providing advice and building community relationships. Concerns were also raised regarding public understanding of brigade boundaries and permit zones, resulting in some applications being directed to the incorrect FCO.

It was suggested that additional information, including mapping of brigade areas and permit zones, be considered to improve public understanding and streamline the permit application process.

The Committee agreed that further discussion would be held between the Fire Control officers and the Shire of Dardanup on the further use of the online system.

BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

BFAC 08-26

MOVED - Cr. T Gardiner

SECONDED – Mr Rob Drennan

THAT the Bushfire Advisory Committee recommend that Council adopt and advertise the 2026-2027 Shire of Dardanup Fire Prevention Order pursuant to Section 33(1) of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*.



2026-2027 FIRE PREVENTION ORDER

FIRST AND FINAL NOTICE

With reference to Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954, you are required to carry out fire prevention work on land owned or occupied by you, in accordance with the provisions of this order.

This order is valid for the period 1 July – 30 June annually.

Work must be completed by the 30 November annually and maintained until the close of the entire Restricted and Prohibited Burning Periods.

PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY

If you do not understand this notice, please contact Emergency and Ranger Services (08) 9724 0000 or your local Fire Control Officer.

Persons who fail to comply with the requirements of the order may be issued with an infringement notice penalty (\$250) or prosecuted with an increased penalty (maximum penalty \$5,000).

Additionally, the Shire of Dardanup may carry out the required work at cost to the owner/occupier.

RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD

No fire to be lit without first obtaining a Burning Permit

2 November 2026

to

14 December 2026

(this period may be subject to change)

PROHIBITED BURNING PERIOD

No fire to be lit during this period

15 December 2026

to

14 March 2027

RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD

No fire to be lit without first obtaining a Burning Permit

15 March 2027

to

8 May 2027

(this period may be subject to change)

NOTE: The Shire of Dardanup Chief Bush Fire Control Officer may vary the dates of the Restricted and Prohibited burn periods depending on the bushfire risk within the shire.

It is recommended that you check with your local Fire Control Officer if unsure of any restrictions that may have been applied.

REGISTER YOUR BURN WITH DFES

Please remember to register ANY burn you plan to undertake at ANY time of the year with DFES on (08) 9395 9209

By notifying DFES, you will assist in preventing unnecessary call-outs of our local fire brigades when member of the public call 000

FIRE PREVENTION WORKS

The fire prevention work required on land is dependant on the land use as defined in this Notice. Should you be unsure of the category your land is classified as, please contact your local Fire Control Officer.

The specific requirements for each of the defined land types referred to in this Notice is as follows:

RESIDENTIAL LAND

All flammable material/vegetation (except living shrubs and trees) **MUST** be maintained to a height that does not exceed 40 millimetres and all piles of flammable material are to be removed from the land.

SMALL HOLDINGS (Rural Residential)

A firebreak (as defined) must be installed immediately inside and along all property boundaries, 2 metres in width and 4 metres in height.

The firebreak may only deviate from a boundary up to 6 metres to avoid established trees and/or other natural features that would make it impractical to be installed on the boundary.

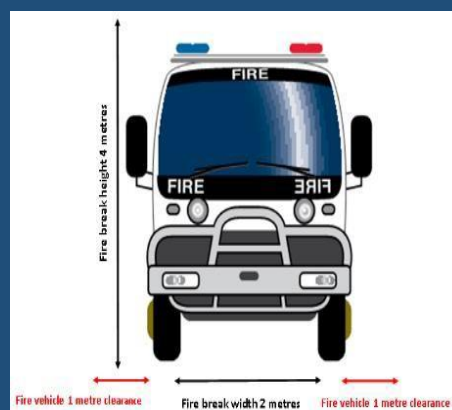
A 20 metre Asset Protection Zone (as defined) **MUST** be slashed to a height that does not exceed 80 millimetres and be free of all flammable material, vegetation (dead trees and branches) surrounding dwellings, sheds and all haystacks.

All land on the Lot but outside the Asset Protection Zone (excluding the firebreak) that is not being actively grazed and or managed is to be maintained to a height not exceeding 100 millimetres.

Hardstands formed access ways and reticulated turf not exceeding a height of 40 millimetres and maintained in a green state may negate the need to install a firebreak in that area.

BURN PILES can be kept and are approved if they are no closer than 20 metres from any structure

FIREWOOD PILES can be kept but are to be stored away from a dwelling during the

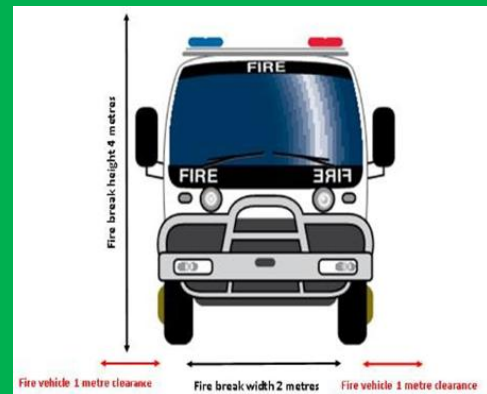


Restricted and Prohibited burning periods.

LARGE HOLDINGS (Agriculture and General Farming)

NON-IRRIGATED LAND

A vehicle access track 4 metres in width which must include a 2-metre wide, and 4 metres high fire break (as defined) shall be installed immediately inside and along the lot boundary where it adjoins a road or railway reserve.



The firebreak may only deviate from the boundary, up to 6 metres to avoid established trees or other natural features that would make it impractical to install a firebreak at that location.

IRRIGATED LAND (as defined)

Firebreaks are NOT required on irrigated land that is being actively and regularly irrigated throughout the entire Restricted and Prohibited burning periods.

Irrigation channels that are situated inside and along a lot boundary will be accepted as a firebreak provided the irrigation channel is utilized on that property throughout the entire Restricted and Prohibited burning periods.

GENERAL NOTE

BURN PILES can be kept and are approved if they are no closer than 20 metres from any structure. **All FIREWOOD PILES** can be kept but are to be stored away from a dwelling during the Restricted and Prohibited burning periods.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Where land is not actively grazed or maintained for the duration of the Restricted and Prohibited burning periods, a Fire Control Officer may require the landowner to undertake mitigation works to reduce the risk of bushfire. These works may include:

- the installation of a vehicle access track 4 metres in width which includes a 2-metre wide and 4-metre-high firebreak as defined immediately inside and along all property boundaries; and/or
- The reduction of all flammable material including grass across the property to a height not exceeding 100 millimetres; and/or
- Undertake specific fire mitigation works as considered appropriate by the Fire Control Officer.

MIXED BUSINESS, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL LAND

- All flammable material/vegetation (except living trees) MUST be slashed or grazed to a height that does not exceed 100 millimetres.
- Isolated flammable material such as dead tree and tree branches MUST be removed.
- BURN PILES can be kept and are approved if they are no closer than 20 metres from any structure.

PLANTATIONS

- Bare earth firebreaks of 15 metres in width and 4 metres in height must be maintained inside and along all boundaries of a plantation with 6-10-metre-wide internal firebreaks between compartments.
- Where power lines pass through plantation areas, firebreaks must be in accordance with Western Power specifications.

Information for all property owners/occupiers

- All properties must be compliant with the Fire Prevention Order by 30 November each year.
- An inspection of properties will be carried out in all areas of the Shire of Dardanup by an Authorised Officer from 1 December each year.
- Action will be taken for non-compliance with the Fire Prevention Order.
- Penalties will apply and the Shire of Dardanup may carry out the required work and charge the cost to the owner/occupier.
- When firebreak is created by spraying, it is recommended that they be sprayed by the end of August and re-applied as required to ensure the Firebreak remains complaint.

Firebreak variations/exemptions

If it is considered impractical for any reason to install a firebreak or remove flammable materials from any land as required by this Notice, you are required to make written application on an Approved Form to the Shire of Dardanup **no later than 30 September each year**.

This application shall include a plan detailing the alternative fire mitigation measures to be taken on the land. Prescribed Firebreak Variation/Exemption Forms are available from the Shire of Dardanup offices or by visiting the Shire of Dardanup website. If your application for a variation/exemption is not granted, you **must** comply with the requirements of this Order.

Burning Permits

Applications for burning permits are available from your local **Bush Fire Control Officer** at no cost. The local Bush Fire Control Officer will note the relevant conditions you must comply with on your burning permit. The Shire of Dardanup office will be notified of all permits issued.

Please note that Burning Permit is automatically invalidated on days of “high”, “extreme” or “catastrophic” fire danger rating.

Call DFES before you burn: To minimise the use of resources on unnecessary call outs, burns conducted outside the restricted burning period are encouraged to ‘Register your Burn’ with the Department of Fire and Emergency Service (DFES) Communications Centre on (08) 9395 9209,

immediately prior to commencing the burn.

Burning within townsites: No garden refuse is permitted to be burnt on the ground, in the open air or in an outdoor incinerator within the townsites of Dardanup, Eaton and Burekup at any time of the year unless a permit to burn has first been obtained from a Fire Control Officer. The issue of Permits in these areas is at the sole discretion of the Fire Control Officer.

All other privately owned land in the Shire of Dardanup: the burning of garden refuse, campfires and cooking fires are prohibited during the **Prohibited Burning Period**.

The burning of garden refuse and campfires and cooking fires during the **Restricted Burning Period** are not permitted unless a Permit to Burn has first been obtained from a Fire Control Officer.

Solid Fuel Cooking Appliances

(pizza oven, outdoor barbeque and outdoor stove)

The use of a solid fuel cooking appliance (appliance) is permitted without a permit on privately owned land within the Shire of Dardanup during the **Prohibited and Restricted Burning Periods** subject to the following conditions:

- The appliance is located on privately owned property;
- The Fire Danger Rating is Moderate or lower;
- The burn is registered with DFES prior to ignition;
- The appliance is fitted with an effective spark arrestor (where applicable);
- Flammable materials within 2 metres of the appliance is removed;
- Water is available on-site and readily accessible; and
- A responsible adult is in attendance throughout and until the fire is extinguished.

Fire Pits

The use of a fire pit may occur within the shire of Dardanup without a permit if it is in accordance with the applicable conditions for an appliance and

- the Fire Pit is constructed from brick, stone or metal that fully encloses the fire to a height of no less than 300mm; and
- the total diameter of the pit does not exceed 1 metre.

The lighting of a fire and the use of a fire pit or solid fuel appliance as above in a public place may only be done with the prior consent of the competent Authority responsible for that land

**Use of Solid Fuel Cooking appliances and Fire Pits are
PROHIBITED
during a
TOTAL FIRE BAN**

Definitions: For the purpose of this Notice the following definitions apply:

Asset Protection Zone (APZ): Asset protection zones are a low fuel area surrounding a building and is designed to minimise the likelihood of flame contact and the effect of radiant heat on buildings. The asset protection zone must extend to a minimum of 20 metres from a building and be free from all flammable material. If there are large or trees overhanging a building in the asset protection zone,

having them pruned by a professional contactor should be considered.

Authorised Officer: A person appointed by the Shire of Dardanup as a Bush Fire Control Officer.

Bushfire Management Plans: A “Bushfire Management Plan” means a plan that has been developed by an accredited level 2 or 3 bushfire planning practitioner and approved by the Shire of Dardanup to reduce and/or mitigate fire hazards within a subdivision, lot or other area of land within the district. Properties with an approved Bushfire Management Plan must comply with its conditions as well as this Notice.

Commercial land: Means land located within a commercial or industrial subdivision whether developed or not, that may be used for the purpose of providing goods or services on a large scale.

Firebreak: A firebreak is an area of land that has been cleared of all trees, bushes, grasses and any other object or thing which may be flammable, leaving a surface of bare mineral earth. Firebreaks must be constructed immediately inside and along all property boundaries. Firebreaks provide safer access for landowners and fire appliances to conduct fire suppression activities.

Industrial land: Means land located within a commercial or industrial subdivision, whether developed or not, that may be used for the purpose of undertaking commercial works of a large scale or to produce goods or services.

Irrigated land: Means agricultural land on a Large Holding that is regularly watered and maintained in a non-flammable state for the whole of the restricted and prohibited burning periods.

Large holdings: Means a lot or combination of lots that has a total area of more than 5 hectares and where the intended purpose of the land is for agricultural purposes. Large Holdings may include one or more dwellings, structures for storage and maintenance and areas for tourist accommodation but do not include a plantation, industrial or commercial uses.

Mixed business: Means land on which a variety of smaller commercial or industrial activities may occur for the purpose of providing goods and services.

Residential land: Means land located within the townships of Eaton, Dardanup and Burekup and its use is not used mixed business, commercial or industrial.

Small holdings: Means a lot outside of an urban area that does not exceed 5 hectares and may include a residential dwelling, and outbuildings for minor agricultural activities.

Plantation: Means a stand of trees of 10 hectare or larger, that is established by sowing or planting of native or exotic tree species and managed intensively for their commercial and/or environmental value. A plantation includes roads, tracks, firebreaks and small areas of native vegetation surrounded by plantations. Plantations are expected to be harvested, as implied by this definition

Bush Fire Control

It is the responsibility of all owners/occupiers to extinguish any uncontrolled fire that may be burning on their property, and it is recommended that all property owners secure and maintain some convenient and effective type of fire-fighting equipment.

NOTE should a Bushfire Brigade assist with a fire on private property and it is extinguished, it is the property owner(s) responsibility to ensure that the fire does not reignite.

For further information and to understand what activities are and are not permitted during a Total Fire Ban or Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban, please refer to the DFES Emergency WA website <https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/hazard-information/bushfire>

For more information regarding this Notice contact the Shire of Dardanup on (08) 9724 0000 or your local Fire Control Officer.

Interested in becoming involved in a volunteer bushfire brigade?

Why not join a Shire of Dardanup Volunteer Bush fire Brigade and learn how to prevent fires and be trained in fire fighting skills.

All volunteers are very welcome.

There are many dimensions to being a volunteer bush fire brigade member or cadet (11-16 years of age), as all are encouraged to choose the type of activities that best suit their capabilities and interest.

Being a volunteer is a rewarding experience. It is an opportunity to meet new people, learn new skills and provide assistance in protecting your community. Respecting others, working together as a team and acting with honesty and integrity are the values embraced by members.

If you are interested in being a volunteer bushfire fighter, please contact the:
Shire of Dardanup Emergency Management Officer (08) 9724 0347 or
Email brigade@dardanup.wa.gov.au

For all emergencies, please call 000



Fire Control Officers contact details:

Burekup District (Deputy CFCO North)	Mr Clay Rose	0429 194 735
Dardanup Central District	Mr Brendan Putt	0409 087 952
Eaton Townsite/District (Chief FCO)	Mr Chris Hynes	0428 825 496
Ferguson District	Mr Lyndon Skeers	0407 424 147
Joshua/Crooked Brook District	Mr Jeffrey Duncombe	0429 204 011
Upper Ferguson District	Mr Grant Ratcliffe	0419 865 483
Waterloo District (Deputy CFCO South)	Mr Robert Drennan	0427 263 243
Wellington Mills District	Mr Russell Harvie	0408 931 387

West Dardanup District	Mr Neil Dyer	0431 503 157
Fire Weather Officer	Mr Alan Charlton	0428 272 564
Shire of Dardanup	Mr Paul Sydney-Smith	(08) 9724 0000
Shire of Dardanup	Mr Dean Jolly	(08) 9724 0000
Shire of Dardanup		(08) 9724 0000

Register your mobile for SMS Messages

The Shire of Dardanup has implemented an SMS Notification Service for Total Fire Ban and Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans, as well as information relating to restricted/prohibited burning periods. When a Total Fire Ban or Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban is called, all mobile phones registered will receive an SMS directly to their mobile phone. This service is free. To subscribe please email your details to records@dardanup.wa.gov.au or phone Ranger Services on (08) 9724 0307.

Terms and conditions: *By subscribing to this service, you agree to receive SMS messages from the Shire of Dardanup regarding "Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans" and other bans imposed during the fire season. You accept that by subscribing to this service you will receive message for the current and future fire seasons. The Shire of Dardanup reserves the right to discontinue this service at any time. Any decision to discontinue this service will be advised via this SMS service. You accept that radio announcements are still the primary means of notification of bans. In the event of a discrepancy between this SMS service and an announcement on the radio, the latter shall prevail. You have the right to unsubscribe from this service at any time. To unsubscribe, please notify the Shire of Dardanup in writing via email records@dardanup.wa.gov.au. You accept that the Shire may from time to time use this SMS service to send other topical messages. If you have any enquires, please do not hesitate to contact the Shire of Dardanup during normal business hours on (08) 9724 0307.*

(08) 9724 0000
1 Council Drive / PO Box 7016
EATON WA 6232
records@dardanup.wa.gov.au

CARRIED

8.13 Title: Brigade Annual General Meeting Minutes

Brigades have conducted their Annual General Meetings (AGM) in accordance with the *Bushfire Local Law 2021*. The minutes from these meetings are tabled at this meeting.

Extract from *Bushfire Local Law 2021*:

s3.9 Minutes to be tabled before the Bush Fire Advisory Committee

The Secretary is to forward a copy of the minutes of the annual general meeting of a bush fire brigade to the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer within one month after the meeting.

The Chief Bush Fire Control Officer is to table the minutes of a bush fire brigade's annual general meeting at the next meeting of the –

(a) Bush Fire Advisory Committee; or

(b) Council, if there is no Bush Fire Advisory Committee, following their receipt under subclause (1).

Officers have provided copies of the minutes of the 2026 AGMs, and these can be found an (Appendix BFAC 8.13)

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

BFAC 09-26

MOVED – Mr Chris Hynes

SECONDED – Mr Brendon Putt

THAT the Bushfire Advisory Committee receives the 2026 Brigade Annual General Meeting Minutes (Appendix BFAC: 8.13) pursuant to *Bushfire Local Law 2021* section 3.9.

CARRIED

8.14 Title: Endorsement of Bushfire Control Officers (FCOs)

The election of all Bushfire Control Officers (FCOs) falls under Section 38 of the *Bush Fires Act* 1954.

Once the Fire Control Officers have been elected and formally endorsed by Council they will be publicly advertised in accordance with Section 38(2A) of the *Bush Fires Act* 1954.

The following officers have been nominated by their brigades as FCO's and now need to be endorsed by the Bushfire Advisory Committee: -

BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

BFAC 10-26 MOVED - Cr. T Gardiner

SECONDED – Cr. R Trevathan

THAT the Bushfire Advisory Committee recommend that Council endorse the following persons as Bushfire Control Officers for the period 01/07/2026 – 30/06/2027 pursuant to Section 38(1) of the *Bush Fires Act* 1954 and the persons to be advertised pursuant to Section 38(2a) of the *Bush Fires Act* 1954:

DISTRICT	OFFICER
Burekup District	Clay Rose
Dardanup Central District	Brendan Putt
Eaton Townsite/District	Chris Hynes
Ferguson District	Lyndon Skeers
Joshua/Crooked Brook District	Jeffrey Duncombe
Upper Ferguson District	Grant Ratcliffe
Waterloo District	Robert Drennan
Wellington Mills District	Russell Harvie
West Dardanup District	Neil Dyer

CARRIED

8.15 Title: Election of Chief Bushfire Control Officer

Nominations are to be called for the position of Chief Bushfire Control Officer.

BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

BFAC 11-26 MOVED – Mr Brendon Putt

SECONDED – Mr Neil Dyer

THAT the Bushfire Advisory Committee recommend that Council endorse the following person as Chief Bushfire Control Officer for the period 01/07/2026 – 30/06/2027:

- Mr Chris Hynes

CARRIED

8.16 Title: Election of Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer – (North)

Nominations are to be called for the position of Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer (North).

BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

BFAC 12-26 MOVED – Mr Rob Drennan SECONDED – Mr Lydon Skeers

THAT the Bushfire Advisory Committee recommend that Council endorse the following person as Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer (North) for the period 01/07/2026 – 30/06/2027:

- Mr Clay Rose

CARRIED

8.17 Title: Election of Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer – (South)

Nominations are to be called for the position of Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer (South).

BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

BFAC 13-26 MOVED – Mr Clay Rose SECONDED – Mr Bredon Putt

THAT the Bushfire Advisory Committee recommend that Council endorse the following person as Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer (South) for the period 01/07/2026– 30/06/2027:

- Mr Rob Derennan

CARRIED

8.18 Title: Election of Fire Weather Officer

Nominations are to be called for the position of Fire Weather Officer in accordance with the provisions of the Bush Fire Act.

Once the Fire Weather Officer has been elected and formally endorsed by Council it will be publicly advertised in accordance with Section 38(2A) of the *Bush Fires Act* 1954.

BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

BFAC 14-26 MOVED – Mr Chris Hynes SECONDED – Mr Rob Drennan

THAT the Bushfire Advisory Committee recommends that Council endorse the following person to the Bushfire Advisory Committee in the position of Fire Weather Officer for the period 01/07/2026 – 30/06/2027:

- Mr Alan Charlton

CARRIED

9. NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE

[Please Note: This is Not General Business – This is for Urgent Business Approved by the Person Presiding or by Decision. In cases of extreme urgency or other special circumstance, matters may, with the consent of the person presiding, or by decision of the members present, be raised without notice and decided by the meeting.]

10. CLOSURE OF MEETING.

The Chairperson advised that the date of the next Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting is to be Wednesday, 7 October 2026.

There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 8:13pm.