

From The Chief Officer.....



Number 105

"Our mission is to protect lives and property"

30th January 2014

Section 29 – Enhancements

Plans are underway to expand the Section 29 Online Inspection Reporting system to include Group Inspections and a Brigade Feedback section commencing 1st July 2014. A trial version of each has been developed in the form of an online questionnaire and will run from 1st January until 31st March 2014. The Brigade Feedback section aims to capture key viability challenges faced by brigades now and in to the future. Information collected will be used to determine the best way to support catchment teams to assist brigades. All brigades are encouraged to participate in the trial which can be completed along with your Section 29 Inspection report or stand-alone, via this link: <http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/1469610/S29-Brigade-Feedback-Trial>. The Group Inspection trial has been based on the various paper based reports currently in use across the state. It can be accessed via the following link:

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/1463182/Section-29-Group-Inspection>. Districts and Inspecting Officers are encouraged to participate in the Group Inspection and Brigade Feedback Trials and also advise Brigades of the opportunity to contribute their feedback.

Fire & Emergency Management Training Strategy Survey

The CFA Board approved the new Fire and Emergency Management (F&EM) Training Strategy in June 2013 and released the strategy to members the following month. Since then, Operational Training and Volunteerism has been working hard to deliver on a range of Strategy actions and develop a baseline for measuring performance. **All members are now invited** to respond to a Training Strategy Implementation Survey. The Survey results will be used to set a performance baseline and targets against the six agreed Strategy outcomes. Please take **5 minutes** to [complete the Survey](#) and help CFA measure performance against the Strategy. The Strategy, and a hard copy of the survey, can be downloaded from [Brigades Online](#) (Training > Strategy > F&EM Training Strategy). The survey will be open until 31 March 2014.

Electronic Fire Danger Rating Signs

Across the state 63 electronic Fire Danger Rating signs have been installed to provide fire danger information on high traffic roads leading into summer fire risk locations. The daily operation of these signs is fully automated from the CFA website. An update connection occurs every 20 minutes to ensure any information displayed is current. The signs are solar powered with dual battery backup to ensure continued operation. On a daily basis, only the highlighted LED that reflects the risk for that fire weather district will be illuminated. The message panel will only be activated for a total fire ban day, code red event or local incident. The District Rostered Duty Officer, State Duty Officer or L3 Incident Controller are authorised to activate the message panel. The use of this type of technology is new to emergency services. At this stage no further electronic signs are planned. This will allow us time to fully test the durability of the technology over an extended time period.

The Integration of Science and Practice

The Bushfire CRC project "*A synthesis of disciplinary and stakeholder knowledge: Enhancing Emergency Management – A human factors perspective*" will review and distil 10 years of research dealing with human factors. This will include health and safety, volunteer, decision making and other related research in order to ensure the human factors components of incident management are well informed, evidence based and practical. The research team will work closely with AFAC to ensure that the outcomes meet industry needs and will engage with nominated agency personnel for their input along the way. The project is scheduled to be completed by the end of June 2014.

"When you're finished changing, you're finished."

-Benjamin Franklin