



Bush Fire Advisory Committee Minutes

14 March 2017

**Community Resource Centre, Meeting Room 1, 21 Cammilleri Street, Busselton
on Tuesday 14 March 2017, commencing at 7.30pm.**

CITY OF BUSSELTON

**MINUTES FOR THE BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD ON
14 March 2017**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM NO.	SUBJECT	PAGE NO.
1.	Declaration of Opening	2
2.	Attendance and Apologies	2
3.	Disclosure of Interests	3
4.	Confirmation of Minutes	3
4.1	Confirmation of Minutes From Meeting Held 13 December 2016	3
5.	Presentations	3
5.1	Bushfire Protection Solutions (Devlin Reidy- Crofts)	3
6.	Business Before the Committee	3
7.	Officer/Delegate Reports	3
7.1	City of Busselton RESC (Ian McDowell)	5-6
7.2	Department of Fire and Emergency Services/City of Busselton (Peter Stark)	7-9
7.3	Department of Parks and Wildlife (Jeremy Friend)	10-11
7.4	DFES Lower South West (Danny Mosconi)	12
8.	Matters of Urgency	4
9.	Occupational Health & Safety (OH&S)	4
10.	Next Meeting	4
11.	Closure	4

CITY OF BUSSELTON**MINUTES – 14 MARCH 2017****1. DECLARATION OF OPENING AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS**

The Chairperson, Allan Guthrie declared the meeting open at 7.34pm

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**Present**

Allan Guthrie	Chief Bushfire Control Officer
Robert Reekie	Councillor, City of Busselton
Barton Hatherly	Fire Control Officer, Dunsborough BFB
Todd Johnson	Fire Control Officer, Ruabon BFB
Peter Dawson	Fire Control Officer, Vasse BFB
Chris Payne	Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer, Kaloorup District BFB
Doug Walters	Fire Control Officer, North Acton Park BFB
Ian McGregor	Fire Control Officer, South Acton Park BFB
Mark Smith	Fire Control Officer, Sussex BFB
Paul Blight	Fire Control Officer, Yallingup Coastal BFB
Mark Fisher	Fire Control Officer, Yallingup Rural BFB
Mark Jolliffe	FCO, Wilyabrup BFB

In Attendance

Tanya Gillett	Manager- Environmental Services
Ian McDowell	Ranger & Emergency Services Coordinator
Sharee Glover	Administration Officer
Jeremy Friend	Department of Parks and Wildlife
Danny Mosconi	Department of Fire and Emergency Services
Peter Stark	RESC – City of Busselton
Mal Ballard	Captain Dunsborough BFB
David Hunt	Yallingup Rural BFB member

Apologies

Andrew Hunt	Fire Control Officer, Dunsborough BFB
Colin Sanderson	Fire Control Officer, Eagle Bay BFB
Oscar Negus	Deputy Chief Bushfire Control Officer, Hithergreen BFB
Ray Fokkema	FCO, Metricup BFB
Mark Standish	Fire Control Officer, Yallingup Rural BFB
Ian Slee	Fire Control Officer, Yoongarillup BFB

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Nil

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**4.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM MEETING HELD 13 DECEMBER 2016**

Moved: Chris Payne

Seconded: Peter Dawson

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING

Nil

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Bushfire Protection Solutions (Devlin Reidy-Crofts)

6. BUSINESS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

Nil

7. OFFICER/DELEGATE REPORTS

Attachment 7.1 - City of Busselton RESC Report (Ian McDowell)

Attachment 7.2 - Department of Fire and Emergency Services/City of Busselton (Peter Stark)

Attachment 7.3 - Department of Parks and Wildlife (Jeremy Friend)

Attachment 7.4 – DFES Lower South West (Danny Mosconi)

Officer Recommendation

1. The committee receives the following reports and notes the comments therein:

- a) City of Busselton Ranger & Emergency Services Coordinator
- b) Department of Fire and Emergency Services/City of Busselton
- c) Department of Parks and Wildlife
- d) DFES Lower South West

8. MATTERS OF URGENCY

NIL

9. OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY (OH&S)

NIL

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 13 JUNE 2017 at 7:30pm TBC location and will be an AGM.

11. CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 8.33pm.

Attachment 1

Attachment 7.1 Report to the City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) meeting to be held on 14 March 2017

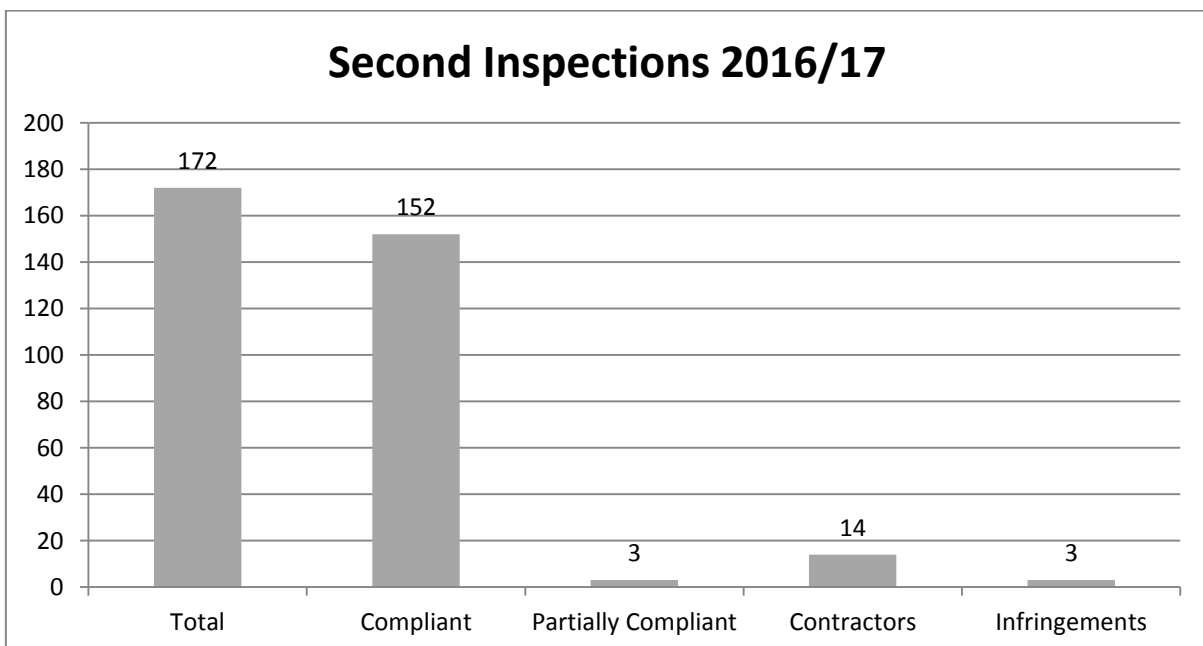
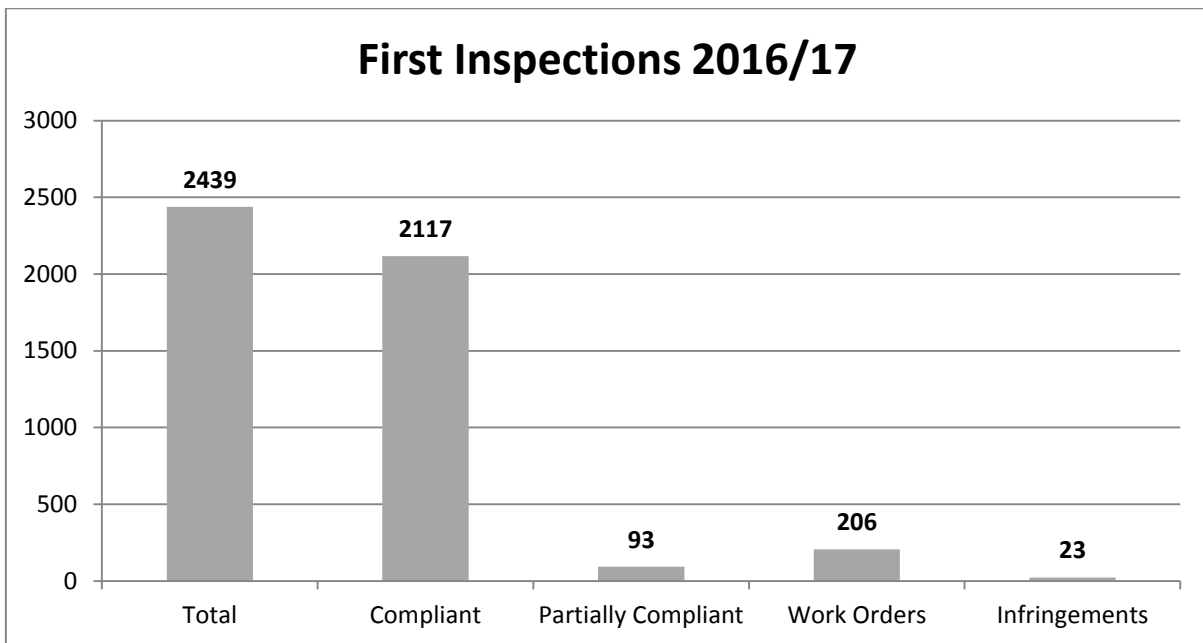
Agency: City of Busselton

Officer Representing: Ranger & Emergency Services Coordinator, Ian McDowell

Matters to be discussed:

1. Annual Fire Inspections

The focus of the annual fire break inspection program has been properties in high bushfire prone areas. The following is a graphical representation of the inspections as at 4 March 2017.



2. Yallingup Parking Review – Emergency Services Vehicle Access

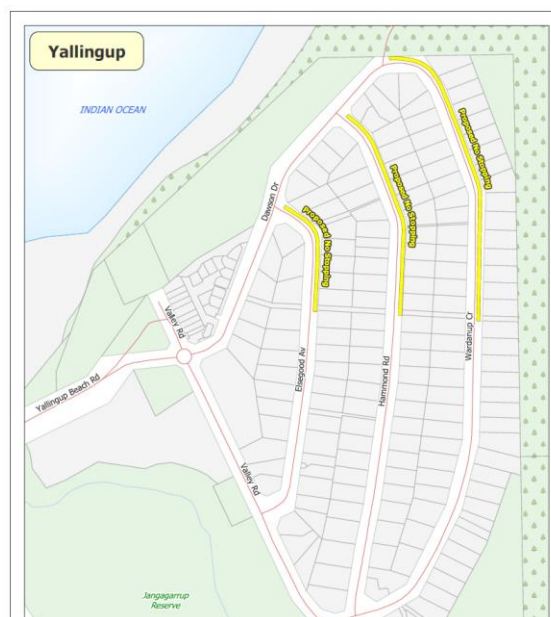
In March 2016 the City received a letter from DFES expressing concerns regarding on street parking in the Yallingup townsite. The letter, which was co-signed by representatives of other emergency services (WAPOL, St John Ambulance, and the Yallingup Coastal Bush Fire Brigade) expressed concerns that current on street parking arrangements may obstruct access for emergency services vehicles during an emergency incident.



The City developed some proposed parking controls, no stopping on the western sides of Elsegood Avenue, Hammond Road, and Wardanup Crescent for public consultation. The results of the consultation were inconclusive however, following the consultation process concerns were raised that parking controls along the entire lengths of the three streets were not warranted, and that it is mainly the northern end of the streets that are congested during peak periods.

The City has since consulted with DFES, the Bush Fire Brigade, WAPOL, and the residents association to determine a solution for the problem. As a result of this consultation it is proposed that no parking controls (a yellow line) be installed along the western sides of Elsegood Avenue, Hammond Road, and Wardanup Crescent from Dawson Drive to the Public Access Way.

The proposed parking controls are subject to the approval of Council.



Attachment 2**Attachment 7.2 Report to the City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) meeting to be held on 14 March 2017**

Agency: City of Busselton / DFES

Officer Representing: Peter Stark, Acting Community Emergency Service Manger (CESM)

Matters to Report:**1) eAcademy**

- Improvements have continued to be made on the eAcademy and volunteer portal, including those who have multiple registrations being able to select which supervisor they wish to forward their pathway or course request to. Note that the default supervisor is DO Capes and he has received so many requests, he has been forced to reject them to encourage crew members to use the drop down list to find the more suitable supervisor.
- Before you enter the DFES eAcademy, please check a number of enhancements have occurred or are occurring that you need to know about. Many members are not doing this and subsequent enquiries to brigade training officers, CESM's and Regional Training Coordinators is diverting them from tasks which would be more beneficial to volunteers.
- Note that users of Hotmail, msn.com or live.com email accounts will NOT receive any eAcademy email confirmations via these services and MUST check their Inbox within eAcademy for any pathway or course registration confirmations.

2) Training

- The City training calendar has been entered into eAcademy and all members can now access all local courses that have been finalised. A previous restriction that only displayed courses 6 weeks before it was scheduled, has been removed. i.e. Members can now enrol for any local course throughout the year.
- Development of a Training Themes Calendar is in progress, which will provide Brigade training officers with an annual guide and resources to assist them in running timely and relevant training within their brigades. When complete, it will be distributed to all Brigades along with some relevant training resources and exercises on a thumb drive.

3) New Appliance Deliveries

- In recent weeks we have taken delivery of a new 3.4U for Sussex brigade and a new LT for Dunsborough brigade.
- Sussex 3.4U had an abnormally large number of defects ranging from minimal to significant and as a result, it was returned to Frontline Fire on 1st March for remedial work. Sussex continue to use their 2.4 in the interim.
- Dunsborough's LT was to replace their old LT and is in full service, albeit with an incorrect selcall number, for which a ticket has been lodged for correction.

4) Security alarms at fire stations

- Yoongarillup station was broken into again around 25th February with damage to an external and internal gyprock wall, and a number of smaller items stolen.
- The quotation process for monitored alarm systems is complete and installation at the initial 7 stations will commence with 14 days. Another 5 stations are due to receive alarm installations in the new financial year.
- Brigades receiving alarms systems in the first round will be contacted shortly.

5) Out of District Fires.

- Local brigade members continue to support other districts with crews of various appliances assisting at the Gwindinup and Rosa Brook fires.
- A request for debrief comments was made but none received.

6) Busselton 12.2 Shed

- The shed is now complete and now housing the 12.2. Part of the construction also included extension to the compacted gravel parking area to accommodate more vehicles. Thanks to support from local businesses and 12.2 volunteers, a concrete apron and ramp were also added.
- An informal opening is being planned for local brigade members and suppliers who made Donations to its construction.

7) Mental Health

- The volunteer portal now has a specific Mental Health First Aid page which provides details on the new Mental Health First Aid course. This course will be progressively rolled out to DFES staff and volunteers. Most brigades would benefit from having at least one MHFA trained member and ICV crew are aiming to have at least one available per shift.
- The DFES Wellness Branch and Workers Compensation & Injuries Branch are visiting the area this Friday evening to increase awareness and understanding of stress, mental health and support services available to volunteers AND their families.

8) Meelup Mallee

- This region hosts a critically rare plant – the 6500 year Meelup mallee. As part of a recent management plan revision, the management committee have released its location and fire management plan to fire services in an attempt to prevent the mallee from extinction during a fire event in the Meelup area. A short presentation will be made to highlights its location and fire management plan to FCO's.

9) Steiner School Visit

- Following up on FCO Peter Dawson's request regarding a fire management plan for the Carburnup Steiner School, we can report the following:
- The activity at the Carburnup hall is in fact a playgroup two mornings per week and as such means a parent is always with each child.
- DO Cape Danny Mosconi visited the site and was satisfied that multiple escape routes were available.
- Danny Mosconi and A/CESM Peter Stark visited Steiner School in Yallingup to review their bush fire management plan and school preparedness in the event of a bushfire event.
- As a result, a series of recommendations and additional material has been made available to the Steiner School to allow them to enhance their preparedness. A copy of this materials has been sent to FCO's Peter Dawson and Mark Fisher.
- The principal of the Steiner School has acknowledged the receipt of these recommendations.
- DFES have offered to also take part in their school evacuation exercises when they are scheduled.

10) Many thanks

- I wish to thank all the volunteers and City of Busselton staff for their unending support during the time Tim has been away. At times it has been an intense experience, but has given me skills that I will take back to 'volunteer land'.

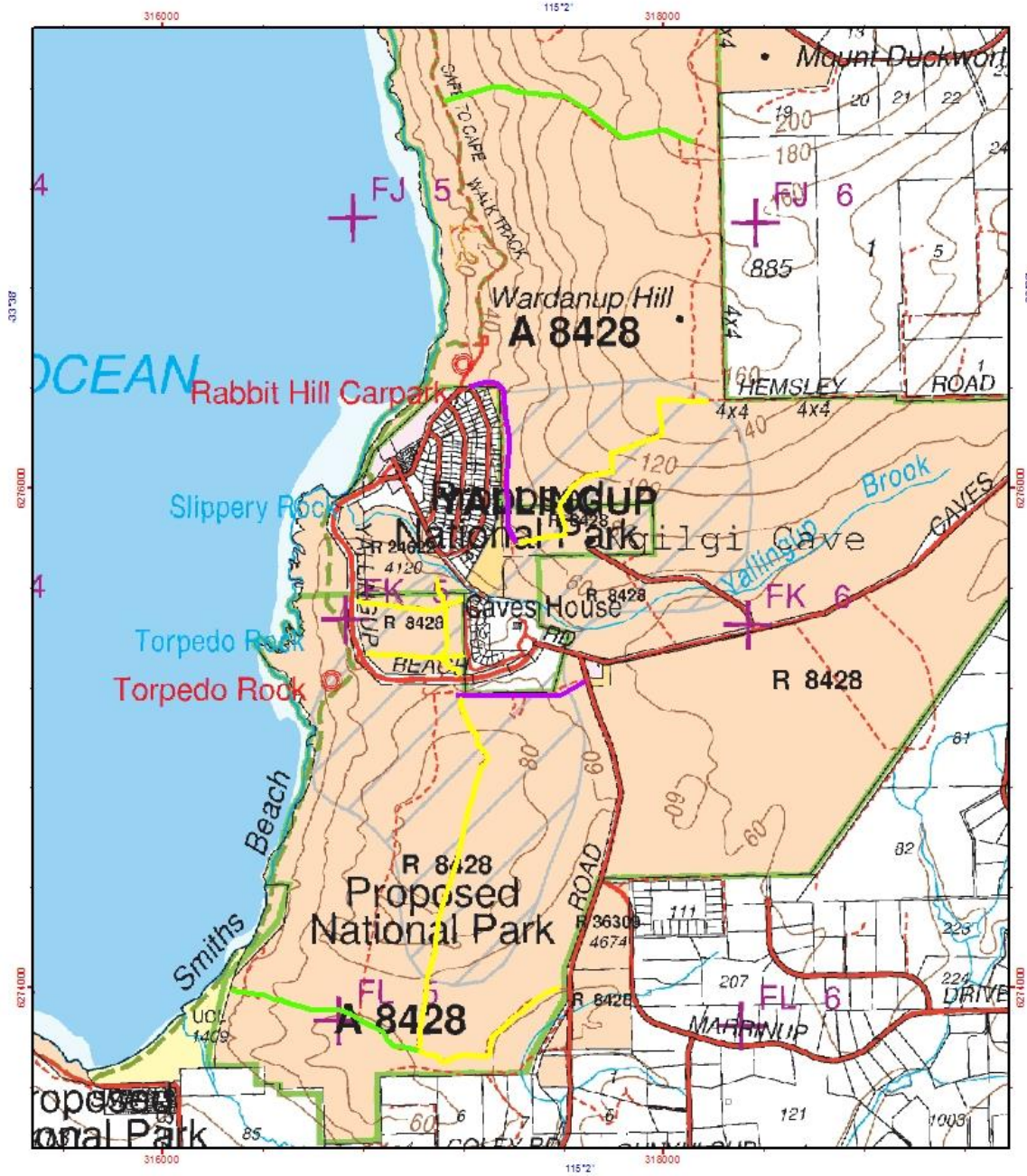
Attachment 3**Attachment 7.3 Report to City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting to be held on 14 March 2017**

Agency: Department of Parks and Wildlife (Blackwood District)

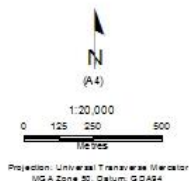
Officer Representing: Jeremy Friend

Matters to be discussed:

- Blackwood District attended 47 fires (07/03/2017).
- Planning and boundary preparation well underway for Autumn 2017.
 - 10 ha cell east of Yallingup (BWD_076) considered priority for Autumn
 - As at 27/02/2017, Parks and Wildlife have undertaken prescribed burning activities covering approximately 173,000ha within the 3 Forest Regions
- Blackwood District was successful in gaining a grant under the National Bushfire Mitigation Program to undertake additional mechanical fuel management around Yallingup. This will further enhance the areas that are maintained annually around the townsite. We are waiting on final reports from environmental checks. Intent to start the machine work in April/May 2017 (DRAFT alignments highlighted below)



- Additional 10m of parkland clearing
- Vertical prune and horizontal to existing disturbance
- Widen additional 10m



Produced by the Department of Parks and Wildlife



Roads and tracks on land managed by DPAW may contain unmarked hazards and their surface condition is variable. Exercise caution and drive to conditions on all roads.

The Dept. of Parks and Wildlife does not guarantee that this map is without fault of any kind and disclaims all liability for any errors, loss or other consequence which may arise from relying on any information depicted.

Attachment 4**Attachment 7.4 Report to City of Busselton Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting to be held on 14th March 2017**

Agency: DFES Lower South West

Officer Representing: Danny Mosconi

Matters to be discussed:

DFES Lower South West Report – Busselton BFAC

Wednesday, 1 March 2017

1:58 PM

- Been acting Superintendent - 7 months last year while John Tillman was acting in Great Southern Region;
- Thank all volunteers for their attendance at fires across the Shire. Also thanks for support to fires outside of the Shire;
- Comprehensive Impact Assessment vs Initial Impact Assessment - currently working with Office of Emergency Management to draft up a template for an Initial Impact Assessment;
- Area Officer Andy Wright met with Ian McDowell and reps from Yallingup Residents Association to discuss traffic management in mid-February;
- After last BFAC, I contacted DFES media to see if they could promote a story on the use of drones and the dangers associated with drones over a fireground. This story was run in a number of local newspapers - see link below
<http://www.margaretrivermail.com.au/story/4406508/dfes-urges-drone-users-to-not-become-a-firefighting-menace/?cs=289>
- New position within DFES has been created (after Keelty), District Officer Emergency Management. Key roles still being finalised but will focus on testing procedures, state policy and testing/implementation, EM arrangements, etc.;
- National Volunteer Week May 8-14;
- On 4th May, Busselton VFRS will be hosting an International Firefighters Day Memorial Service. International FF Day commemorates those firefighters that have died in the course of
- Tuesday 7th March, a professional aviation firefighter from Perth Airport will be visiting the Busselton VFRS station to present on Aircraft Hazards. LG and WAPOL have been invited. DFES has been working on an Operational Pre-plan that will be discussed on the night;
- On 16th Feb, A/CESM Peter Stark and myself met with the Principal and staff at the Steiner School in Yallingup to provide advice on their preparedness and assist with a Bushfire Plan. DFES has also offered to assist with an Evacuation Drill the school should be undertaking; and
- DFES Superintendent LSW John Tillman - awarded Australian Fire Service Medal on Australia Day.