

Suggested Questions for Inquiry into Summer Bushfires

1. Can you identify yourself and your relationship with the region.
2. When did you first become aware of the presence of the fires?
3. How did you hear about the fires?
4. At the time of hearing about the fires, at what distance / how many hours or days were the fires from your location?
5. Can you describe your response to hearing about the fires?
6. What preparations had you already made.
7. What preparations did you then make to respond to the emergency?
8. Did you have sufficient personal resources to manage the situation?
9. Did you or your family evacuate?
10. Did you make an effort to contact local emergency service personnel?
11. Were there additional resources to hand? Can you describe the nature and value of those resources?
12. Can you briefly describe your experience encountering the fire?
13. Can you briefly describe your experience of relationship with emergency services personnel, volunteers, friends or neighbours?
14. Are you a part of the local emergency services in any capacity? Please describe.
15. Do you have specialist skills or training to handle emergencies in any capacity?
16. Do you have special equipment, resources including communications equipment that will be
17. Did the fire directly affect your person, family property or business?
18. Did the fire indirectly affect your person, family, property or business?
19. Can you identify the nature of the impact and *quantify* any losses to your person, family, property or business.
20. Did you feel adequately supported before, during and after the emergency?
21. Do you think that the loans / grants / support are appropriate for the emergency. Is there anything you would do instead of the recovery plans put in place?
22. Is there anything you can see that needs improving in any aspect of the response to emergency?
23. Do you have anything further to add or comments that you feel are important to make about the onset, nature of management of the fires?
24. Were there any positive outcomes from the experience for you or your family?

Thank you for your response and cooperation.