

SHIRE OF YORK
BUSH FIRE BRIGADES LOCAL LAW 2024

BUSH FIRES ACT 1954

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995

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BUSH FIRES ACT 1954
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995

SHIRE OF YORK

BUSH FIRE BRIGADES LOCAL LAW 2024

Under the powers conferred by the *Bush Fires Act 1954* and under all other powers enabling it, the Council of the Shire of York resolved on [24 September 2024] to make the following local law.

PART 1 - PRELIMINARY

1.1 Citation

This local law may be cited as the Shire of York Bush Fire Brigades Local Law 2024.

1.2 Definitions

(1) In this local law unless the context otherwise requires –

“**Act**” means the *Bush Fires Act 1954*;

“**brigade area**” is defined in clause 2.2(1)(b);

“**brigade member**” means any member referred to in clause 4.1;

“**brigade officer**” means a person holding a position referred to in clause 2.2 (1)(c), whether or not he or she was appointed by the local government or elected at an annual general meeting of a bush fire brigade or otherwise appointed to the position;

“**bush fire brigade**” is defined in section 7 of the Act;

“**Bush Fire Operating Procedures**” means the Bush Fire Operating Procedures adopted by the local government as amended from time to time;

“**CEO**” means the Chief Executive Officer of the Shire of York;

“**Council**” means the Council of the local government;

“**Department**” means the Department of Fire and Emergency Services of Western Australia;

“**district**” means the district of the local government;

“**firefighting member**” means a registered operational member of a brigade and is defined in clause 4.2;

“**local government**” means the Shire of York;

“**normal brigade activities**” is defined by section 35A of the Act “**Regulations**” means Regulations made under the Act; and

“**Rules**” means the Rules Governing the Operation of Bush Fire Brigades set out in the First Schedule.

- (2) In this local law, unless the context otherwise requires, a reference to –
- (a) a Captain;
 - (b) a First Lieutenant;
 - (c) a Second Lieutenant;
 - (d) any additional Lieutenants;

means a person holding that position in a bush fire brigade.

1.3 Repeal

The By-Laws of the Shire of York relating to the establishment, maintenance and equipment of Bush Fire Brigades for the District of York, published in the Government Gazette on 21 March 1941 are repealed.

1.4 Application

This local law applies throughout the district.

1.5 Commencement

This local law comes into operation on the fourteenth (14th) day after the date of its publication in the *Government Gazette*.

PART 2 – ESTABLISHMENT OF BUSH FIRE BRIGADES

Division 1 – Establishment of a bush fire brigade

2.1 Establishment of a bush fire brigade

- (1) The local government may establish a bush fire brigade for the purpose of carrying out normal brigade activities.
- (2) A bush fire brigade is established on the date of the local government’s decision under subclause (1).

2.2 Name and officers of bush fire brigade

- (1) On establishing a bush fire brigade under clause 2.1(1) the local government is to –
 - (a) give a name to the bush fire brigade;
 - (b) specify the area in which the bush fire brigade is primarily responsible for carrying out the normal brigade activities (the “**brigade area**”); and
 - (c) appoint –
 - (i) a Captain;
 - (ii) a First Lieutenant;
 - (iii) a Second Lieutenant;
 - (iv) additional Lieutenants if the local government considers it necessary; and
 - (v) any other position deemed necessary for the effective management of brigade activities.

- (2) When considering the appointment of persons to the positions in subclause (1)(c), the local government is to have regard to the qualifications and experience which may be required to fill each position.
- (3) A person appointed to a position in subclause (1)(c) is to be taken to be a brigade member.
- (4) The appointments referred to in subclause (1)(c) expire at the completion of the first annual general meeting of the bush fire brigade.
- (5) An election is to be held at the first annual general meeting by the members of the bush fire brigade for appointments to the positions referred to in clause 2.2(1)(c) and every subsequent annual general meeting.
- (6) If a position referred to in subclause (1)(c) becomes vacant prior to the completion of the first annual general meeting, then the local government is to appoint a person to fill the vacancy in accordance with subclause (2)

Division 2 – Command at a fire

2.3 Ranks within the bush fire brigade

- (1) Where under the Act and Bush Fire Operating Procedures members of the bush fire brigade have command of a fire, unless a bushfire control officer is in attendance at the fire, the Captain has full control over other persons fighting the fire, and is to issue instructions as to the methods to be adopted by the firefighters. In the absence of the Captain, the first Lieutenant, and in the absence of the first, the second Lieutenant and so on, in the order of seniority determined, is to exercise all the powers and duties of the Captain.
- (2) Where a bushfire control officer is in attendance at a fire which the members of the bush fire brigade have command of under the Act and the Bush Fire Operating Procedures, the most senior ranked bushfire control officer has full control over other persons fighting the fire and is to issue instructions as to the methods to be adopted by the fire fighters.

Division 3 – Application of Rules to a bush fire brigade

2.4 Rules

- (1) The Rules govern the operation of a bush fire brigade.
- (2) A bush fire brigade and each brigade member is to comply with the Rules as set out in Schedule 1.

Division 4 – Transitional

2.5 Existing Bush Fire Brigades

- (1) Where a local government has established a bush fire brigade prior to the commencement date, then on and from the commencement day –
 - (a) the bush fire brigade is to be taken to be a bush fire brigade established under and in accordance with this local law;
 - (b) the provisions of this local law apply to the bush fire brigade save for clause 2.2; and
 - (c) any rules governing the operation of the bush fire brigade are to be taken to have been repealed and substituted with the Rules.
 - (2) In this clause –
 “commencement day” means the day on which this local law comes into operation.
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Division 5 – Dissolution of bush fire brigade

2.6 Dissolution of bush fire brigade

In accordance with section 41(3) of the Act, the local government may cancel the registration of a bush fire brigade if it is of the opinion that the bush fire brigade is not complying with the Act, this local law, the Bush Fire Operating Procedures or the Rules, or is not achieving the objectives for which it was established.

2.7 New arrangement after dissolution

If a local government cancels the registration of a bush fire brigade, alternative fire control arrangements are to be made in respect of the brigade area.

PART 3 - ORGANISATION AND MAINTENANCE OF BUSH FIRE BRIGADES

Division 1 – Local government responsibility

3.1 Local government responsible for structure

The local government is to ensure that there is an appropriate structure through which the organisation of bush fire brigades is maintained.

3.2 Officers to be supplied with Act

The local government is to supply each brigade officer with a copy of the Act, the Regulations, the Bush Fire Operating Procedures, this local law and any other written laws which may be relevant to the performance of the brigade officers' functions, and any amendments which are made thereto from time to time.

Division 2 – Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

3.3 Managerial role of Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Subject to any directions by the local government the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer has primary managerial responsibility for the organisation and maintenance of bush fire brigades.

3.4 Chief Bush Fire Control Officer may attend meetings

The Chief Bush Fire Control Officer or her or his nominee (who is to be a bush fire control officer) may attend as a non-voting representative of the local government at any meeting of a bush fire brigade.

3.5 Duties of Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

The duties of the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer include –

- (a) provide leadership to volunteer bush fire brigades;
- (b) monitor bush fire brigades' resourcing, equipment (including protective clothing) and training levels and report thereon with recommendations at least once a year to the local government;
- (c) liaise with the local government concerning fire prevention / suppression matters generally and directions to be issued by the local government to bush fire control officers (including those who issue permits to burn) bush fire brigades or brigade officers;
- (d) ensure that bush fire brigades are registered with the local government and that lists of brigade members are maintained.

Division 3 – Annual general meetings of bush fire brigades

3.6 Holding of annual general meeting

A bush fire brigade is to hold its annual general meeting prior to 31 October each year.

3.7 Nomination of bush fire control officers to Bush Fire Advisory Committee

At the annual general meeting of a bush fire brigade, one brigade member is to be nominated to the Bush Fire Advisory Committee to serve as the bush fire control officer for the brigade area until the next general meeting.

3.8 Nomination of bush fire control officer to the local government

If the local government has not established a Bush Fire Advisory Committee, then at the annual general meeting of a bush fire brigade, the bush fire brigade is to nominate one brigade member to the local government to serve as the bush fire control officer for the brigade area until the next annual general meeting.

3.9 Minutes to be tabled before the Bush Fire Advisory Committee

- (1) Each bush fire brigade is to forward a copy of the minutes of its annual general meeting to the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer within one month after the meeting.
- (2) 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).

Division 4 – Bush Fire Advisory Committee

3.10 Functions of Advisory Committee

The Bush Fire Advisory Committee is to have the functions set out in section 67 of the Act and is to include such number of nominees of the bush fire brigades as is determined by the local government.

3.11 Advisory Committee to nominate bush fire control officers

As soon as practicable after the annual general meeting of each bush fire brigade in the district, the Bush Fire Advisory Committee is to nominate to the local government from the persons nominated by each bush fire brigade a person or persons for the position of a bush fire control officer for the brigade area.

3.12 Local government to have regard to nominees

When considering persons for the position of a bush fire control officer, the local government is to have regard to those persons nominated by the Bush Fire Advisory Committee, but is not bound to appoint the persons nominated.

3.13 Advisory Committee to consider bush fire brigade motions

The Bush Fire Advisory Committee is to make recommendations to the local government on all motions received by the Bush Fire Advisory Committee from bush fire brigades.

PART 4 – TYPES OF BUSH FIRE BRIGADE MEMBERSHIP

4.1. Types of membership of bush fire brigade

The membership of a bush fire brigade consists of the following –

- (a) fire fighting members;
- (b) associate members;
- (c) cadet members; and
- (d) honorary life members.

4.2 Fire fighting members

- (1) Fire fighting members are those persons being at least 18 years of age who undertake all normal bush fire brigade activities, and have completed the required training qualifications as determined by the local government.
- (2) A junior member who has reached 16 years of age and is under 18 years of age is eligible to be registered as a fire fighting or associate member if the brigade's Captain is satisfied that the prospective member is able to perform the requisite duties and if they have parental/guardian consent.

4.3 Associate members

Associate members are those persons who are willing to supply free vehicular transport for fire fighting members or fire fighting equipment, or who are prepared to render other assistance required by the bush fire brigade.

4.4 Cadet members

Cadet members are –

- (a) to be aged 11 to 15 years;
- (b) to be admitted to membership only with the consent of their parent or guardian;

- (c) admitted for the purpose of training and are not to attend or be in attendance at an uncontrolled fire or other emergency incident;
- (d) to be supervised by a fire fighting member when undertaking normal brigade activities as defined by paragraphs (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g) of section 35A of the Act;
- (e) ineligible to vote at bush fire brigade meetings;
- (f) not to be assigned ranks under the Department's rank structure.

4.5 Honorary life member

- (1) The bush fire brigade may by a simple majority resolution appoint a person as an honorary life member in recognition of services by that person to the bush fire brigade.
- (2) Life members are to have a minimum of ten (10) years of service.
- (3) No membership fees are to be payable by an honorary life member.

4.6 Notification of membership

No later than 14 November in each year, the bush fire brigade is to report to the Chief Fire Control Officer the name, contact details and type of membership of each brigade member.

PART 5 – APPOINTMENT DISMISSAL AND MANAGEMENT OF MEMBERS

5.1 Rules to govern

The appointment, dismissal and management of brigade members by the bush fire brigade are governed by the Rules.

PART 6 – EQUIPMENT OF BUSH FIRES BRIGADES

6.1 Policies of local government

The local government may make policies under which it –

- (a) provides funding to bush fire brigades for the purchase of protective clothing, equipment and appliances and the provision of training; and
- (b) keeps bush fire brigades informed of opportunities for funding from other bodies.

6.2 Funding from local government budget

A request to the local government from the bush fire brigade for funding of protective clothing, equipment or appliance needs is to be received by the local government by 31 March in order to be considered in the next following local government budget.

6.3 Consideration in the local government budget

In addition to funding made available through emergency services grants, the local government may provide further funding depending upon the assessment of budget priorities for the year in question, in accordance with Part 6 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

FIRST SCHEDULE

RULES GOVERNING THE OPERATION OF BUSH FIRE BRIGADES

PART 1 - PRELIMINARY

1.1 Interpretation

- (1) In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires, where a term is used in these Rules and is defined in the local law, the Act or the Regulations, then the term is to be taken to have the meaning assigned to it in the local law, the Act or the Regulations, as the case may be.
- (2) In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires –
“**absolute majority**” means a majority of more than 50% of the number of:
 - (a) brigade members of the bush fire brigade, whether in attendance at the meeting or not, if the majority is required at a meeting of the bush fire brigade; or
 - (b) brigade officers of the bush fire brigade, whether in attendance at the meeting or not, if the majority is required at a meeting of the Committee.“**Committee**” means the Committee of the bush fire brigade;
“**local law**” means the Shire of York Bush Fire Brigades Local Law; and
“**normal brigade activities**” is defined by section 35A of the Act
- (3) Subject to these Rules, where a decision is to be made by the bush fire brigade, then the decision may be made by a resolution passed by a simple majority of the brigade members who are present in person or by proxy at the meeting.
- (4) Subject to these Rules, where a decision is to be made by the Committee, then the decision may be made by a resolution passed by a simple majority of the brigade officers who are present in person or by proxy at the meeting.

PART 2 – OBJECTS AND MEMBERSHIP OF BUSH FIRE BRIGADE

2.1 Objects of bush fire brigade

The objects of the bush fire brigade are to carry out –

- (a) the normal brigade activities; and
- (b) the functions of the bush fire brigade which are specified in the Act, the Regulations and the local law.

2.2 Committee to determine applications

Applications for membership are to be determined by the Committee.

2.3 Conditions of membership

In relation to any type of membership, as described in Part 4 of the local law, the bush fire brigade may establish policies pertaining to –

- (a) the qualifications required;
- (b) a requirement to serve a probationary period;
- (c) procedures to be employed by the Committee prior to approval of an application for membership,

and the Committee is to act within the parameters of any such policy in determining applications for membership.

2.4 Applications for membership

An application for membership must –

- (a) be in the form determined by the CEO;
- (b) be signed by the applicant;
- (c) provide the information required in the form; and
- (d) be forwarded to the Committee.

2.5 Decision on application for membership

- (1) The Committee may –
 - (a) approve an application for membership unconditionally or subject to any conditions; or
 - (b) refuse to approve an application for membership.
- (2) If the Committee refuses to approve an application for membership, it is to give written reasons for the refusal, as soon as practicable after the decision is made, to the applicant and the advice that the applicant has the right to object to the local government.

2.6 DFES to be notified of registrations

If any application for membership is approved, the Committee of the bush fire brigade is to supply registration details to the Shire of York within 14 days of a person being admitted to membership in the form required by the Shire of York from time to time.

2.7 Termination of membership

- (1) Membership of the bush fire brigade terminates if the member –
 - (a) dies;
 - (b) gives written notice of resignation to the Committee;
 - (c) is, in the opinion of the Committee, permanently incapacitated by mental or physical ill-health;
 - (d) is dismissed by the Committee; or
 - (e) ceases to be a member or is taken to have resigned under subclause (2)

2.8 Suspension of membership

- (1) Membership of the bush fire brigade may be suspended at any time if, in the opinion of the Committee, circumstances warrant suspending the member.
- (2) The period of suspension shall be at the discretion of the Committee.
- (3) Upon the expiry of the period of suspension the Committee may:
 - (a) extend the period of suspension;
 - (b) terminate the membership; or
 - (c) reinstate the membership.

2.9 Existing liabilities to continue

The resignation, or dismissal of a member under clause 2.7 does not affect any liability of the brigade member arising prior to the date of resignation or dismissal.

2.10 Member has right of defence

A brigade member is not to be dismissed under clause 2.7(1)(d) without being given the opportunity to meet with the Committee and answer any charges which might give grounds for dismissal.

2.11 Objection Rights

A person whose -

- (a) application for membership is refused under clause 2.5(1)(b);
- (b) membership is terminated under clause 2.7(1)(c), clause 2.7(1)(d) or clause 2.8(3)(b); or
- (c) membership is suspended under clause 2.8(1) or clause 2.8(3)(a),

has the right of objection to the local government which may dispose of the objection by –

- (a) dismissing the objection;
- (b) varying the decision objected to; or
- (c) revoking the decision objected to, with or without –
 - (i) substituting for it another decision; or
 - (ii) referring the matter, with or without directions, for another decision by the Committee.

PART 3 – FUNCTIONS OF BRIGADE OFFICERS

3.1 Chain of command during fire fighting activities

Subject to the Act and the local law, the command procedures to apply during fire fighting activities are as detailed in the local government’s Bush Fire Operating Procedures.

3.2 Duties of Captain

- (1) Responsible for the leadership and management of the Brigade and its activities.
- (2) Act as a role model and mentor for members of the Brigade, acting with integrity and considering each member equally.
- (3) All decisions should be in the interest of the Brigade and its members.
- (4) Conduct Brigade briefings and post incident analysis of any incident involving firefighting or Brigade management matters.
- (5) Subject to subclauses (2) and (3) below, the Captain is to preside at all meetings.
- (6) The Captain may appoint another brigade officer to preside at a meeting.
- (7) In the absence of the Captain, the meeting may elect another person to preside at the meeting.

3.3 Duties of a Lieutenant

- (1) Responsible for the operational management of the Brigade and its activities.
- (2) The position reports to the Captain, providing both operational and administrative support in managing the Brigade.
- (3) In the absence of the Brigade Captain, the Lieutenant assumes all powers, responsibilities and duties of that officer.
- (4) The Brigade must rank all Lieutenants in seniority. This is to be determined by resolution at the Annual General Meeting.

PART 4 – COMMITTEE

4.1 Management of bush fire brigade

- (1) Subject to the provisions of these Rules, the administration and management of the affairs of the bush fire brigade are vested in the Committee.
- (2) Without limiting the generality of subclause (1), the Committee is to have the following functions –
 - (a) to recommend to the local government amendments to these Rules;
 - (b) to propose a motion for consideration at any meeting of the bush fire brigade;
 - (c) to recommend to the local government equipment which needs to be supplied by the local government to the bush fire brigade;
 - (d) to delegate to a person, as from time to time thought fit, any functions (being less than the total functions of the Committee) on any conditions it thinks fit;
 - (e) to do all things necessary or convenient in order to perform any of its functions and to secure the performance of the normal brigade activities by the bush fire brigade; and
 - (f) deal with membership applications, grievances, disputes and disciplinary matters.

4.2 Constitution of Committee

- (1) The Committee of the bush fire brigade is to consist of the brigade officers being the Captain, and the Lieutenants of the bush fire brigade.
- (2) All Bush Fire Control Officers registered with a brigade are to be considered lieutenants of that brigade.
- (3) The brigade officers are to -
 - (a) be elected at the annual general meeting of the bush fire brigade;
 - (b) hold office until the next annual general meeting; and
 - (c) be eligible for re-election at the next annual general meeting.
- (4) Any brigade officer may be removed from office by an absolute majority decision of the brigade members present in person or by proxy at a special meeting called for such a purpose.
- (5) The Committee may appoint a brigade member to fill a vacancy in any office arising from a resolution under subclause (3) or which has arisen for any other reason.

PART 5 – MEETINGS OF BUSH FIRE BRIGADE

5.1 A meeting may be held –

- (1) in person;
- (2) via Microsoft Teams (or similar video conferencing solution); or
- (3) via telephone or conference call.

5.2 Ordinary meetings

- (1) Ordinary meetings may be called at any time by any member of the Committee by giving at least 7 days notice to all brigade members and to the Chief Fire Control Officer, for the purpose of –
 - (a) organising and checking equipment;
 - (b) requisitioning new or replacement equipment;

- (c) organising field excursions, training sessions, hazard reduction programs, and the preparation of fire-breaks;
 - (d) establishing new procedures in respect of any of the normal brigade activities; and
 - (e) dealing with any general business.
- (2) In a notice given under subclause (1), the notice is to specify the business which is to be conducted at the meeting.
 - (3) Business may be conducted at an ordinary meeting of the bush fire brigade notwithstanding that it was not specified in a notice given under subclause (1) in relation to that meeting.

5.3 Special meetings

- (1) The Committee is to call a special meeting when five (5) or more brigade members request one in writing.
- (2) At least two (2) days notice of a special meeting is to be given by the Committee, to all brigade members and to the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer.
- (3) In a notice given under subclause (2) the notice is to specify the business which is to be conducted at the meeting.
- (4) No business is to be conducted at a special meeting beyond that specified in a notice given under subclause (2) in relation to that meeting.

5.4 Annual General Meeting

- (1) At least 7 days notice of the annual general meeting is to be given by the Committee to all brigade members and to the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer.
- (2) At the annual general meeting the bush fire brigade is to –
 - (a) elect the brigade officers from among the brigade members;
 - (b) consider the Captain's report on the year's activities;
 - (c) deal with any general business.
- (3) In a notice given under subclause (1), the Committee is to specify the business which is to be conducted at the meeting.
- (4) Business may be conducted at an annual general meeting notwithstanding that it was not specified in a notice given under subclause (1) in relation to that meeting.

5.5 Quorum

- (1) The quorum for a meeting of the bush fire brigade is at least 50% of the number of offices (whether vacant or not) and five (5) additional members of the bush fire brigade.
- (2) No business is to be transacted at a meeting of the bush fire brigade unless a quorum of brigade members is present in person or by proxy.

5.6 Voting

Each brigade member is to have one vote, however in the event of an equality of votes, the Captain (or person presiding) may exercise a casting vote.

PART 6 – MEETINGS OF COMMITTEE

6.1 Meetings of Committee

- (1) The Committee is to meet for the despatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate its meeting as it thinks fit.
- (2) The Captain or a Lieutenant may convene a meeting of the Committee at any time.

6.2 Quorum

No business is to be transacted at a meeting of the Committee unless a quorum of 3 brigade officers are present in person.

6.3 Voting

Each brigade officer is to have one vote, however in the case of an equality of votes, the Captain (or person presiding) may exercise a casting vote.

PART 7 – GENERAL ADMINISTRATION MATTERS

7.5 Disclosure of interests

- (1) A brigade member shall disclose to the bush fire brigade or Committee any financial interest (whether direct or indirect) he or she may have in any matter being considered by the bush fire brigade or Committee, as appropriate.
- (2) If a financial interest has been disclosed under subclause (1), then the bush fire brigade or Committee, as appropriate, is to decide, in the absence of the brigade member who disclosed that interest, whether or not the brigade member is to be permitted to vote on that matter.
- (3) Where the bush fire brigade or Committee, as appropriate, decides under subclause (2), that a brigade member is not to be permitted to vote on a matter, and the brigade member votes on the matter, then her or his vote is to be taken to have no effect and is not to be counted.

7.6 Disagreements

- (1) Any disagreement between brigade members may be referred to either the Captain or to the Committee.
- (2) Where a disagreement in subclause (1) is considered by the Captain or the Committee to be of importance to the interests of the bush fire brigade, then the Captain or the Committee, as the case may be, is to refer the disagreement to the annual general meeting, an ordinary meeting or a special meeting of the bush fire brigade.
- (3) The local government is the final authority on matters affecting the bush fire brigade, and may resolve any disagreement which is not resolved under subclause (1) or (2).

PART 8 – NOTICES AND PROXIES

8.1 Notices

- (1) Notices of meetings of the bush fire brigade are to be in writing and sent by ordinary post or electronic communication to the registered address of each brigade member.
- (2) Notices of meetings of the Committee may be given in writing in accordance with subclause (1) or by such other means as the Committee may decide (by an absolute majority) at a meeting of the Committee.
- (3) Any accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or non-receipt by a person entitled to receive such notice, is not to invalidate the meeting the subject of the notice or any resolutions passed at the meeting.
- (4) Where any notice other than a notice of meeting is to be given under these Rules, the notice is to be –
 - (a) in writing;
 - (b) given by –
 - (i) personal delivery;
 - (ii) electronic communication;
 - (iii) post; or
 - (iv) facsimile transmission;
 - (c) taken to have been received, as the case may be –
 - (i) at the time of personal delivery;
 - (ii) on the following day after sending an electronic communication;
 - (iii) 2 business days after posting; or
 - (iv) on the printing of the sender's transmission report.

8.2 Proxies

- (1) Where under these Rules a brigade member may vote by proxy, in order for the proxy to so vote, the brigade member or the proxy shall give a notice in the form of that appearing in this clause, to the Committee or the person presiding at the meeting before the start of the meeting at which the proxy is to be used.
- (2) A proxy is to be valid for the meeting for which it is given and for any adjournments of that meeting.
- (3) A proxy shall be valid for the number of votes to which the brigade member is entitled.
- (4) If the donor of the proxy does not give any indication of the manner in which the proxy is to vote, the proxy shall be entitled to vote or not vote as he or she thinks fit.
- (5) A proxy shall be entitled to speak on behalf of the donor of the proxy.
- (6) All forms appointing proxies deposited under subclause (1) are to be retained by the Committee for not less than 28 days after the conclusion of the meeting to which they relate but if there is any objection to the validity of any vote at the meeting, they are to be retained until the determination of that objection.
- (7) The form appointing a proxy shall be in writing and signed by the brigade member appointing the proxy and shall be in or substantially in the form set out below -

“PROXY

**SHIRE OF YORK BUSH FIRE BRIGADE
[INSERT BRIGDE NAME]**

**[ANNUAL] [EXTRAORDINARY] GENERAL MEETING
TO BE HELD ON [DATE]**

I, _____,
Being a brigade member appoint _____ to be my proxy
and vote on my behalf at the meeting of the bush fire brigade to be held on
[insert date] and at any adjournment of it. The proxy shall vote as follows:

MOTION FOR AGAINST ABSTAIN

1.
2.

If there is no instruction to the proxy as to the way to vote, the proxy shall exercise her or his discretion as to how to vote or whether to vote at all. In respect of any vote taken at the meeting on a matter which does not appear on the agenda, the proxy shall exercise her or his discretion as to the way he or she casts the vote or whether it is cast at all.

Date: _____

Signed: _____

NOTE: To be valid this proxy must be completed and returned to the Committee of the bush fire brigade (or the presiding member) prior to the commencement of the meeting for which the proxy is valid.

Dated this day of 20