

Community Safety –

Fire and Emergency Management

# Bushfire Assessment Season Summary Report

2024/2025



<b>Document</b>	Local Fire Season Summary Report 2024/2025
<b>Prepared by</b>	Community Safety
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### Disclaimer

All data and information in this report are provided in good faith and make no representation or warranty regarding its accuracy, availability, or completeness. This document is not intended to be operational in nature and all agencies are responsible for undertaking prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery plans and/or strategies in their capacities.

### Acknowledgement

The local government fire season is indicative of the declaration made under sections 17, 18 and 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, *Bush Fires Regulations 1954*, and all authorisations for local government to modify such dates determined by local conditions. Commonly, fire seasons across the Perth Metropolitan area commence each year from 1<sup>st</sup> October and conclude on 31<sup>st</sup> May the following year.

The summary acknowledges external agencies that through their media platforms and documentation have contributed to expanding the context surrounding the local data captured for the City of Kalamunda.

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## Executive Summary

The City of Kalamunda continued to implement its five-year Fire Hazard Assessment Plan 2023 to 2028 this season. The program aimed at evaluating bushfire readiness on privately owned properties. This plan embodies a fair and equitable approach to managing bushfire risks, incorporating strategies to ensure both compliance and preparedness with an emphasis on education in the first instance.

The Community Bush Fire Preparedness team collaborates with the community year-round, by attending a range of community engagement events before the commencement of the assessment period.

The fire hazard assessments returned notable results, with 2,377 properties being assessed, of which 2,127 were deemed compliant by the end of the inspection period. The assessment results indicate that a total of 292 work orders were issued and a total of 35 infringements were issued due to residents' failure to take sufficient action in response to work order notices.

The number of permits to burn increased from 64 to 92 with Lesmurdie being the highest suburb for Permits being issued.

Illegal burning incidents were seen across many suburbs this season, mainly in the foothills of High Wycombe, which recorded the most breaches. These areas will be considered for a more targeted engagement approach in burning requirements and bushfire safety.

With the change of variation from annual application to Lifetime, the number of applications dropped significantly. With this change, a small number of new applications were submitted for lifetime variations, and the need for annual grazing variation applications continued, although for this season application for grazing dropped in numbers.

## Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the City of Kalamunda's bushfire compliance outcomes from 1 October 2024 to 31 May 2025 (the fire season). This report was developed to expand on the City's prior documentation by including all elements of bushfire compliance and efforts toward bushfire preparedness.

## Scope

The report refers to specific data collected from the City's internal corporate systems.

1. Permits to burn.
2. Illegal burns.
3. Fire hazard assessments and the recorded outcomes

## Aim

This report aims to analyse the data collected throughout the local 2024/2025 bushfire season to develop stronger engagement plans more targeted communication strategies and to review compliance procedures under the authority of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* (the Act) and *Bush Fires Regulations 1954*. The report will also provide the City with valuable information to assist with reviewing processes and working through a process of continuous improvement.

## Context

The report has been developed to align with the City's strategic objectives (Table 1) along with the 2019 Lesson Management Cycle produced by the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience (figure 1).

<b>PRIORITY 1: Kalamunda Cares and Interacts</b>		
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Success Management</b>
1.1 To be a community that advocates, facilitates, and provides quality lifestyles choices.	1.1.1 Facilitate the inclusion of the ageing population and people with disability to have access to information, facilities, and services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase number of community education events.</li> </ul>
	1.1.2 Empower, support, and engage and with young people, families, and our culturally diverse community.	
1.2 To provide safe and healthy environments for community to enjoy.	1.2.1 Facilitate a safe community environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing community perception of safety in the City.</li> <li>• Increasing compliance with fire protection requirements.</li> <li>• Increasing level of satisfaction with programs, facilities, and activities.</li> </ul>

<b>PRIORITY 4: Kalamunda leads</b>		
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Success Management</b>
4.1 To provide leadership through transparent governance.	4.1.1 Provide good governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Level of compliance with legislation.</li> </ul>
4.2 To proactively engage and partner for the benefit of community.	4.2.1 Actively engage with the community in innovative ways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing satisfaction with community engagement activities.</li> <li>• Level of external funding acquired.</li> </ul>
	4.2.2 Increase advocacy activities and develop partnerships to support growth and reputation.	

**TABLE 1:** Kalamunda Advancing 2027 Strategic community plan objectives.



**CHART 1:** Lessons Management Cycle (AIDR, 2019).

## Objectives

The City's emergency management approach is based on the Prevention, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery (PPRR) model, with a strong emphasis on building bushfire-resilient communities.

Each year, our aim is to review and issue the Fire Hazard Reduction Notice (FHRN), in line with Section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, by July. This timeline ensures we have enough time to:

- Include the notice with the City's annual rates and publish it in the local newspaper.
- Deliver updated training for our Community Bushfire Preparedness Officers (CBPOs), helping them refresh their knowledge ahead of the fire season. All CBPOs will carry out property fire hazard assessments in a fair, consistent, and professional manner, following the City's established procedures.
- Make sure all bushfire preparedness activities are aligned with City policies. These processes will be reviewed at the end of each season to identify any gaps and make necessary improvements.

Throughout the fire season, we are committed to applying enforcement measures in a fair and consistent way, in line with the *Bush Fires Act 1954* and *Bush Fires Regulations 1954*.

## Outcomes

### Permits To Burn

92 permits were issued, which is an increase of 47% compared to the same period last year. Permits to burn are required during the restricted burning period of 1 October to 30 November and 1 April to 31 May. This season was a standard burning period compared to last where the burning period was shortened by two weeks.

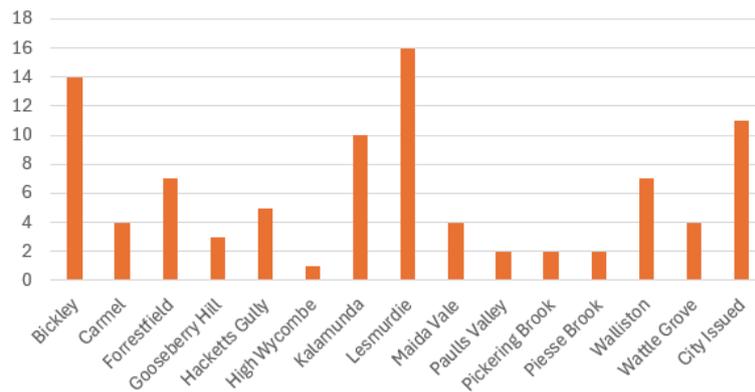


FIGURE 1: Burn Permits by suburb

### Illegal Burning

35 reports of illegal burns were attended to by City of Kalamunda officers. 15 infringements were issued for illegal burn activities.

Most illegal burn incidents were within the foothill's region; however, the suburb of High Wycombe had the greatest number of illegal burns with 6 illegal burns recorded.

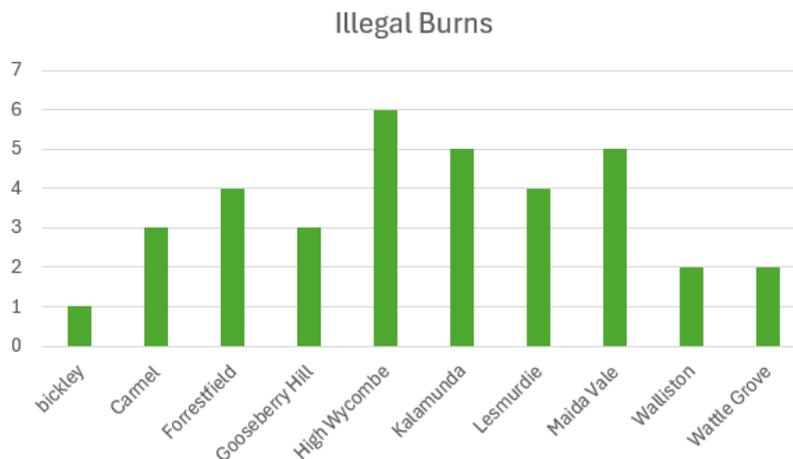
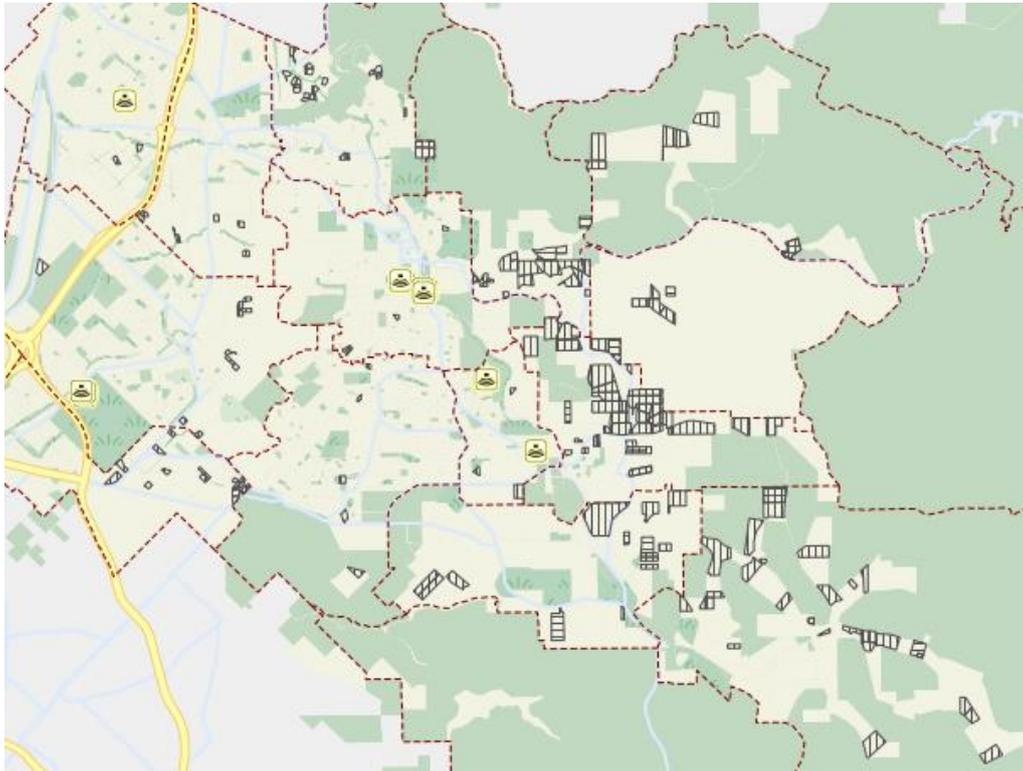


FIGURE 2: Illegal Burns by suburb

### Variations

28 variations were approved,

- 8 new Lifetime applications,
- 20 for Grazing.



▤ LIFETIME  
▤ GRAZING

**CHART 2:** Approved Variations Map

### Fire Hazard Assessments

Final Outcomes:

2806 assessments completed.

2377 Individual properties attended.

292 Work Orders issued.

722 items were listed in the Work Orders.

34 Infringements issued.

The City of Kalamunda has 23,340 private residential properties (2021 ABS) within the City. The assessments were conducted on 2,377 of these properties (10%). Officers completed 2,806 assessments, which resulted in 292 work orders being issued for 722 items to be remediated.

ITEMS	COUNT
Additional Works	65
Firebreaks	344
APZ	49
Fuel Loading	264
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>722</b>

**TABLE 2** Work Order by Category

SUBURB	Work Order Items											Grand Total	
	Additional works	Dead flammable materials [leaf litter, twigs etc] across the entire property are NOT reduced down below 8 tonnes per hectare?	Dead flammable materials within the APZ are NOT reduced to 2 tonnes per hectare or less?	Dead grass, dead shrubs and dead plants are NOT slashed to a height no greater than 50mm across the property?	Firebreaks are NOT continuous (no dead ends) or trafficable.	Firebreaks are NOT 3 metres Wide	Firebreaks are NOT 4 metres High	Firebreaks are NOT continuous (no dead ends) or trafficable.	Firebreaks are not free of Dead Flammable or combustible material	Gutters are NOT free of flammable matter	Trees or shrubs that are within 2 metres of the asset are NOT pruned 2 metres or more away from the asset		Trees over 5m in height within the APZ are NOT under-pruned up to 2 metres
BICKLEY	3	1		13	5	14	7	1	17	2	1		64
CARMEL	5			5	2	7	4		12	3	1	2	41
FORRESTFIELD	15	10		40	4	1	3		3	11			87
GOOSEBERRY HILL		5		6		6	1		10	5			33
HACKETTS GULLY									1				1
HIGH WYCOMBE	14	11	1	54	4	16	13	1	30	6	3		153
KALAMUNDA	1	5		10		2	2	1	1	1			23
LESMURDIE		14		20						3			37
MAIDA VALE	2	4		17	2	15	17		25	2			84
PAULLS VALLEY													0
PICKERING BROOK				3		2	1		7	2			15
PIESSE BROOK	1			3	2	2	2		5				15
WALLISTON	5	1		5					1			2	14
WATTLE GROVE	19	1	1	36	4	26	16		49		2	1	155
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>722</b>

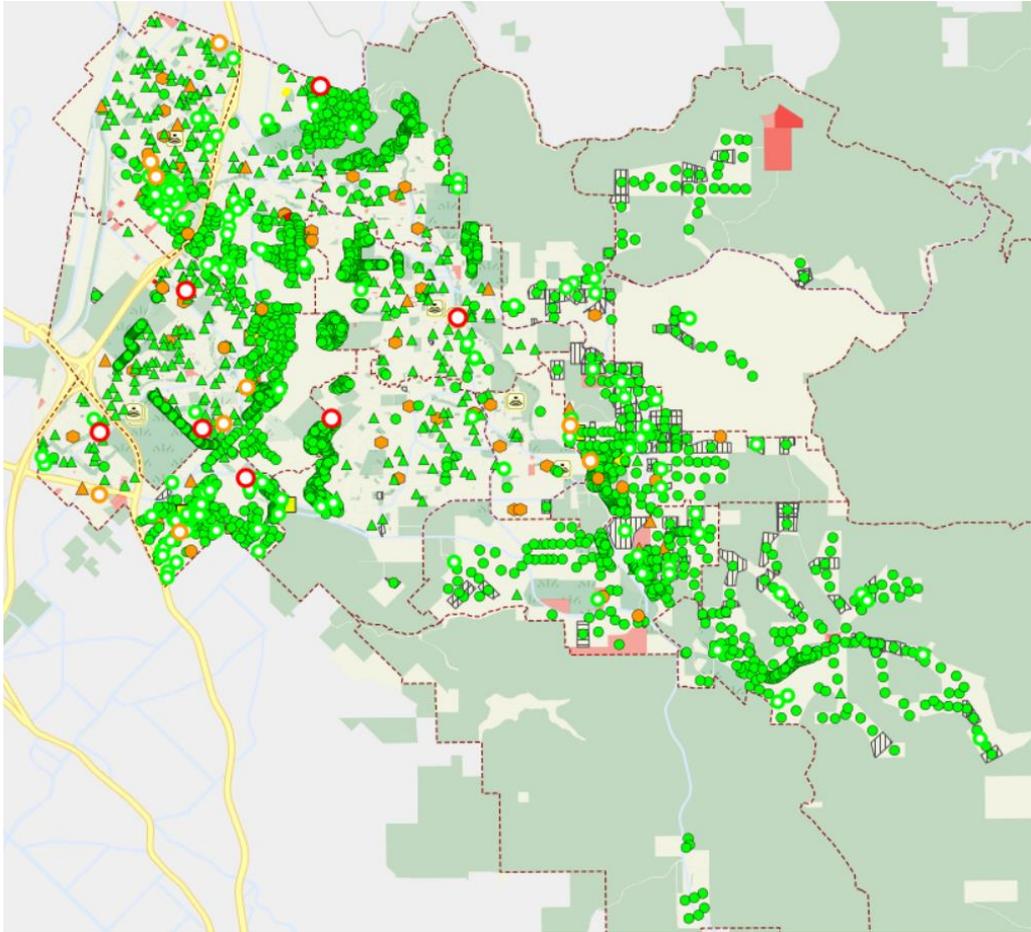
**TABLE 3:** Work Order Items by Suburb

Officers follow up on most assessments by 31 May 2025, 8 properties remained inaccessible, 43 work orders were still outstanding. There were 2,316 properties compliant to the notice by the end of the assessment period

Inspection outcome	Number of Inspections	Total Percentages
Infringements	34	1.2%
No Action Required	2430	86.6%
Property Inaccessible	50	1.8%
Work Order	292	10.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2806</b>	<b>100%</b>

**TABLE 4** Total of End-of-Season Assessment Status

A total of 34 infringements were issued due to failure to take sufficient action in response to work order notices.



- Infringement and Work Order
- Work Order
- No Action Required
- ▲ Zoning Fire Assessment: Infringement and Work Order
- ▲ Zoning Fire Assessment: Work Order
- ▲ Zoning Fire Assessment: No Action Required
- Hazard Assessment: Infringement and Work Order
- Hazard Assessment: Work Order
- Hazard Assessment: No Action Required
- Complaint Assessment: Infringement and Work Order
- Complaint Assessment: Work Order
- Complaint Assessment: No Action Required

CHART 3:Map of all Inspections for 2024/2025

Breakdown by Zone and Suburb  
Rural Eastern District

	Number	Percentage
<b>BICKLEY</b>		
Total Inspections	243	
Inaccessible	6	2.5%
Over 5000m <sup>2</sup>		
Infringements Issued	1	0.4%
Compliant Outcome	110	45.3%
Work Order Issued	24	9.9%
Under 5000m <sup>2</sup>		
Infringements Issued	0	0.0%
Compliant Outcome	100	41.2%
Work Order Issued	2	0.8%
<b>CARMEL</b>		
Total Inspections	199	
Inaccessible	6	3.0%
Over 5000m <sup>2</sup>		
Infringements Issued	0	0.0%
Compliant Outcome	110	55.3%
Work Order Issued	12	6.0%
Under 5000m <sup>2</sup>		
Infringements Issued	0	0.0%
Compliant Outcome	69	34.7%
Work Order Issued	2	1.0%
<b>HACKETTS GULLY</b>		
Total Inspections	16	
Inaccessible	1	6.3%
Over 5000m <sup>2</sup>		
Infringements Issued	0	0.0%
Compliant Outcome	13	81.3%
Work Order Issued	1	6.3%
Under 5000m <sup>2</sup>		
Infringements Issued	0	0.0%
Compliant Outcome	1	6.3%
Work Order Issued	0	0.0%
<b>PAULLS VALLEY</b>		
Total Inspections	35	
Inaccessible	2	5.7%
Over 5000m <sup>2</sup>		
Infringements Issued	0	0.0%
Compliant Outcome	33	94.3%
Work Order Issued	0	0.0%
Under 5000m <sup>2</sup>		
Infringements Issued	0	0.0%
Compliant Outcome	0	0.0%
Work Order Issued	0	0.0%

	Number	Percentage
<b>PICKERING BROOK</b>		
Total Inspections	222	
Inaccessible	6	2.7%
Over 5000m <sup>2</sup>		
Infringements Issued	1	0.5%
Compliant Outcome	137	61.7%
Work Order Issued	8	3.6%
Under 5000m <sup>2</sup>		
Infringements Issued	0	0.0%
Compliant Outcome	70	31.5%
Work Order Issued	0	0.0%
<b>PIESSE BROOK</b>		
Total Inspections	28	
Inaccessible	2	7.1%
Over 5000m <sup>2</sup>		
Infringements Issued	0	0.0%
Compliant Outcome	21	75.0%
Work Order Issued	5	17.9%
Under 5000m <sup>2</sup>		
Infringements Issued	0	0.0%
Compliant Outcome	0	0.0%
Work Order Issued	0	0.0%
<b>WALLISTON</b>		
Total Inspections	23	
Inaccessible	0	0.0%
Over 5000m <sup>2</sup>		
Infringements Issued	0	0.0%
Compliant Outcome	5	21.7%
Work Order Issued	5	21.7%
Under 5000m <sup>2</sup>		
Infringements Issued	0	0.0%
Compliant Outcome	10	43.5%
Work Order Issued	3	13.0%

Foothills

	Number	Percentage
<b>HIGH WYCOMBE</b>		
Total Inspections	245	
Inaccessible	0	0.0%
<b>Over 5000m<sup>2</sup></b>		
Infringements Issued	4	1.6%
Compliant Outcome	68	27.8%
Work Order Issued	33	13.5%
<b>Under 5000m<sup>2</sup></b>		
Infringements Issued	6	2.4%
Compliant Outcome	107	43.7%
Work Order Issued	27	11.0%
<b>FORRESTFIELD</b>		
Total Inspections	437	
Inaccessible	4	0.9%
<b>Over 5000m<sup>2</sup></b>		
Infringements Issued	0	0.0%
Compliant Outcome	121	27.7%
Work Order Issued	5	1.1%
<b>Under 5000m<sup>2</sup></b>		
Infringements Issued	7	1.6%
Compliant Outcome	274	62.7%
Work Order Issued	26	5.9%

	Number	Percentage
<b>MAIDA VALE</b>		
Total Inspections	200	
Inaccessible	5	2.5%
<b>Over 5000m<sup>2</sup></b>		
Infringements Issued	2	1.0%
Compliant Outcome	127	63.5%
Work Order Issued	23	11.5%
<b>Under 5000m<sup>2</sup></b>		
Infringements Issued	1	0.5%
Compliant Outcome	37	18.5%
Work Order Issued	5	2.5%
<b>WATTLE GROVE</b>		
Total Inspections	273	
Inaccessible	11	4.0%
<b>Over 5000m<sup>2</sup></b>		
Infringements Issued	5	1.8%
Compliant Outcome	138	50.5%
Work Order Issued	58	21.2%
<b>Under 5000m<sup>2</sup></b>		
Infringements Issued	2	0.7%
Compliant Outcome	53	19.4%
Work Order Issued	6	2.2%

Escarpment

	Number	Percentage
<b>CANNING MILLS</b>		
Total Inspections	9	
Inaccessible	0	0.0%
<b>Over 5000m<sup>2</sup></b>		
Infringements Issued	0	0.0%
Compliant Outcome	8	88.9%
Work Order Issued	0	0.0%
<b>Under 5000m<sup>2</sup></b>		
Infringements Issued	0	0.0%
Compliant Outcome	1	11.1%
Work Order Issued	0	0.0%
<b>GOOSEBERRY HILL</b>		
Total Inspections	265	
Inaccessible	7	2.6%
<b>Over 5000m<sup>2</sup></b>		
Infringements Issued	1	0.4%
Compliant Outcome	94	35.5%
Work Order Issued	11	4.2%
<b>Under 5000m<sup>2</sup></b>		
Infringements Issued	0	0.0%
Compliant Outcome	145	54.7%
Work Order Issued	7	2.6%

	Number	Percentage
<b>KALAMUNDA</b>		
Total Inspections	358	
Inaccessible	0	0.0%
<b>Over 5000m<sup>2</sup></b>		
Infringements Issued	0	0.0%
Compliant Outcome	8	2.2%
Work Order Issued	2	0.6%
<b>Under 5000m<sup>2</sup></b>		
Infringements Issued	0	0.0%
Compliant Outcome	338	94.4%
Work Order Issued	10	2.8%
<b>LESMURDIE</b>		
Total Inspections	253	
Inaccessible	0	0.0%
<b>Over 5000m<sup>2</sup></b>		
Infringements Issued	0	0.0%
Compliant Outcome	3	1.2%
Work Order Issued	0	0.0%
<b>Under 5000m<sup>2</sup></b>		
Infringements Issued	4	1.6%
Compliant Outcome	229	90.5%
Work Order Issued	17	6.7%

TABLE 3: Compliance by Suburb

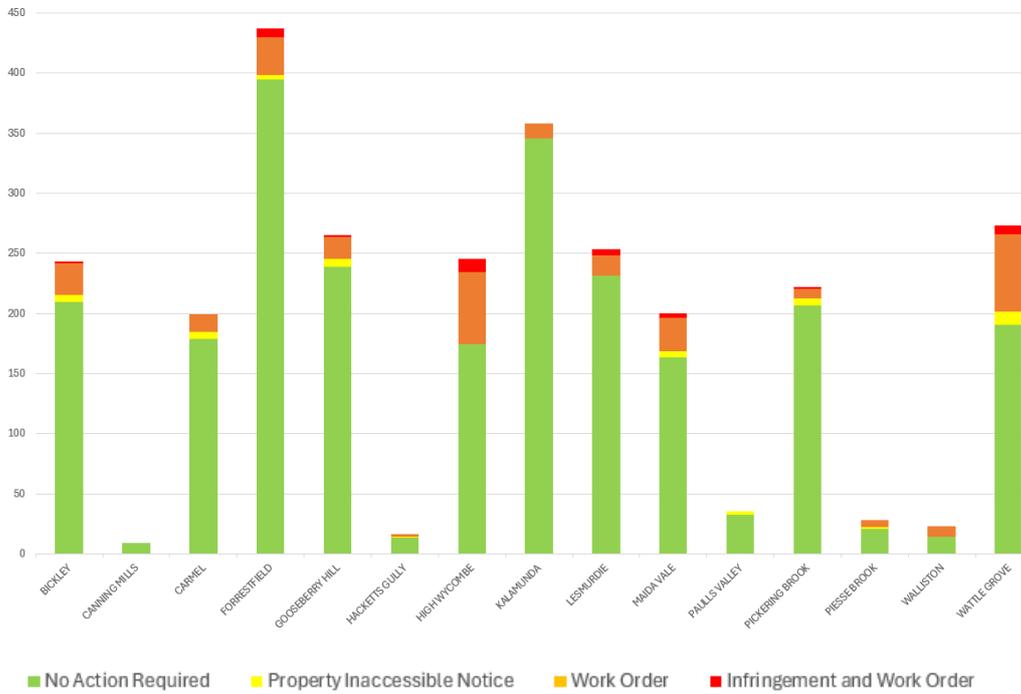


CHART 4: Assessments by Suburbs

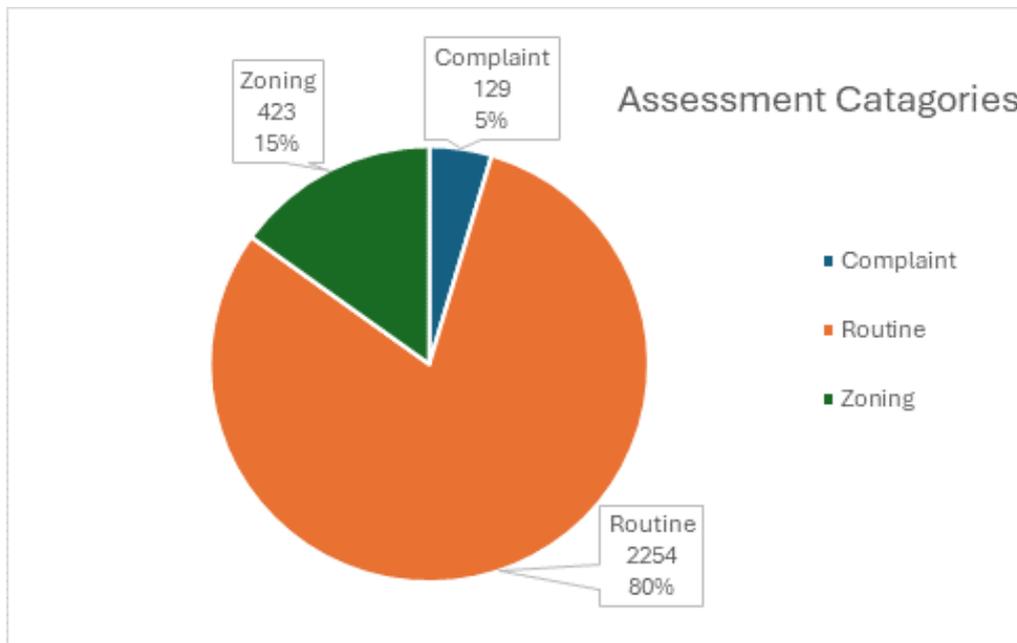
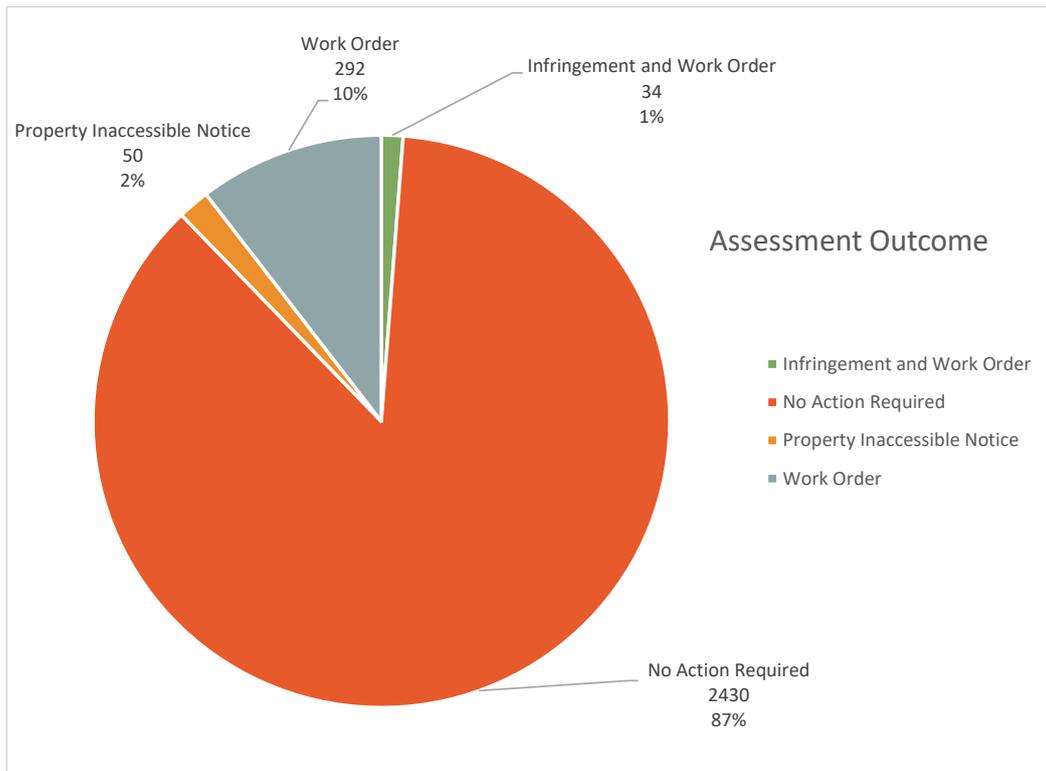


CHART 5: Assessment Categories Breakdown



**CHART 6:** Outcome of All Assessment

**Preseason engagement:**

During the lead-up to the Bushfire compliance period, Community Bushfire Preparedness Officers were available to attend private residential properties for pre-season property walkthroughs, where they would give general advice on works that could better assist the City of Kalamunda residents' understanding of the Fire Hazard Reduction Notice and be prepared for a fire hazard assessment.

Officers conducted 36 private residential pre-season walkthroughs in the lead up to the assessment period.

- 22 of these properties were reassessed 61.11%,
- 14 properties that had a pre-season walkthrough did not receive further assessments during the compliance period 38.89%,
- 19 properties were compliant on the first assessment 11.11%,
- 1 property was issued a non-compliance Work Order 2.78%,
- 2 were inaccessible on the first inspection 5.56%.

## Fire Hazard Reduction Notice

The Fire Hazard Reduction Notice (the Notice) is gazetted in the State Government Gazette and posted with the rates notice each year. The notice is available on the City's website, City libraries and published in the local newspapers. City officers also leave a copy of the Notice in a door hanger if they attend a property if no one is onsite at the time of inspection.



# FIRST AND FINAL NOTICE

**COMPLIANCE DUE BY: 1 NOVEMBER 2024**

## FIRE HAZARD REDUCTION NOTICE 2024/2025

**Important:** The works outlined below must be completed by 1 November 2024 and maintained in this state up to and including 31 March 2025.

### NOTICE TO ALL OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS OF LAND WITHIN THE CITY OF KALAMUNDA

Pursuant to Section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954 (WA)*, the City of Kalamunda (City) gives written notice to act as specified in this notice to land that you own and/or occupy and with respect to any matter which is upon the land that you own and/or occupy within the City. Failure or neglect to comply with this notice is an offence and can result in a penalty of up to \$5000. The City's Fire Hazard Inspectors are authorised under the *Bush Fires Act 1954 (WA) (Act)* and have powers to enter land pursuant to Section 14 of the Act. The City advises that its officers, servants, workmen, contractors, vehicles, machinery, and appliances (as the officers deem fit) may carry out the requisitions of this notice that are not complied with by 1 November 2024, and any costs and expenses incurred may be recovered from you as the owner and/or occupier of the land.

#### ALL LAND WITH A TOTAL AREA OF 5000m<sup>2</sup> OR MORE

##### ☐ FIRE BREAKS

Fire Breaks are to be installed or upgraded to:

- » 3-metre-wide,
- » 4-metre-high clearance,
- » Continuous (no dead ends) and trafficable as close as possible inside the entire perimeter of the land.

Maintained, reticulated living lawns that are kept completely green are acceptable in conjunction with, or in lieu of, a fire break/s (see definition FIRE BREAK).

##### ☐ DEAD FLAMMABLE MATERIAL (DFM)

Reduce and/or maintain all dead flammable material below 8 tonne per hectare (see definition FUEL LOAD).

##### ☐ SLASHING

- » If the land is an area above 5000m<sup>2</sup> and less than 50,000m<sup>2</sup> slash mow or trim unmanaged grasses or dead grasses/weeds and dead shrubs and plants to a height of 50mm. This is additional to Firebreak requirements.
- » If the land is an area of 50,000m<sup>2</sup> (5 hectares) or greater the grass must be maintained on the land to a height no greater than 50mm for a distance of 10 meters from any firebreak.

#### ALL LAND WITH A TOTAL AREA LESS THAN 5000m<sup>2</sup>

##### ☐ DEAD FLAMMABLE MATERIAL

Reduce and/or maintain all dead flammable material below 8 tonne per hectare (see definition FUEL LOAD).

##### ☐ SLASHING

Slash, mow, or trim unmanaged grasses or dead grasses/weeds, dead shrubs, and dead plants to a height no greater than 50mm.

##### ☐ CLEAN GUTTER DEBRIS

Gutters, roofs, and walls of all buildings to be free of flammable matter and maintained.

#### ALL PROPERTIES - ASSET PROTECTION ZONE (APZ)

Maintain a fuel reduced zone around all buildings or assets which extends 20 metres from the outermost point of the building or asset.

- » Gutters, roofs, and walls of all buildings to be free of flammable matter and maintained.
- » Fuel load within the 20-metre zone is reduced and maintained to no more than 2 tonne per hectare.
- » Trees over 5 metres in height within the 20-metre zone to be under pruned up to 2 metres.
- » Trees or shrubs within 2 metres of the asset shall be pruned to a height no greater than 2 metres and/or pruned away from the asset to a distance greater than 2 metres.

### VARIATION TO THE FIRE HAZARD REDUCTION NOTICE

If you consider it impractical to meet a requirement/s of this Notice, you may apply to the City for a variation no later than 1 October 2024.

**Note:** A variation is not an exemption but an application to employ alternative methods of property preparedness to land that you own and/or occupy.

**An administration fee of \$150 applies for applications received after 1 October 2024.**

If your application is not granted you must comply with all requirements outlined in the Fire Hazard Reduction Notice 2024/2025.

Variation request application forms are available before 1 October 2024 on the City's website at:

[www.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/fire](http://www.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/fire)

If you require any further information, please, visit [kalamunda.wa.gov.au/fire](http://kalamunda.wa.gov.au/fire), call 9257 9999 or email [enquiries@kalamunda.wa.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@kalamunda.wa.gov.au)

**ADDITIONAL WORKS**

You may be required to carry out further bushfire property preparedness works on your land to reduce any fire hazards considered necessary by a Fire Control Officer. If required, these will be outlined in a 'work order' and sent to the address of the owner and/or occupier.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLANS AND CITY APPROVED TREATMENT PLANS**

All properties and/or land subject to a Bushfire Management Plan, Emergency Management Plan, or an approved Bushfire Attack Level assessment (BAL), as a result of subdivision, development application or a City approved treatment plan, must comply with the listed requirements in their entirety. **Compliance with any additional plans does not constitute compliance with this Notice.**

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND HERITAGE CONDITIONS**

Any property subject to environmental and heritage value such as, but not limited to, Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC), Bush Forever sites, Declared Rare Flora, and Fauna (DRF) sites and Aboriginal Heritage sites, etc should seek further information about what can or cannot be done prior to carrying out requirements under this Notice.

**Low Threat Minimal Fuel Vegetation**

Minimal fuel condition means there is insufficient fuel available to significantly increase the severity of the bushfire attack. Low threat vegetation includes grassland managed in a minimal fuel condition, maintained lawns, golf courses, maintained public reserves and parklands, vineyards, orchards, cultivated gardens, commercial nurseries, nature strips and windbreaks. Properties of these description will still be assessed under this Notice and can apply for a variation.

**DEFINITIONS**

**FIRE BREAK:** A strip of land free of all flammable and combustible material with the intention of preventing the outbreak of a bush fire and provides visible safe access on the property for emergency vehicles and other firefighting operations. It is acceptable to install a firebreak around naturally occurring obstacles. Fire breaks may be constructed by one or more of the following methods: ploughing, cultivating, scarifying, raking, chemical spraying, or another method as approved by an Authorised Officer.

- » Clearance must be no less than 3-metres wide and 4-metres in height inside and along all boundaries (including boundaries adjacent to roads, rail and drain reserves and all public open space reserves).
- » Must not be more than 4-metres wide (further width extensions may be considered upon written application for approval to the City). Maintained, reticulated living lawns are lawns considered to be kept completely green. Driveways may be acceptable in conjunction with, or in lieu of, fire breaks. Contact a City Fire Officer for further assistance.
- » Must have a corner turning radius of up to 10 metres.
- » Must be a continuous trafficable surface for a 4WD vehicle, be clear of any obstructions and must not terminate in a dead end.

**FUEL LOAD:** Can be live and dead vegetation that accumulates over time. This Notice refers only to dead vegetation.

Fine fuels include = leaf litter, grasses, weeds, twigs (up to 6mm diameter), bark etc.

Heavy (course) fuels include = branches, logs, stumps etc.

A fuel load depth of 15mm (fine fuels) to the mineral earth is indicative of approximately 8 tonne per hectare. The more fuel load, the higher the flame height and increased fire intensity.

Mulch piles, stored firewood and burn piles can contribute to fuel loading on land and must be stored safely away from assets, removed from the property, or actioned as directed by a Fire Officer.

**Anthony Vuleta**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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**CHART 6** 2024/2025 Fire Hazard Reduction Notice

## Measure of Achievement

Overall, this season, there was a high level of compliance across the properties that received assessments. It was noted that we are holding steady with year-on-year compliance reaching 98% by the end of the season. This reflects the work officers have been doing in the pre-season with attending community engagement events and private property walkthroughs.

The successful implementation of the five-year Fire Hazard Assessment Plan underscores the City's commitment to systematically identifying, assessing, and mitigating bushfire risks on privately owned properties. This initiative has played a crucial role in strengthening the City's overall bushfire preparedness and ensuring a safer environment for residents to enjoy.

Through regular bushfire assessments, the City has been able to proactively identify potential fire hazards, ensuring that landowners are aware of their responsibilities in maintaining their properties to reduce fire risks. Increased compliance rates, driven by education, engagement, and enforcement measures, reflect the effectiveness of this approach. The issuance of work orders to address non-compliant properties has further reinforced the City's proactive stance, ensuring that necessary hazard reduction actions are taken in a timely manner.

The City will continue to prioritise education and preparedness strategies as a proactive approach to engaging with the community. By fostering awareness and encouraging responsible fire management practices, the City aims to empower residents with the knowledge and tools needed to mitigate bushfire risks effectively.

Success in these efforts will be gauged through several key indicators, including increased public awareness, greater participation in bushfire preparedness programs, and measurable behavioural changes toward fire safety.

Beyond individual preparedness, the City's approach also emphasises collaborative efforts with stakeholders, including local emergency services, landowners, and community groups. Strengthening partnerships and facilitating open communication channels will ensure a more coordinated and effective response to bushfire threats.

Ultimately, the measure of achievement lies in the City's ability to proactively manage bushfire risks, enhance community resilience, and ensure compliance with fire safety regulations. By minimising the potential impact of bushfires on lives, properties, and the environment, ongoing efforts contribute to a safer and more fire-resilient community.