



OPERATIONAL CIRCULAR 81/2017

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FIRE CHAT

This bushfire season **Fire Chat** will be the new 'branding umbrella' for community engagement and communications around bushfire. This will be supported by the *Are You Ready* Campaign. **Fire Chat** replaces DFES previous bushfire communications known as *Prepare. Act. Survive*.

A suite of new bushfire planning and preparation tools have been developed, consisting of **5 minute Fire Chat**, and supported by **Your Bushfire Preparation Toolkit**, which are two simple steps aimed at helping residents to be better prepared for bushfire.

The **5 minute Fire Chat** asks people living in a high bushfire risk area to have a fire chat to discuss three key questions with family and friends or to discuss with their neighbours if they live alone:

- When will you know to leave?
- Where will you go?
- Which way will you go?

If this is all people do, they will be more prepared than doing nothing. This approach is easy for all people to achieve.

After people have answered the three questions above, they are then asked a disruptive and thought-provoking question:

That's a great first step to protect your family. However have you considered what you would do if you are at work when a fire threatens?

The intent of this question is to drive them to take the next step, which is to seek out their **Bushfire Preparation Toolkit**. The Toolkit is available in hard copy but can also be downloaded at www.dfes.wa.gov.au/firechat. Fact Sheets with further bushfire preparedness information can also be found on the website.

All existing publications of *Prepare. Act. Survive* and supporting publications should be disposed of as **Fire Chat** and **Your Bushfire Preparation Toolkit** will replace this publication. The new resources are available at www.dfes.wa.gov.au/firechat or complete a resource order form. For more information please contact Community Preparedness on 08 9395 9816.

STEVE FEWSTER
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER CAPABILITY

Target Audience: Operations, VFRS, VFES and BFB personnel				
A	B	C	D	Vol
O.I.C. is to communicate content to all relevant personnel under their command, discuss implications, and sign appropriate box above. Once completed Circulars shall be filed on station and forwarded to Information Resources at the end of each financial year.				
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Page 1 of 1	SEP 2017	SEP 2018	ComEngCoordBush@dfes.wa.gov.au	Capability Command