





The southern metropolitan corridor is rapidly expanding with substantial new residential and industrial development. Consequently, a fire station staffed full-time by career firefighters has become necessary to deal with the greater level of risk.

The new \$1.5 million Hope Valley career Fire and Rescue Service station became operational in August 2005.

The station is crewed permanently twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. It is strategically located to provide a timely emergency response to bush and structure fires, traffic accidents and hazardous materials (chemical, biological, radiological) incidents.

The Hope Valley career Fire and Rescue Service station and its crew are a great asset to the local community. In addition to responding to emergencies, the firefighters are actively involved in community safety campaigns, such as visits to local primary schools.

Provision of the new station and its equipment, plus meeting the ongoing running costs, is an example of the Emergency Services Levy (ESL) benefiting your local community.

NEW ESL CATEGORY BOUNDARIES

Each year, the ESL category boundaries and classifications are reviewed. If there has been a change in the delivery of emergency services in an area, then the boundaries and classifications are amended accordingly. Any changes become effective on 1 July.

This has occurred in the Kwinana area where there has been a change in service delivery due to the opening of the Hope Valley career Fire and Rescue Service station.

Previously, the first responders to an incident were the local volunteer fire brigades, with back-up from the career Fire and Rescue Service. Properties were therefore classified ESL Category 3.

Now, nearly all Town of Kwinana properties, including the industrial strip, are serviced firstly by the Hope Valley career Fire and Rescue Service and other career fire and rescue service stations. Back-up is provided by the volunteer brigades and the State Emergency Service volunteers continue to provide their dedicated services to the community.

Accordingly, an ESL Category 1 classification now applies to most properties (see map over the page). This brings the ESL charge on these properties into line with all other properties in the metropolitan area that are receiving the same level and type of protection.

The ESL is a State Government charge which is levied on rates notices issued by the Town of Kwinana. All ESL money collected by the council is sent directly to FESA to fund fire and emergency services.

OUR THANKS TO THE LOCAL VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

Special mention must be made of the Kwinana Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service, Kwinana South Bush Fire Brigade and Mandogalup Bush Fire Brigade whose members have loyally served the area for many years.

Their efforts in protecting the local community, which happens to be one of the busiest fire districts in Western Australia, have been tremendous. Our sincere thanks to them all. We also thank their families and employers whose support enables them to volunteer.

The volunteers will continue to help the community by attending incidents and participating in community safety programs.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Telephone: 1300 136 099 (cost of a local call)

Website: www.fesa.wa.gov.au



