

## Community use of Shire of Cunderdin BFB Appliances

---

### POLICY STATEMENT

To provide a clear framework for the appropriate and lawful use of bush fire brigade vehicles owned by the Shire of Cunderdin for community ie busy bee activities.

### APPLICATION

This policy applies to all bush fire brigade vehicles owned by the local government and used for non-emergency purposes, specifically community busy bees.

### OBJECTIVE

The Shire recognises the value of supporting community-led initiatives such as busy bees. This policy outlines the conditions under which bush fire brigade vehicles may be used for such purposes, ensuring safety, accountability, and compliance with relevant legislation.

### STATUTORY CONTEXT

#### **Local Government Act 1995:**

Section 2.7 and 3.1: Role of council and general function of local government

#### **Bush Fires Act 1954:**

Section 41: Local governments may establish and equip bush fire brigades

#### **Bush Fires Regulations 1954:**

Regulation 15B: Permit holders and officers must comply with directions of the local government

### CORPORATE CONTEXT

Shire of Cunderdin - Delegations Register

### HISTORY

Policy Adopted 24<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Revised

### DEFINITIONS

**Busy Bee:** A community-organised event involving voluntary work to improve public spaces or facilities.

**Bush Fire Brigade Vehicle:** Any vehicle registered and equipped for use by a bush fire brigade under section 41 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*.

**Authorised Officer:** A person appointed by the local government to oversee the use of brigade vehicles.

### POLICY PROVISIONS

#### **Permitted Use**

Vehicles may be used for community busy bees where:

- The activity supports fire prevention, community safety, or environmental improvement.
- The use does not interfere with emergency readiness or operational obligations.

#### **Approval Process**

- Approval must be obtained from the CEO or a delegated officer.

#### **Conditions of Use**

- Only members of the BFB with attainment of correct appliance training may operate the vehicle.
- Vehicles must not be used during total fire bans or high fire danger periods.
- Appliance will be cleaned and refuelled prior to return to the Station.

#### **Insurance and Liability**

- The local government must ensure vehicles are covered under its insurance policy for non-emergency use.
- Volunteers must be registered and covered under the local government's volunteer insurance scheme.

#### **Record Keeping**

- A log of vehicle use must be maintained, including:
  - Date, time, purpose, location, and operator details.
  - Any incidents or damage must be reported immediately.

#### **6. Review and Compliance**

- The policy will be reviewed biannually.
- Non-compliance may result in suspension of vehicle use privileges.