



2001-02 BUDGET EMERGENCY SERVICES

6 JUNE 2001

The operating budgets of the Country Fire Service, State Emergency Service and Metropolitan Fire Service will all be lifted to support the increased demand on these services.

However Member for Flinders Liz Penfold said the total funds raised from the community through the emergency services levy will not alter, nor will the Government's contribution.

Mrs Penfold said the Emergency Services Fund will remain at \$141 million, about half of which is contributed by the Government and about half raised through the Emergency Services Levy.

"Operational budget increases have been achieved through better use of cash reserves held within emergency services," she said.

The Country Fire Service will receive an extra \$2.9 million for operating purposes from the Emergency Services Fund, bringing their total budget to \$28.9 million plus \$8 million available for capital works projects.

The State Emergency Service payment will increase by \$0.2 million to \$5.3 million for operating purposes, plus \$2.5 million available for capital works.

For the Metropolitan Fire Service, the payment from the fund will increase by \$4.3 million to \$64.8 million for operating purposes, plus \$2.5 million for capital works.

Mrs Penfold said the agencies are now better equipped than ever before to assist road accident victims, extinguish fires, save those stranded at sea, assist with storm damage and rescue missing bushwalkers.

As in past years, funding will continue to be provided to Surf Life Saving, Volunteer Marine Rescue, the State Rescue Helicopter, Police Search and Rescue and SA Ambulance Service.