

**Question on Notice No. 784, Tuesday, 17 August 2004**

**Mr ROBERTS** asked the Minister for Emergency Services (Mr Cummins) - Will he outline the objectives of Fire Safety Week with particular reference to activities conducted by his department within the Nudgee Electorate?

**Mr CUMMINS:**

I thank the Member for his Question and would like to congratulate him on his ongoing strong support for Emergency Services within his electorate.

The objectives of the Fire Awareness Week (FAW) within the Nudgee Electorate was to target fire safety in general with a particular influence towards the theme of 'What have you got to lose?'

Queensland Fire and Rescue Service (QFRS) staff visited shopping centres to encourage people to really think about the effects of a fire and remind them to undertake some basic safety measures in their homes and around their properties.

Fire Awareness Week is a time for us to put fire safety in the spotlight and highlight the need for everyone to play their part in protecting themselves and their homes against fire risks. It is a prime time to encourage people to really think about the effects of a fire – it could claim their home, damage property, destroy precious memories, or worse still, take the lives of loved ones. We also need to remind people that it could happen to anyone - everyone needs to be prepared.

Residents are encouraged to access Operation safehome. Which is a free home safety check by local firefighters to help them to safeguard their homes and families against fire dangers. It is like a free check-up for the home, giving householders valuable safety advice and peace of mind. Residents can book in for an Operation Safehome check, and QFRS officers will visit their home and conduct a full safety check, to help them eliminate risks and ensure that their home really is a safe environment. Householders who would like to book a free Operation Safehome consultation should call 1800 815 080.

Already this year, Queensland's urban and volunteer firefighters have attended hundreds of grass and bushfires. FAW gives QFRS the opportunity to ask Queenslanders to help keep them safe as part of the ongoing Community Education approach.