

**Question on Notice
No. 815
Asked on 24 May 2006**

MRS SULLIVAN asked the Minister for Emergency Services (MR PURCELL)

QUESTION:

What safety messages is the Department of Emergency Services advocating for this year's Fire Week?

ANSWER:

The theme for Fire Awareness Week 2006 is 'Wake Up and Live'. This theme is intended as a call to action for people who have not yet installed a smoke alarm to do so; and for those who do have smoke alarms to properly maintain them.

Smoke alarms are vital if residents are to 'Wake Up and Live'.

This public education initiative is the first of a series of strategies that will be employed to educate and inform the Queensland public of new legislation that will require all homes to have at least one battery powered smoke alarm installed and maintained from 1 July 2007.

Another education campaign that will be introduced during Fire Awareness Week 2006 is for residents to reduce the fire hazards around and under their homes. This is particularly important in rural residential areas as well as in urban areas. The Queensland Fire and Rescue Service is using Fire Awareness Week 2006 to encourage all householders to take stock of the amount and type of materials stored under and around their home, and to reduce their fire hazards.