From:	Hiscock, Simon (DPaC)
Sent:	Monday, 16 December 2019 12:06 PM
To:	Denby, Mandy (DPaC); ▓▓▓▓▓ Roberts, Simon (DPaC); ▓▓▓
Cc:	
Subject:	RiskReady and the Disaster Resilience Strategy are now LIVE on TasALERT!!
Importance:	High

Hi all,

The title says it all – www.tasalert.com

RiskReady has been a project several years in the making so, ▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓ I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved. I believe that this is an incredible resource for the Tasmanian community and hopefully one day will be recognised as such!

Thank you all for your contributions to this project... but especially a massive thank you to ▓▓▓▓▓ Not only have they had to support this project and work with the external agencies to get the advice / information developed and finalised but they have also had to deal with the roller coaster that this project became ▓▓▓▓▓▓ ▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓ your work has been invaluable and I appreciate it very much!

▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓

Simon Hiscock
Emergency Management Communications Manager

Department of Premier and Cabinet
▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓
Level 5, 15 Murray St | GPO Box 123 Hobart 7001
www.dpac.tas.gov.au | www.communications.tas.gov.au

From: Ellen Coulter
Sent: Thursday, 6 February 2020 10:30 AM
To: Ellston, Rebecca (DPaC)
Subject: Questions on RiskReady

Hey Bec,

Thanks for your time on the phone.

I have some questions about the RiskReady feature on the TasAlerts website.

http://alert.tas.gov.au/RiskReady/SitePages/Home.aspx

-When did the RiskReady feature of the TasAlerts site go live?
-what is the purpose of RiskReady?
-how are you hoping members of the public will use RiskReady?
-what information is available on RiskReady that isn't already accessible on the LIST/ LISTmap?
-how much did it cost to develop?
-how long did it take to develop?
-why hasn't the government or TFS or other agency been promoting this tool, particularly over the summer bushfire period when it could have help property owners with risk mitigation and preparedness?
-does the government plan to promote this tool, and/or is there a plan for public education about RiskReady and how to use it? If so, when and how?
-is data available for all local government areas on RiskReady?
-is there any concern that RiskReady could affect property values or insurance premiums in Tasmania?

4

If I can have a response by 1700 that would be great.

Thanks very much,

Ellen Coulter
In-depth Reporter, ABC News

M   E
T   @ellencoulter
W abc.net.au/news

NEWS know the story

–

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

From: Matuszek, Emma (DPaC) ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮
Sent: Thursday, 6 February 2020 4:42 PM
To: ▮▮▮▮▮ (DPaC) ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮
Cc: ▮▮▮▮ (DPaC) ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮
Subject: Fwd: ABC query- RiskReady

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Ellen Coulter ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮
> **Date:** 6 February 2020 at 4:24:10 pm AEDT
> **To:** "Matuszek, Emma (DPaC)" ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮
> **Subject: ABC query- RiskReady**

Hi Emma,

Not sure if you're the right person to contact about this but I put some questions in with the government media office this morning about the RiskReady tool on the TasAlert site. Are you able to facilitate some information about this? The story is running online tomorrow.

Thanks very much,

1

Ellen Coulter
In-depth Reporter, ABC News

M		E	
T		⬚ @ellencoulter	
W	abc.net.au/news		

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Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

From: Greg Taylor ⁙■■■■■■■■■■■■■■
Sent: Wednesday, 3 June 2020 9:13 AM
To: Hocking, Lynley ⁙■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■
Subject: RE: AIDR disaster resilience award submission

Good morning Lynley

Sorry for the delay in getting back to you about this. Has been quite a busy couple of weeks this end.

I have had a read through your application, and it is looking very strong.

I have made some suggestions using track changes in the attached for you.

I did find some of the answers were a bit wordy and repetitive as you indicated, and I think I have made appropriate comments on ways that could be reviewed.

Happy to discuss if you would like

Thanks
Greg

Greg Taylor | Office Manager and Events Coordinator
AFAC | Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience
✆ ■■■■■■■■ ☐ ■■■■■■■ ✉ ■■■■■■■■■■
🏠 Level 1, 340 Albert Street, East Melbourne VIC 3002

afac 🔻
✈ ✉ f 🐦 in

Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience 🔷
✈ ✉ f 🐦 in

4

Resilient Australia Awards 2020

Have you made a difference in your local area?

Submit your project online: aidr.org.au/raa

From: Hocking, Lynley
Sent: Wednesday, 27 May 2020 4:08 PM
To: Greg Taylor
Subject: AIDR disaster resilience award submission

Hi Greg

I am pulling together a submission for the AIDR disaster resilience awards. Do you have any suggestions for the attached submission? I am concerned it is a bit wordy and repetitive and hope it answers the questions as required.

Kind regards,
Lynley

Lynley Hocking
Project Manager, Emergency Management Unit

State Emergency Service, Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management
1/47 Liverpool St Hobart TAS 7000
GPO Box 1290 Hobart TAS 7001
P: e: I w: www.ses.tas.gov.au
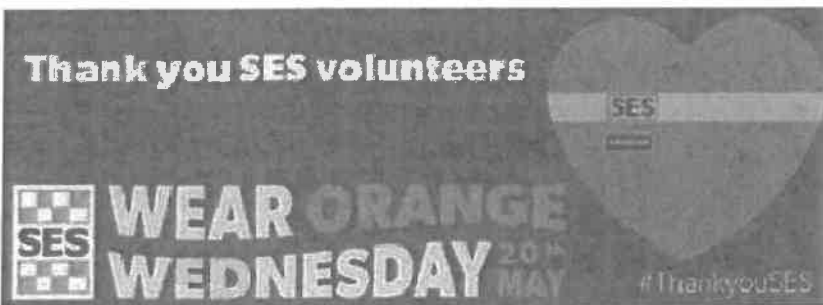
Thank you SES volunteers

SES

WEAR ORANGE WEDNESDAY 20 MAY #ThankyouSES

Question 1: **In 150 words or less, provide an executive summary of your project and its benefits.**

Tasmania's first Disaster Resilience Strategy provides a cohesive framework for all Tasmanians to work together to understand and reduce their risks, and prepare for disasters. Building on current actions, it provides a vision of a more disaster resilient Tasmania and paths towards that vision. It is a call to arms, emphasising that disaster resilience is everybody's business, bringing together communities, government agencies and other sectors. To implement the Strategy, the project also delivered a new Framework for collaborative governance, prioritisation and planning processes, and continuous improvement mechanisms.

RiskReady is an example of the Tasmanian Government working with the community to achieve the aims of the Strategy. RiskReady is an easy-to-use mapping tool that delivers property-level natural hazard information to the community. Tasmanians can enter their address to find out which natural hazards could affect their property, as well as advice on how to manage the potential risk and impacts.

(149 words)

Question 2: **Describe the project or initiative purpose, design and aims. (500 words)**
Consider:

- What is the purpose of the project?
- Where is the project based?
- Who is involved in the project? Who benefits?
- What are the achievements and outcomes of the project?
- Does the project make use of technology? Was this beneficial to the outcome?

The vision of the Strategy is: "Using the best available information, everyone works together to reduce their disaster risk and prepares to withstand and adapt to the impacts of disasters." Four goals underpin the vision:

1. Understanding disaster risk

2. Working together

3. Reducing disaster risk

4. Being prepared for disasters

One of the principle messages of the Disaster Resilience Strategy is that the Tasmanian Government will work with the community to ensure everyone understands the disaster risks affecting them and what they can do to reduce those risks. The Strategy is online at: https://static.alert.tas.gov.au/resources/tasmanian-disaster-resilience-strategy-2020-2025, and the Framework at: https://www.ses.tas.gov.au/emergency-management-2/.

Developed in conjunction to the Strategy, RiskReady aims to improve community resilience by providing access to property-specific natural hazard information in a simple, understandable format. In doing this, property owners in Tasmania can be empowered to understand, adapt and respond to the presence of natural hazards on their land or local area to ensure safety and longevity.

RiskReady is hosted on the TasALERT website (www.tasalert.com/riskready). TasALERT is well-recognised within the Tasmanian community as an official emergency warning and information source.

RiskReady utilises spatial layers from the LIST (Land Information Systems Tasmania), a whole-of-government online infrastructure that helps people find and use information about land and property

in Tasmania. RiskReady currently displays four hazards: bushfire, coastal erosion, coastal inundation and landslide.

The Tasmanian Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC) delivered the Strategy and Risk Ready, overseen by the SEMC which comprises key stakeholders including the Secretaries of all agencies.

The Office of Security and Emergency Management coordinated the Strategy while the project's reference group facilitated input from across the Tasmanian Government as well as extensive consultation with local government, non-government organisations, critical service providers, industry groups and businesses, plus community members. Online tools were used to help facilitate consultation from around the state and to support in-person consultation.

The Communications and Protocol Unit developed the RiskReady website and content in close consultation with relevant government agencies and in conjunction with the Strategy. The mapping data was developed by government agencies, including the Tasmanian Climate Change Office in DPAC, Tasmania Fire Service and Mineral Resources Tasmania in the Department of State Growth.

The Tasmanian Office of the Valuer-General was consulted on the project and extensive research was conducted to reassure stakeholders that the value of property is not measurably impacted by the release of hazard information.

The Local Government Association of Tasmania were regularly engaged during the project. RiskReady supports councils in their role in emergency management, disaster resilience and risk mitigation by giving them a central point to send residents who have queries about risks to their property.

(437 words)

Question 3: Provide specific examples of how the project has supported the community to build resilience to disaster and emergencies. Highlight aspects that make the project sustainable and/or transferable to other communities
0 / 500 words
Consider:

- What have the changes in the community been as a result of your project?
- What evidence can you provide?
- Has the project been evaluated?
- Could other communities use your project as a model?
- How can it be adapted to other communities?

The Strategy and RiskReady have:

- **Mapped and communicated the wide range of initiatives** that currently contribute to disaster resilience in Tasmania to support cohesive action and the effective use of available resources. These are in the Strategy's Background and Supporting Information document, which has also helped to identify gaps and issues as well as raise awareness of current initiatives.

- **Articulated shared responsibilities** for disaster risk reduction and preparedness. While in practice this has always been the case, this is the first time the concept of shared responsibilities has been formally articulated. The Strategy supports the work of response agencies in managing expectations and communicating responsibilities.

- **Provided practical guidance.** The Strategy supports the community by explaining what disaster resilience means in practice and by providing links to guidance and information. RiskReady is a great example of the Strategy's intent in action.

- **Provided improved access to risk information for property owners** so they can better understand and manage their risks. Their communities and Tasmania become more disaster resilient as individual landowners reduce their risks.

- **Supported collaboration.** The Strategy's development involved collaboration across government and beyond. RiskReady is also a collaborative tool for informing and enabling joint efforts in disaster risk reduction.

- **Facilitated continuous improvement.** The Strategy promotes a strong emphasis on informed, evidence-based decision making by lay-people as well as experts such as is enabled through RiskReady. The Strategy and Framework provide mechanisms for continuous improvement, such as useful and feasible measures and reporting on disaster resilience actions and outcomes.

- **Provided the context for practical projects such as RiskReady.** In enabling easier access to risk information, RiskReady is an example of the Disaster Resilience Strategy in practice. RiskReady embodies some key aims of the Disaster Resilience Strategy – that everyone needs to understand the risks affecting them and must act upon those risks and, that in order for this to happen, risk information needs to be easily accessible.

- **Aligned with international and national frameworks.** The Strategy is essentially a simplified version of the UNISDR's Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction suitable for the Tasmanian context. This enables actions in Tasmania to be guided by current standards of best practice. In aligning with the Sendai Framework, the Strategy is also aligned with the National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework and identifies those aspects of the national framework that are most applicable to Tasmania.

  RiskReady is also in good company, with other Australian states and territories and international jurisdictions providing natural hazard information to communities to improve local disaster resilience.

This approach used could be useful for other jurisdictions aiming for a cohesive and inclusive approach to disaster resilience with improved access to useful risk information.

Launched in December 2019, usage of RiskReady is currently being monitored. A current stage 2 project includes focusing on useful disaster resilience measures and reporting. While there are high level Sendai measures for disaster risk reduction (number of deaths, injuries etc), the development of the Strategy unveiled a lack of useful state-level reporting on disaster resilience actions and outcomes.

(499 words)

Question 4: What were the findings and achievements of the project or initiative?
0 / 500 words
Consider:

- How did the project promote or encourage sharing the responsibility for disaster resilience/community safety among sectors/groups?
- How does your project reflect key ideas in the National Strategy for Disaster Resilience?
- How has the community been directly engaged through the project?
- How has the community responded to the project?

The Strategy provides shared language and concepts to address disaster resilience, plus a framework for prioritising actions so that communities and all levels of government can make the best use of available resources.

By aligning closely with international and national frameworks, the Strategy helps ensure Tasmanian actions are consistent with other jurisdictions' approaches, so that Tasmania can both learn from and contribute to world-wide disaster resilience.

Together, this will help to ensure the best use of available resources across hazards and sectors. Particularly, the Tasmanian strategy focuses on:

- **Understanding risk** by all parties, from specialist experts to private individuals, so everyone can make informed decisions based on sound evidence. RiskReady, enabling easier access to natural hazards affecting properties, is a good example of the Strategy's intentions in action.

- **Working together.** Collaborative networks and governance arrangements help ensure cohesive actions across and between sectors within Tasmania

- **Reducing disaster risks.** Everyone has a role in reducing risks and should try to do so in ways that have everyday benefits too. By emphasising the triple dividend of resilience, where disaster risk reduction has benefits even if a disaster does not occur, people are more likely to invest in disaster risk reduction.

- **Being prepared for disasters**, as not all disaster risks can be completely mitigated. The Strategy focuses on ensuring Tasmanians have access to practical preparedness information and are supported and encouraged to prepare for disasters, as well as planning and preparedness by those working or volunteering in emergency response and recovery.

The Strategy has been well received even though it is yet to be widely promoted and communicated. The Strategy was to be promoted alongside the new Tasmanian Emergency Management Arrangements; however, current events have put this on hold.

RiskReady implements a key principle of a disaster resilient community as outlined in the National Strategy for Disaster Resilience and the Tasmanian Disaster Resilience Strategy. RiskReady makes use of land use planning systems to support the community to reduce their exposure to natural hazard risks, and provides information to help them implement strategies to protect life and property.

RiskReady encourages and empowers all Tasmanians to accept their share of responsibility for disaster resilience and community safety by engaging them in the conversation about risk. It provides high-level information on the most appropriate measures for mitigating the potential risks to property, and directs users to the relevant government agency for information, including detailed risk mitigation and preparedness advice.

RiskReady will feature in the Tasmanian Government's exhibits in the 2020 and 2021 Tasmanian agricultural shows. This is a great opportunity to engage Tasmanians statewide, from a range of backgrounds. When situated alongside other emergency management and resilience focused displays and the Strategy, RiskReady will provide useful, personalised context to "bring home" the risk, and allow visitors to seek out preparedness and mitigation information from other nearby displays.

(475 words)

Question 5: Describe how your project is contributing to an inclusive Australia.
Consider:

- In what ways does your project engage with and provide benefit to diverse groups within the Australian community?
- In what ways does your project foster inclusive approaches to disaster resilience?

- How does your project highlight the needs, voices and achievements of the estimated 1 in 5 Australians with a disability?

The Strategy aims to "Enable inclusive community capacity building programs across all hazards to suit local and individual needs" and "Facilitate inclusive policies and programs based on community engagement, awareness and local or individual needs to ensure broad understanding of disaster risks and risk management across all hazards". The goal is to ensure all Tasmanians are supported and empowered to manage disaster risk.

While emphasising everyone has an active role in reducing risk and preparing, the Strategy also recognises that people need to be supported to fulfil their responsibilities, and some people may need more support than others. As such, it provides a framework to facilitate active social engagement by all sectors of society and broad sections of the community.

Consultation on the Strategy identified community understanding of disaster risk and capacities and capabilities to act on that understanding as one of the most significant issues of concern.

One of the four new high-level governance structures to implement the Strategy will focus on community resilience and capacity. Facilitating engagement by those at higher risk due to their circumstances will be a core focus in order to assist them to manage their disaster risks and prepare. The Strategy provides the context and rationale plus a framework for including a wide range of people, including those with disabilities or other potentially marginalised groups, so they can actively identify and pursue disaster resilience measures that meet their circumstances.

RiskReady takes powerful Government open data and displays it in a way that is more accessible to all Tasmanians. It enhances communities' disaster resilience through use of simple tools that translate complex scientific information about natural hazards into everyday language that can be understood and acted upon by all Tasmanians. RiskReady supports traditional community engagement activities such as face-to-face information sessions or complex websites that may exclude people with disability and other vulnerable groups within the community.

Both the Strategy documents and RiskReady use plain English principles and are intended to be as accessible as possible. RiskReady is hosted on the TasALERT website, which is designed to be accessible and mobile friendly. After typing in their address, users can also generate and download a PDF report for their property that includes all of the information available on the website. Both the Strategy and RiskReady provide links and contact details so that people can get more information in a format that suits them.

(397 words)

From:	Hiscock, Simon (DPaC)
Sent:	Wednesday, 29 July 2020 9:48 AM
To:	Morman, Libby (DPaC)
Subject:	FW: Risk ready

Just FYI

From: Lassig, Leanne
Sent: Tuesday, 28 July 2020 11:01 AM
To: Hiscock, Simon (DPaC)
Subject: Risk ready

Hi Simon

We have recently realised that the risk ready mapping is not displaying on the Tas Alert site.
Could you let me know when the mapping will be made available again?

Leanne Lassig | Senior Business Analyst | PlanBuild Tasmania |
Department of Justice

p:

· PO Box 56 Rosny Park Tas 7018

From:	Hiscock, Simon (DPaC)
Sent:	Tuesday, 4 August 2020 5:41 PM
To:	Hocking, Lynley (SES)
Cc:	(DPaC)
Subject:	RE: AIDR disaster resilience award submission

Hi Lynley,

TasALERT is back and so is RiskReady!

From:	Hiscock, Simon
Sent:	Friday, 14 August 2020 11:17 AM
To:	▓▓▓▓▓▓ (TFS)
Subject:	RiskReady
Importance:	High

Hi ▓▓▓

Please could you send through that document from South Australia that highlights RiskReady?

Simon Hiscock
Assistant Director, Office of Security and Emergency Management
Department of Premier and Cabinet
Level 1, 47 Liverpool Street, Hobart | GPO Box 123, Hobart, TAS 7001
Phone ▓▓▓▓▓▓ | Mobile ▓▓▓▓▓▓

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From:	Denby, Mandy (DPaC)
Sent:	Friday, 14 August 2020 11:50 AM
To:	Hiscock, Simon (DPaC); Morman, Libby (DPaC); (DPaC)
Cc:	Roberts, Simon (DPaC); Hocking, Lynley (SES); (SES)
Subject:	RE: Praise for RiskReady - Independent Review into South Australia's 2019-20 Bushfire Season

It's always great to see someone else wanting what you've got! Well done everyone, really good recognition.

From: Hiscock, Simon (DPaC)
Sent: Friday, 14 August 2020 11:46 AM
To: Morman, Libby (DPaC) (DPaC)
Denby, Mandy (DPaC)
Cc: Roberts, Simon (DPaC) Hocking, Lynley (SES)
 (SES)
Subject: Praise for RiskReady - Independent Review into South Australia's 2019-20 Bushfire Season

This is a recommendation from the recent Independent Review into South Australia's 2019-20 Bushfire Season:

5.6.2 Finding

Existing risk intelligence data for bushfire prone land is not in real time whereas other governments have risk data readily available to the public.

While South Australia was the first state to make bushfire prone land mapping publicly available, it had not updated this work since its initial release commencing in the late 1980s. In the meantime, other jurisdictions have developed sophisticated online risk mapping tools which provide critical intelligence to the community, as well as government and industry stakeholders. Examples included Tasmania's *Risk Ready* tool and the *Brisbane City Council Flood Awareness Map.*

Tasmania's *Risk Ready* tool includes real-time bushfire risk mapping that is updated using the *Phoenix RapidFire* modelling tool, showing the projected reduction in bushfire risk where hazard reduction works have been completed.

A collaborative whole of government review of risk intelligence data led by the ODA, could also redevelop bushfire prone land mapping in South Australia for publication online.

Simon Hiscock
Assistant Director, Office of Security and Emergency Management
Department of Premier and Cabinet
Level 1, 47 Liverpool Street, Hobart | GPO Box 123, Hobart, TAS 7001
Phone Mobile

1

Good morning,

I have some questions about Bushfire-Prone Areas mapping for the state. My understanding is the TFS has been working over a few years with local governments to prepare these maps, and then get them into the Tasmanian Planning Scheme (or interim schemes for now).

Please advise if any of these questions need to go elsewhere- I am sending some to DPAC as well.

-For which council areas has Bushfire-Prone Area Mapping been completed?
-Which of these council areas' Bushfire-Prone Area overlay maps have not yet been incorporated into their respective interim planning schemes?
-What is the expected timeline for the remaining council areas to complete their Bushfire-Prone Area mapping?
-Which council areas' Bushfire Prone Area overlay maps are included in The List?
-Which council areas' Bushfire Prone Area overlay maps are included in the RiskReady tool?
-When is it anticipated that all council areas' Bushfire-Prone Area mapping data will be included in the RiskReady tool?

Thanks very much for your time.

My deadline is 1700 today.

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From: Ellen Coulter
Sent: Friday, 14 August 2020 12:12 PM
To: Eliston, Rebecca (DPaC)
Subject: ABC query- bushfire-prone areas

Good afternoon Bec,

I have some questions about Bushfire-Prone Area mapping for the state.

I've sent some questions to the TFS to clarify which council areas are still working with TFS on their mapping, but I have some questions for DPAC on this too, as I understand the RiskReady tool comes under DPAC and the Minister for Climate Change.

-The RiskReady tool was offline for updates for a couple of months- is the website fully functional now?
-The tool includes "bushfire-prone area" information. Not all councils have had their bushfire-prone area overlays approved by the Tas Planning Commission, and their data is not in The List. Why are these areas being declared "no foreseen risk" on the RiskReady website?
-Is this website misleading Tasmanians about the potential level of bushfire risk associated with their properties?
-For how many council areas is the RiskReady site lacking Bushfire-Prone Area information?
-When is it anticipated that all LGAs' Bushfire-Prone Area mapping will be included in RiskReady?
-Which organisation (DPAC? TFS?) has responsibility for making sure the information on RiskReady is accurate?
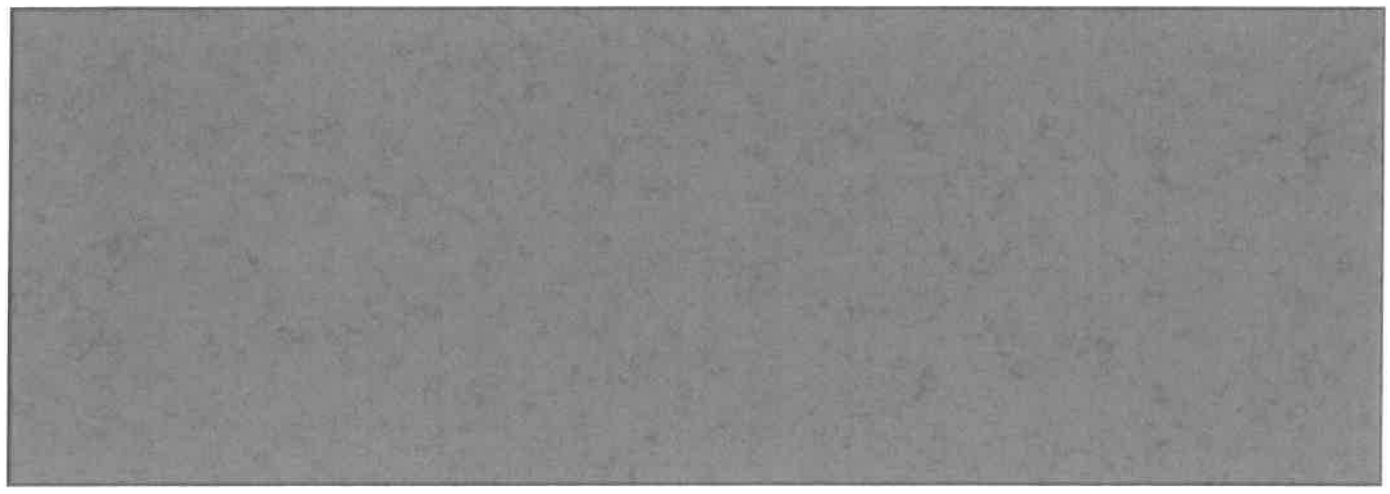
Thanks very much for your time.

My deadline is 1800 today.

Thanks very much,

Ellen Coulter

1

From:	Hiscock, Simon (DPaC)
Sent:	Sunday, 16 August 2020 8:03 PM
To:	Morman, Libby (DPaC)
Cc:	Denby, Mandy (DPaC)
Subject:	Re: RiskReady government website gives home owners in bushfire-prone areas a 'false sense of security' - ABC News

On 16 Aug 2020, at 7:56 pm, Morman, Libby (DPaC) < ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮ wrote:

https://mobile.abc.net.au/news/2020-08-16/government-website-misleading-tasmanians-about-fire-risk/12561976

'Totally unacceptable': Government website misleading Tasmanians about fire risk

Posted 9m ago

A government website designed to help Tasmanians prepare for natural disasters has been telling thousands of people in potentially bushfire-prone areas there is no known risk at their homes and businesses.

The RiskReady online tool allows people to enter an address and quickly determine whether a property is likely to be exposed to a range of natural hazards, including bushfire, landslide, coastal erosion and coastal inundation.

1

The affected council areas are Flinders, Circular Head, Waratah-Wynyard, Burnie, Devonport, Central Coast, Dorset, Meander Valley, Central Highlands, Derwent Valley, Brighton, Glenorchy, Sorell and Glamorgan-Spring Bay.

Those councils have completed bushfire-prone mapping with the Tasmania Fire Service but have not amended their respective planning schemes to incorporate the mapping yet.

Only mapping data that has been added to a planning scheme is able to be displayed on RiskReady.

Fire destroyed property and structures at Dolphin Sands in 2019.*(ABC News: Scott Ross)*

RiskReady information 'unacceptable, problematic'

Glamorgan-Spring Bay Council's bushfire-prone overlay mapping is still going through the Tasmanian Planning Commission approval process so it can be added to the planning scheme.

Large parts of that council area, including almost all of Dolphin Sands, are recognised as bushfire-prone.

But on the RiskReady website, addresses along Dolphin Sands Road are identified as "no foreseen risk".

Robyn Moore, from the Dolphin Sands Ratepayers Association, said the RiskReady initiative was a good idea.

"We're always really supportive of anything which helps our members increase their awareness of fire safety because it's a really big risk in our area," Ms Moore said.

For a government website to have misleading information was "a bit concerning", one mayor said.*(Supplied)*

Ms Moore said Dolphin Sands was one of the most bushfire-prone areas in Tasmania, with the municipality's emergency management plan specifically highlighting Dolphin Sands and Coles Bay.

Only last year, residents had to evacuate the area because of bushfire.

She said the information being provided in RiskReady was "extremely problematic".

"And it would be far better if that website just said 'there's no available data' or something along those lines, rather than giving people any false sense of security."

Ms Moore welcomed news the Government was fixing the site.

Dr Woodruff said while it was the responsibility of individuals to prepare their properties for bushfire, Tasmanian government websites needed to be a reliable source of information to enable that.

"It's totally unacceptable to have a Tasmanian government website misleading people about the bushfire risk they face, so this tool has to be taken down immediately and fixed as a matter of priority."

The Government said "work was underway … so that it is clearer when there is no data available for a particular area, rather than no risk".*(Tasmania Fire Service: Warren Frey)*

The Derwent Valley council's bushfire-prone area data is not available on RiskReady.

Mayor Ben Shaw said he and council planners had never heard of RiskReady, but he was concerned to learn that local residents in bushfire-prone areas might be receiving the wrong information.

"Certainly I guess it's a bit of a concern in terms of misinformation," Cr Shaw said.

"If you go searching [elsewhere] you can certainly find the details but having a website that is clearly a government-run website saying there is 'no risk', it certainly would have been better to have 'no data' or 'contact your local council'."

"Because we obviously live in a high-risk area all throughout the Derwent Valley and our municipality and everyone has to have a fire plan anyway.

"If someone was looking for a quick search, that's not the right information, so it's a bit concerning."

Website 'fully functional', but language being changed

The Department of Premier and Cabinet is responsible for the RiskReady feature, which took a year and about $50,000 to develop.

In a statement, a spokeswoman said the website was fully functional, but that changes were being made.

"Work is underway with the development team to change the language so that it is clearer when there is no data available for a particular area, rather than no risk," the statement said.
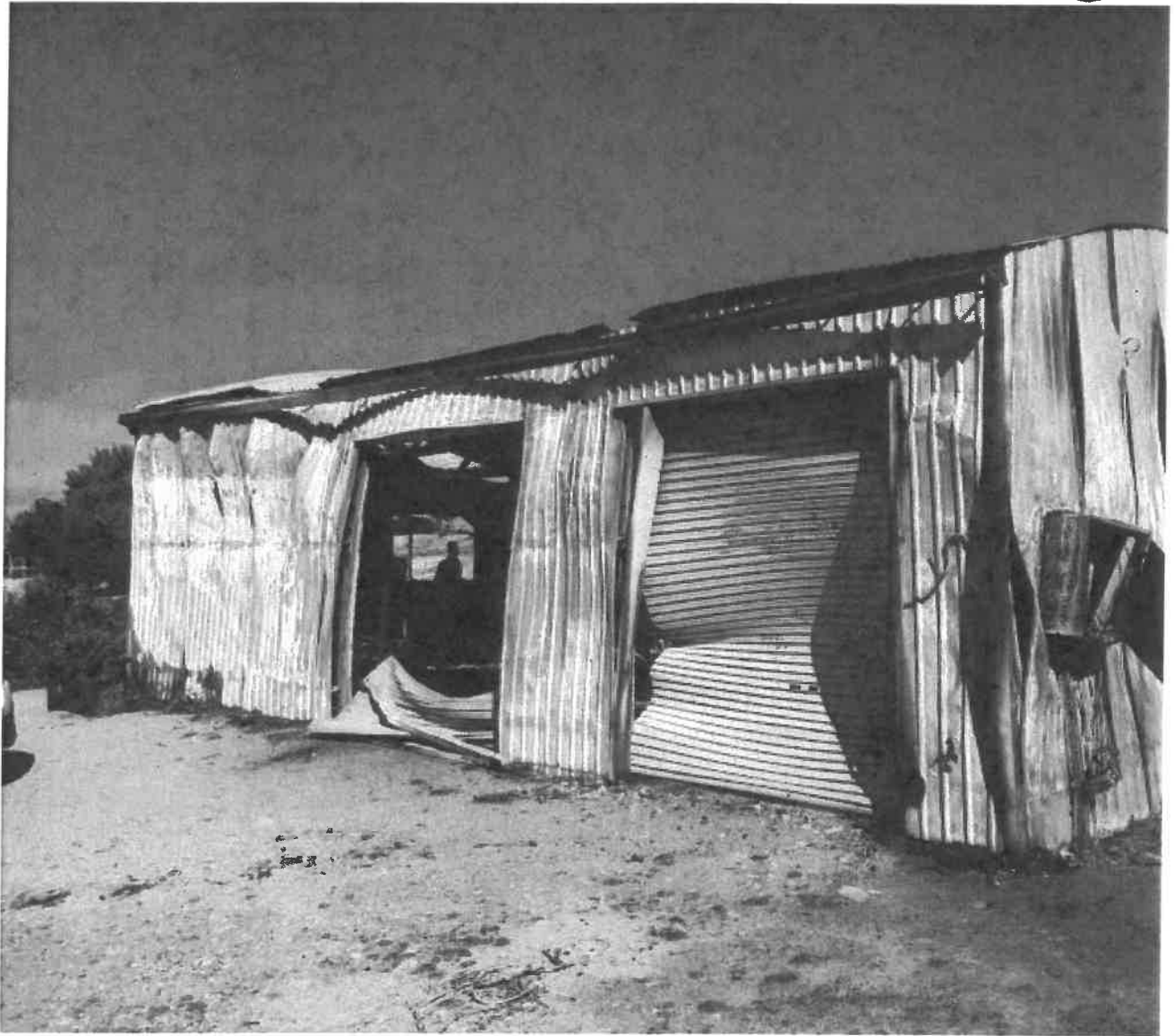
Dolphin Sands is one of a number of areas classified with misleading information on the website.*(ABC News: Scott Ross)*

The statement also said that 21 council areas were lacking bushfire-prone data on the RiskReady site, but a scan of the council areas showed the figure was actually 14.

The spokeswoman said a recent independent review into South Australia's 2019-20 bushfire season highlighted RiskReady as a "sophisticated online risk mapping tool which provides critical intelligence to the community, as well as government and industry stakeholders".

The RiskReady tool was launched early this year but was never promoted by the Government.

In a statement, a Tasmania Fire Service spokeswoman said the TFS had completed bushfire-prone mapping for the entire state and the responsibility now lay with councils to initiate amendments to their planning schemes.

Right to Information documents show the Government engaged external consultants for a "RiskReady campaign" as far back as December 2018.

There were also plans for a media release and RiskReady graphics for a campaign, but no campaign was pursued.

Earlier this year, the Government said the decision was made to promote the tool "when the time is right".

The site was offline for part of this year, with the Government saying it was being updated.

Sent from my iPhone