

# Government Building Bushfire Survivability Assessment

August 2012



A well prepared building protection zone increases a buildings survivability.



## GOVERNMENT BUILDING BUSHFIRE SURVIVABILITY ASSESSMENT

The purpose of the Government Building Bushfire Survivability Assessment is to assess the level of vegetation and flammable material located within the building protection zone. The assessment considers the location of trees and shrubs in proximity to buildings; the amount of dead material in vegetation; the distance between tree crowns; and other potential fuel which may impact on a buildings survivability in a bushfire. The assessment identifies areas that require action to reduce the potential impact of bushfire.

### Summary

**Building being assessed:** .....

**Location of building being assessed:** .....

**Date of assessment:** .....

**Summary of outcomes:**

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.....

**Assessed by:** .....

### The Building Protection Zone

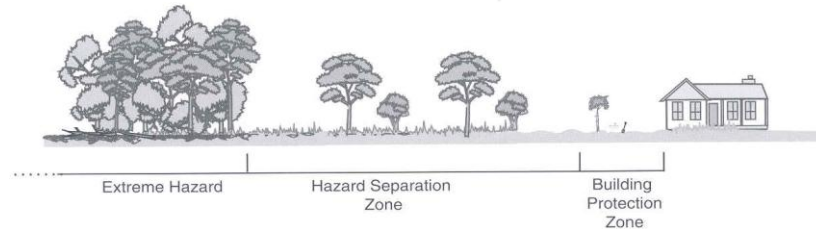
In general, the aim of the building protection zone is to ensure that there will be no direct flame contact on the building from a bushfire. By utilising the fuel management options it will also be possible to reduce the potential radiant heat impact on the building.

If there is little or nothing to burn then the fire's impact will be reduced.

#### Disclaimer

*The information contained in this document is provided by the Fire and Emergency Services Authority (FESA) voluntarily as a public service. It has been prepared in good faith and is derived from sources believed to be reliable and accurate at the time of assessment. Nevertheless, the reliability and accuracy of the information cannot be guaranteed and FESA expressly disclaims liability for any act or omission done or not done in reliance on the information and for any consequences, whether direct or indirect, arising from such act or omission.*

*This document is intended to be a guide only and readers should obtain their own independent advice and make their own necessary inquiries.*



<b>Building Protection Zone : 20 metres 'Circle of Safety'</b>		<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Description of remedial action required.</b>
1	Is there tall (> 10 cm high) vegetation (grass) within 20 meters of the building, other than the odd shrub (which is not clumped)?				
2	How close are the shrubs to the building?	metres			
3	Are all the shrubs at least 3 times their mature height away from the building?				
4	Are the shrubs adjacent to the potentially soft entry points into the building e.g. windows, sliding doors, eaves not boxed etc?				
5	Is there dead material in the crown of the shrub vegetation? If yes, what percentage is dead.	>50%	20-50%	50%	
6	Are the tree crowns greater than 10 – 15 metres apart?				
7	Have the trees been pruned of their lower limbs, to a height of 2m?				



<b>Building Protection Zone : 20 metres 'Circle of Safety'</b>		<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Description of remedial action required.</b>
8	Is there at least 2m between the tree crowns and the building?				
9	Is there a wood heap, heaped vegetation or other flammable material close to the building (within the BPZ)?				
10	Is there more than 2 t/ha of available fuel in the BPZ? (refer to the FESA visual fuel load guide)				
11	Does the building have fences within 5 m of the building?				
12	If Yes, are they constructed of material that will burn?				
13	If the fence was to burn or lose rigidity would it impact onto the integrity of the building?				
14	Are there flammable liquids stored in the building or surroundings?				
15	Are the gas cylinders appropriately placed and protected from radiant heat or flame contact?				
16	Are the gas bottles placed so that if they vent it is away from the building?				
17	Is there anything obvious that exposes the building to an unreasonable level of threat? If yes describe: ..... .....				



