Statement

The Hon Lisa Neville MP

Minister for the Coordination of Environment, Land, Water, and Planning – COVID-19 Minister for Police and Emergency Services Minister for Water



Thursday, 25 June 2020

STATEMENT FROM THE POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES MINISTER

After 42 years of service in emergency management Steve Warrington has let me know he will be stepping down from his position as Chief Officer of the Country Fire Authority (CFA).

Steve started his career at Chelsea Fire Brigade in 1978 as a volunteer. He completed the CFA recruit course in 1983 and then served 14 years as both a staff member and volunteer with his final volunteer years spent at Langwarrin.

Steve has both state-wide strategic and operational tactical experience at major incidents including Arthurs Seat Chairlift collapse; the 2003, 2006 and 2007 bushfires; Victorian Bushfires in 2009 and NSW bushfires, and leading the CFA during the major bushfires over the last two summers. In June 2017, Steve was a recipient of the Australian Fire Services Medal.

He was appointed to the dual position of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Officer of Country Fire Authority (CFA) on 31 May 2019. He was previously appointed Chief Officer on 30 June 2016.

In that time he has served the CFA and the Victorian community exceptionally well.

I will miss Steve greatly – I have learnt much from him about bushfires and the CFA and hold him in high regard. While I'm incredibly sad to see Steve leave the CFA, I respect his decision to take time for himself and his family. Steve should be immensely proud of his contribution to Victoria and the CFA.

On behalf of the Victorian Government, I thank Steve for his leadership and resilience, particularly during the devastating Summer bushfires earlier this year, and wish him well for the future.