

Bushfire threat hits home with tragic loss of Mark Mudie

1 The passing of Mark Mudie this week was a tragic reminder of how dangerous the bushfire season can be. My sincere condolences to Mark's family and friends. The thoughts of the entire State are with the Ravensthorpe community.

2 A big thank you to all the volunteer and career firefighters on the frontline who have been protecting homes and communities.

3 Housing data released this week shows momentum in the delivery of new housing in Western Australia continues to grow. October saw the highest number of new homes approved for construction in around four years — even

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longer if you remove the COVID stimulus periods. In the past 12 months, 23,726 new homes have been approved for construction, an increase of 18 per cent compared with the previous 12-month period.

4 The amount of multi-residential homes approved for construction is also growing strongly with nearly 5000 new apartments and units approved in the past 12 months. It's a 64 per cent increase compared with the previous 12-month period.

5 We've also announced an extension to our Rent Relief Program. Nearly 3700 households have received more than \$16 million in support through the program, which helps tenants clear rental arrears, meet future costs and bring more stability to their lives.

6 Meanwhile — the Liberal Party's only offering on housing is to join NIMBYs in opposing more development. Basil Zempilas is running a campaign against high-density in Floreat, while the member for Nedlands Jonathan Huston penned an op-ed saying high-density developments don't belong in the western suburbs. At a time when we

need to boost housing supply, the Liberals are trying to stand in the way.

7 As part of the 16 Days in WA Campaign, we've just announced a new \$110 million package of initiatives to support victim-survivors, hold perpetrators to account and raise awareness about family and domestic violence. An important issue for the community — and a priority area of investment for our Government.

8 If you didn't see the Adelaide 500 Supercars event over the weekend, it was massive. Hosted in the parkland on the edge of the CBD, 235,000 people attended the four-day event. That's what

we could achieve at Perth Park, and it would be a massive boost for our economy.

9 Haven't written this in a while but Perth Glory have won two in a row! Let's make it three against Western Sydney tomorrow.

10 Big changes are on the way for the road network around Innaloo. On Saturday, December 13, the new Stephenson Avenue interchange will open. If you frequent Innaloo head to Stephenson Avenue Extension Project page on the Main Roads website for more information.

**Rita Saffioti is the
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