

# PETER DRAPER

INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR TAMWORTH

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Persistence Pays Off for Dungowan Rural Fire Service**

*April 23, 2004*

The Dungowan Rural Fire Service and surrounding brigades will be in a better position to fight fires following the securing of \$5000 in new fire fighting equipment by Member for Tamworth Peter Draper.

Mr Draper is happy to report that the service is to receive vital, time saving equipment including three hand held radios, a base station and a charger from the NSW Office of Emergency Services.

Brigade Captain Jack Hahn approached Mr Draper in September last year detailing the brigade's need for equipment and requesting he approach the NSW Minister for Emergency Services, Tony Kelly, on their behalf.

"The Minister rejected my initial request but after further discussions with Mr Hahn, I resubmitted the proposal in January including additional information," Mr Draper said.

"I was pleased to receive the news today that the three radios, a base station and charger will be delivered to the Dungowan Brigade next week," he said.

"Dungowan is centrally located next to the neighbouring brigades of Loomberah, Woolomin, Piallamore and Ogunbil, so this equipment can be used by other brigades should a fire emergency occur."

Mr Draper said previously when this district's brigades needed to access a base station and portable radios they had to drive to Tamworth to borrow them.

"This added an hour to the response time, and could have placed volunteers, residents and property at risk," he said.

"I am pleased the Minister has recognised the importance of helping the smaller brigades such as Dungowan, as the volunteer fire fighters perform a vital role in rural communities. "

**End Release**

[www.peterdraper.com.au](http://www.peterdraper.com.au)

Media Contacts: Peter Draper 0417 290 376 Electorate Office ph. 6766 1422  
Donna Hurley 0419 409 538 Parliament House ph. 9230 2341