



Your details

Mr

Title

First name

Lynton aka 'Blue'

Last name

Phillips

Submission details

I am making this submission as

A resident in a bushfire-affected area

Submission type

I am making a personal submission

Consent to make submission public

I give my consent for this submission to be made public

Share your experience or tell your story

Your story

Mine's short and sweet. Living down the southern ('Echo Point') end of Katoomba Street, we at one stage were effectively between major bushfires, to the south (Jamison Valley - Ruined Castle fire), and the north (Grose Valley fire), and of course were continually monitoring the situation by a variety of means, - visually where practicable, and vide media and phone app' (bushfires near me, of course!). My comment simply is the media and especially combat agency updates and reports need to be far, far, more specific in future - don't just be lazy and say: "you Blackheath and Katoomba people need to consider getting out, enact your bushfire survival plan". Such an unnecessarily broad, "shotgun/cover-all" approach just endures unwarranted panic, particularly when in fact only a very few actual streets etc in these suburbs in reality needed such a 'mayday mayday' get out now warning. We had a friend fly the coop from Blackheath in a mad panicked flap, and stayed with us a few days until the situation settled somewhat.

Her house, her street, her region of Blackheath was perfectly safe and totally OK to remain in. The danger is it'll become a 'boy cries wolf' scenario, and when folk really do need to pack and go, they'll say: "oh no, they said that in the summer of 19/20, and it was all cool, no need to worry, I'm staying put this time". Be specific not general with your warnings.

Terms of Reference (optional)

The Inquiry welcomes submissions that address the particular matters identified in its [Terms of Reference](#).

Supporting documents or images
