

NEWS

Station doors 'useless'

BY NATHAN HONDROS

DAWESVILLE MP Zak Kirkup has raised the alarm about the front doors of Falcon's fire station, which have been broken and useless since March.

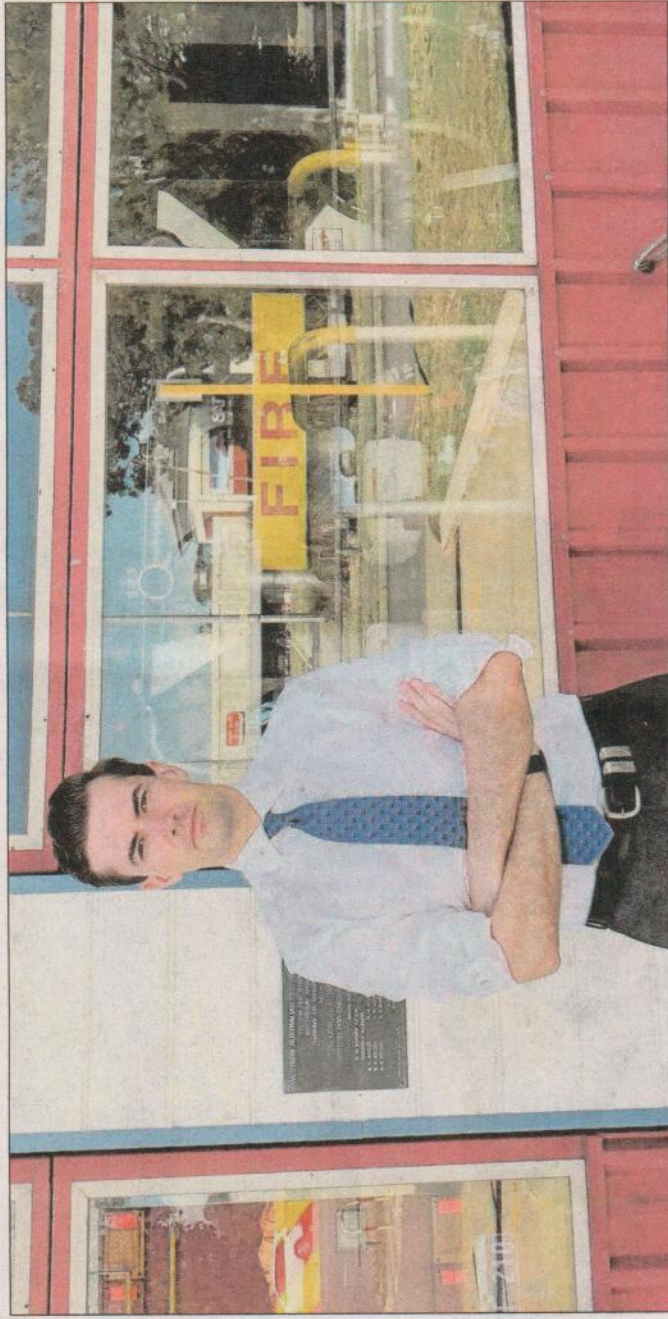
The station, which is home to the Falcon Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service, is in regular use by volunteers attending both fire incidents and car accidents throughout the City of Mandurah.

Mr Kirkup labelled it "absurd" and "ridiculous" that volunteer emergency crews would be forced to use the rear doors of the station when going to and from jobs. "I think it's a huge concern," he said.

"The fact is these are some of the hardest working volunteers in Mandurah, they provide a fantastic service to the community and put their lives in harm's way.

"You'd think the least the government could do is make sure they have the facility to get in and out of the fire station to get to a job.

"Not only is it a nuisance for them to try to get in and out the building through the



BROKEN DOORS: Dawesville MP Zak Kirkup has raised the alarm about the front doors of Falcon's fire station, which have been broken and unusable since March, 2017. Photo: Supplied.

rear entries, but in addition the time delays would be a concern to all of us in the community."

Mr Kirkup said it was further evidence the government had forgotten Mandurah.

"How can you have a situation where you have one of the most active volunteer fire and rescue groups in

Western Australia, the Falcon VFRS, has been unable since March this year to go out their own front door with their fire trucks?" he said.

Mr Kirkup said he would be writing to emergency services minister Fran Logan about the doors.

"I'll be writing to the minister to ask him to urgently intervene and get these

doors fixed and replaced urgently not only so we can get the fire trucks in and out but so these guys can do their job," Mr Kirkup said.

"In recent months they've attended a large number of car crashes that occur across Mandurah.

"The government has forgotten about them entirely and has no concern for them as possible."

MAPTO to study tourism branding

THE Peel's peak tourism marketing body, Mandurah and Peel Tourism Organisation (MAPTO), is evaluating the region's tourism brand with the most significant consumer tourism research project undertaken since 2012.

MAPTO chief executive Karen Priest said phase two of the research strategy was under way with visitor interviews conducted at Dwellingup, Preston Beach, Serpentine Falls and Mandurah.

"It is vital that we continue to evaluate our current brand positioning to understand the extent to which it is stimulating visitation," said Ms Priest.

"We've completed the initial phase - the Brand Health Survey - and are continuing with these essential visitor interviews and an online discussion forum this quarter. Concurrently, our summer promotional campaign is underway to drive visitation into the Peel region."