



## Bushfire Mental Health: Pilot Project

May 2021

### Participant Information Sheet

Your participation in this project is welcome. It has been designed with the overall aim of protecting the wellbeing of firefighters involved in bushfires in Western Australia (WA). You are invited to complete the STAGE-28 online portal to receive an assessment of your mental health via an e-mail directly to your Inbox. It will contain scores, risk-level and links to further information and support options.

STAGE-28 International is a company specialising in emergency services training and research around the world. To gain the confidence of people like you, who actually do the work, your responses will be stored on highly encrypted servers belonging to STAGE-28. This security will ensure that no member of the fire service community or other organisation will be able to identify you. Your e-mail address is necessary to send results back to you and to alert you to any concern your scores might imply. All personally identifying information will be removed leaving only the scores and demographic information (e.g., age, sex, length of service) for analysis. This analysis will form the basis of a report for managers at DFES and Bushfire community in WA if requested.

While it is hoped this assurance encourages you to take part you are entitled to withdraw from this data collection at any time without giving a reason. If you do wish to withdraw either contact Dr John Durkin at STAGE-28 [john@stage-28.com](mailto:john@stage-28.com) or Fleur Massey at [fleumassey@mail.com](mailto:fleumassey@mail.com) . If your data has not been processed it will be traced and deleted. If it has been processed your identification and participation record will be deleted.

No harm is anticipated from taking part. Your contribution is merely from completing the questionnaires on the portal if you choose to, and should take only a few minutes. If you do have concerns please raise them with John or Fleur (e-mail addresses above). More information is available via links in the e-mail you will receive upon each completion of the portal.

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Dr John Durkin