MORE BAD NEWS FOR THE RURAL AREA

Gerry Wood, the Independent Member for Nelson, says on top of no pool, no funding for Freds Pass Reserve we now have the announcement that there will be no full time fire officers at Humpty Doo Fire Station.

Gerry said the Treasurer didn’t mention that in her budget speech, it only came out in a press release today.

Gerry says that with the withdrawal of the professional fire fighters from Humpty Doo there will be a longer response time to accidents something that is even more crucial now with the big increase in the number of haulage trucks and general vehicles on the roads.

During the week when volunteer numbers are low, it’s the full time fire fighters that are called out to grass fires and now that service will depend more on Palmerston.

Gerry says he has also heard that there will now be only one rescue vehicle for the whole of Darwin area and that will be based at Berrimah. That means if there are two accidents, then there will only be one rescue vehicle available.

Gerry says that the budget has delivered the rural area a kick in the pants with the announcements today and if you add the higher rego fees, loss of public service jobs, and the large increases in the price of power and water, life and Christmas don’t look so rosy.

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