

A I S S A



ASSOCIATION *of*
INDEPENDENT
SCHOOLS *of* SA

MEDIA STATEMENT

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To Chief of Staff/News Editor
From Garry Le Duff
Ref **Fire warnings**
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EARLY CALL OF FIRE WARNINGS AN OPPORTUNITY TO FIX PROBLEMS

Fire alerts issued under new procedures so early in the fire season create an opportunity for schools and authorities to review and refine emergency policies, measures and actions.

The Executive Director of the Association of Independent Schools of SA, Garry Le Duff, said it is essential for all schools and authorities to learn from the past two days.

Among the immediate areas of concern highlighted this week are:

- Short notice of risk assessments;
- School bus cancellations, and;
- In the case of the Adelaide Hills, the movement of Hills students who attend schools on the Adelaide Plains

"We have at least now had the opportunity to identify areas for concern and we certainly need to learn from what's happened this week," Mr Le Duff said.

"The issue for all of us is how we respond and improve our strategy."

Mr Le Duff said communications between the Department of Education and Children's Services and AISSA this week have been excellent but that AISSA – which represents 97 schools – needs to be better involved in front-end strategic planning.

The AISSA also is seeking a meeting with the Country Fire Service.

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