

From: [Dombroski, Michael](#)
To: [Chaplin, Jessica](#); [Moran, Mike](#); [Wellik, Sid](#); [Stuart-Black, Jim](#); [Pyatt, Nick](#)
Subject: RE: MEDIA RESPONSE FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL by 2.30pm: Media query from Phil Pennington - truck breakdown at Lyall Bay fire
Date: Tuesday, 8 February 2022 2:09:13 pm
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image004.jpg](#)
[image005.jpg](#)

Hi again Jess

Thanks. I guess the overall outcome would have been the same regardless of the aerial failure – the house was totally destroyed and minimal damage was done to the house next door. It is more the “effect” the failure had in terms of our operations/tactics.

There were 13 callsigns in attendance, made up of 7 pumping appliances (standard for a third alarm), 1 x aerial, 1 x Command Unit, 1 x BA Tender, 2 x commander’s vehicles, 1 x Operational Support vehicle. So, really 10 “trucks”.

Regards

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From: Chaplin, Jessica <Jessica.Chaplin@fireandemergency.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 8 February 2022 1:46 pm
To: Dombroski, Michael <Michael.Dombroski@fireandemergency.nz>; Moran, Mike <Mike.Moran@fireandemergency.nz>; Wellik, Sid <Sid.Wellik@fireandemergency.nz>; Stuart-Black, Jim <Jim.Stuart-Black@fireandemergency.nz>; Pyatt, Nick <Nick.Pyatt@fireandemergency.nz>
Subject: RE: MEDIA RESPONSE FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL by 2.30pm: Media query from Phil Pennington - truck breakdown at Lyall Bay fire

Thanks Mike!

I’ve amended as below. How is this? Can you also please confirm if it was 13 trucks there?

Please attribute to **Russell Wood, Deputy Chief Executive Organisational Strategy and Capability Development**

13 fire trucks responded to a fully involved house fire in Kilbirnie just before 9am on Wednesday last week (2 February). One of these fire trucks experienced a mechanical failure when trying to get into position. Within 10 minutes, the aerial platform was moved into position using battery power, and the aerial was put in use. **The disruption in getting the aerial fire truck into position**

We are working with the New Zealand Professional Firefighter's Union to address the concerns they have raised.

Our fleet is regularly maintained, safe and suitable to assist our communities when they need. All communities across New Zealand can be assured Fire and Emergency will respond to emergencies when needed with the right resources. On any given day we could be attending multiple incidents. We are prepared for that. That's why we have contingency plans in place so the next available truck will be responded.

We are replacing four new aerial fire trucks that are reaching their planned end of service life. We have the requirements finalised and aim to confirm an order by April 2022.

Thanks,
Jess

From: Dombroski, Michael

Sent: Tuesday, 8 February 2022 1:41 PM

To: Chaplin, Jessica <Jessica.Chaplin@fireandemergency.nz>; Moran, Mike <Mike.Moran@fireandemergency.nz>; Wellik, Sid <Sid.Welik@fireandemergency.nz>; Stuart-Black, Jim <Jim.Stuart-Black@fireandemergency.nz>; Pyatt, Nick <Nick.Pyatt@fireandemergency.nz>

Subject: RE: MEDIA RESPONSE FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL by 2.30pm: Media query from Phil Pennington - truck breakdown at Lyall Bay fire

Thanks Jess

I think my earlier response to these questions suggested that the impact on the outcome of the fire was "minimal" and in terms of fighting a fire, 5 - 10 minutes is probably not considered "brief". Any delay causes problems such as exposing staff on hand-held hose-lines for longer than would otherwise be the case. It also exposed the operator in the aerial platform cage to radiant heat until the water was flowing. It's difficult to quantify the exact impact on the outcome in the context of a rapidly moving situation, but it wasn't zero.

Regards

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From: Chaplin, Jessica <Jessica.Chaplin@fireandemergency.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, 8 February 2022 1:28 pm

To: Moran, Mike <Mike.Moran@fireandemergency.nz>; Dombroski, Michael

From: [Dombroski, Michael](#)
To: [Chaplin, Jessica](#)
Subject: RE: FOR RESPONSE BY 2.30PM: Media query from Phil Pennington - truck breakdown at Lyall Bay fire
Date: Tuesday, 8 February 2022 12:26:41 pm
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.jpg](#)
[image004.jpg](#)
[image005.jpg](#)

Hi Jess

My answers below in GREEN.

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From: Chaplin, Jessica <Jessica.Chaplin@fireandemergency.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 8 February 2022 11:08 am
To: Dombroski, Michael <Michael.Dombroski@fireandemergency.nz>
Cc: Stuart-Black, Jim <Jim.Stuart-Black@fireandemergency.nz>
Subject: FW: FOR RESPONSE BY 2.30PM: Media query from Phil Pennington - truck breakdown at Lyall Bay fire

Kia ora Mike,

I just spoke to Nick and he suggested you may be best placed to give us an overview to answer the first two questions from RNZ as below about the Lyall Bay fire the other week.

- What is Fenz's understanding of what failed and when and how?

FENZ responded a hydraulic elevating platform (aerial appliance) to the fire at Lyall Bay, as per the standard response to a structure fire. The Incident Controllers' strategy was to utilise the water monitor (Nozzle) from the aerial platform to extinguish the fire from a position in front of the house, while other hose lines were protecting the neighbouring house which was under threat from the fire. While the aerial platform was getting into position, the appliance failed, stopping operation of the hydraulic booms and preventing it from getting into position to use the water monitor. Attempts at re-setting the aerial operation failed, until about 5 – 10 minutes later when reserve battery power was used to move the platform into position and the monitor could be charged. The cause of this failure is being identified and at this stage it is not known exactly what caused the fault.

- Ditto re what impact this had on firefighting at the Lyall Bay fire?

This failure disrupted the fire attack strategy of using the aerial monitor for up to 10 minutes. Alternative tactics were employed and a replacement aerial responded (which was not required),

which involved using hand held hose lines and a ground based monitor. As exposure protection was already in place and the fire already fully involving the house, there was minimal impact on the outcome of the fire in this case. Within 10 minutes, the aerial platform was moved into position using battery power, and the aerial monitor was put in use.

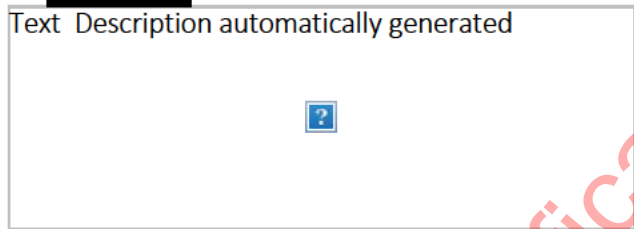
Happy to have a chat to you about this. Can I please get a response by 2.30pm so I can meet the reporter's deadline – they expect to be reporting tomorrow morning so need something by 4pm today.

Cheers,
Jess

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