

PAC Inquiry – Assets, premises and funding of the NSW Rural Fire Service

16 September 2024

Supplementary Questions

- Question 1:** What is the total carrying value of land and buildings used for rural fire-fighting obligations, including:
- a) Gross carry amount (land and buildings)?
 - b) Accumulated depreciation (buildings)?
 - c) Net book value (buildings)?

Response: Buildings vested in councils used for fire fighting operations are recorded in the individual financial statements of councils. The financial statements of councils are not consolidated, so information about the aggregated value of these assets is not readily ascertainable. In addition, as a number of councils do not recognise buildings funded through the Rural Fire Fighting Fund, other sources of information will be required for completeness. The Office of the Local Government may be able to assist.

- Question 2:** To what extent do land and building assets form part of Councils' asset bases, against which Councils' may have secured loans, or are material to debt-to-asset ratios in Councils' loan covenants?

Response: The Audit Office is unable to make comment on this as our audits do not go into councils' funding arrangements.