



SHIRE OF RAVENSTHORPE

FIREBREAK NOTICE

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Shire of Ravensthorpe *Firebreak Notice* and who needs to comply?

The *Firebreak Notice* is a legal notice issued under section 33(1) of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*. It sets out the fire hazard reduction measures that owners and occupiers of land within the Shire of Ravensthorpe must undertake and maintain.

Requirements vary depending on the zoning, size and location of your property, so it is important to read the *Firebreak Notice* carefully and identify the requirements that apply to your land.

The *Firebreak Notice* applies to all owners and occupiers of land within the Shire of Ravensthorpe, including properties within townsites.

When does my property need to be compliant and how long for?

All required firebreaks and fire hazard reduction measures must be completed by 31 October 2026.

Properties must remain compliant from 31 October 2026 to 31 March 2027.

What happens if my property does not comply?

Failure to comply by the required date may result in the Shire issuing a Works Order requiring the owner or occupier to bring the property into compliance within 14 calendar days.

A Works Order may also be issued at any time during the compliance period if a property is not maintained in accordance with the *Firebreak Notice*.

Where required work has not been completed within the specified time, the Shire may also arrange for the work to be undertaken and recover the associated costs and expenses from the owner or occupier in accordance with section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*.

What is a Works Order?

A Works Order is a direction requiring an owner or occupier to bring their property into compliance with the *Firebreak Notice*.

Under the 2026–2027 *Firebreak Notice*, a Works Order may require the property to be brought into compliance within 14 calendar days.

What is an APZ?

An Asset Protection Zone (APZ) is a low-fuel area around a building that helps protect it from bushfire. It generally extends at least 20 metres around buildings and requires vegetation, trees and other combustible materials to be appropriately managed.

How do I know if the 100 mm grass rule applies to me?

The 100 mm grass rule applies to Residential, Industrial and Commercial properties, as well as unmanaged pasture and grasslands at Steeredale Meadows, Blue Vista and Krystal Park.

Different requirements apply to other property zones, so check the *Firebreak Notice* or contact the Shire if you are unsure.

My property has an approved Bushfire Management Plan. Do I still need to comply with the *Firebreak Notice*?

Yes. A property that is subject to an approved Bushfire Management Plan must still comply with the requirements of the *Firebreak Notice*.

What do I do if I cannot meet one or more requirements of the *Firebreak Notice*?

If it is impracticable to provide firebreaks or undertake the required measures in accordance with the *Firebreak Notice*, you may apply to the Shire in writing for permission to provide firebreaks in an alternative location or undertake alternative measures.

Applications for a variation must be submitted before 1 October 2026.

I do not fully understand what I am required to do. What should I do?

If you are unsure about the requirements of the *Firebreak Notice* or how they apply to your property, please contact the Shire. Our team can talk you through the

requirements and help you understand what you need to do to comply. You can also book a pre-inspection of your property.

Can the Shire recommend a contractor to complete fire prevention work?

No, but we can provide a list of contractors who have advised the Shire they are available to undertake fire prevention work. Please refer to the Shire website.

Engaging a contractor does not transfer responsibility for compliance with the *Firebreak Notice*. The property owner or occupier remains responsible for ensuring all required works are completed and the property complies by the required date.