

# RED ALERT

## Diesel Particulate Filter Burn Cycle

A recent incident has alerted us to a hazard associated with a new feature on 2016 model Toyota Hi-lux vehicles (and applicable to other vehicle makes as well). The vehicle is fitted with a Diesel Particulate Filter (DPF) that automatically runs a 'Burn' or 'Regeneration' cycle to empty the filter and remove carbon from the engine. As the vehicle does this automatically, drivers will probably be unaware that a regeneration cycle is underway until stopping at which point the vehicle will run at a high idle (~1,200RPM) with the cooling fan on. The heat generated from the exhaust during these regeneration cycles is extreme.

**Hot enough that long grass near the muffler/exhaust tip was burnt in the recent near hit. The driver had stopped and got out of the vehicle and heard the grass burning. They immediately moved the vehicle and fortunately the grass was still green enough that it hadn't caught alight and had only burnt the area around the muffler.**

Please be very vigilant of this hazard at all times. The potential risk of fire is high, especially with the current dry, hot, conditions and if driving through or parking in areas with heavy undergrowth or dry matter!



### Learnings from this:

- Never stop the vehicle where flammable material (e.g. Dry Grass) is near the exhaust pipe.
- Ensure there are no people near or touching the exhaust pipe or exhaust gases.
- If your vehicle has a DPF switch, do not carry out regeneration cycles in an enclosed area.