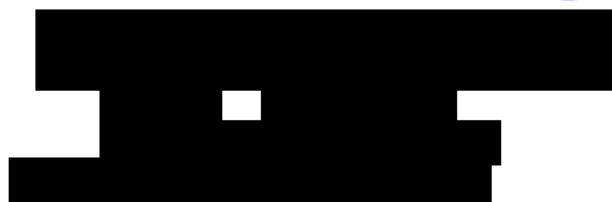




WERRIBEE FIRE BRIGADE



Adam Barnett
 Executive Officer
 Volunteer Fire Brigades Victoria
 9/24 Lakeside Drive
 Burwood East VIC 3151

Dear Adam,

On behalf of the Werribee Fire Brigade, I thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed CFA – UFU Operational Staff Enterprise Agreement 2016 (version 17.4) [The Agreement].

Please note that we have an issue with providing a detailed response of the direct impacts to our brigade at this time as we do not have sufficient information pertaining to the as-yet-written business rules that will follow from this agreement. Given that the UFU and the CFA will get together to write business rules after The Agreement has been signed, we request that you ask for another opportunity at this time to review these rules and provide feedback. What we currently take as a section's intent based on the wording of The Agreement may end up significantly different when turned into business rules.

In order to assist the VFBV reach a position on certain aspects of The Agreement, we have outlined a number of concerns in the following attachment. These concerns are based on the current wording of The Agreement and potential interpretations available:

- Brigade Administrative Support roles [15]
- Volunteer Support roles [16]
- Community Education [17]
- Staff only report to staff (Chain of command) [35.4]
- Greater Alarm Response System (GARS) [43.1, 45]
- 7 firefighters on the fireground [43.2.7]
- Station wear, uniforms, PPC&E [83.4.4, 83.5, 83.7]
- Appliances [83.4.5, 83.12, 83.13]
- Road Accident Rescue [144]
- Access levels at station [Schedule 21]
- Recognition and maintenance of volunteer skills [General comments]

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We urge you to request further clarification as to the impacts of these sections and continue to support the rights of volunteers. In your final submission, we trust that the VFBV will take into account the public statement made by QC Rush.

The current environment has caused great angst in the CFA and wider community and has moved the public spotlight away from the good work carried out daily by both staff and volunteers. The past few months have been a frustrating time for volunteers and the cultural divide between staff and volunteers has widened at a time when all the public wants is a unified response.

Kind regards

Stephen Donaghy
Secretary
Werribee Fire Brigade



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