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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITED FIREFIGHTERS UNION OF AUSTRALIA, UNION OF EMPLOYEES, QUEENSLAND.

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## URGENT

### CHANGES TO UNION FEE PAYMENTS

The Queensland Government have stated that there will be changes made to the way you, as a union member, are able to pay your membership fees. Payroll deduction payments across the public sector will cease within the next few weeks. It has already started in other departments. We must assume that it will happen to us as early as the next pay cycle. **It is important that you change your payment method now.**

To ensure there is little impact on your membership, the UFU have made arrangements to enable funds to be transferred regularly by Direct Debit or Credit Card, much like the current payroll deduction system.

Forms can be downloaded from our website [www.ufuq.com.au](http://www.ufuq.com.au).

For more information, please contact the union office on **1800 816 589**, email [debit@ufuq.com.au](mailto:debit@ufuq.com.au) or contact your SCM delegate or local branch representative.

#### WHAT IS DIRECT DEBIT AND HOW DOES IT WORK ?

##### **What is Direct Debit?**

Direct Debit is the simplest way to pay your union subscriptions. You can nominate which bank account/credit card your fees are deducted from and then your contributions will be deducted regularly.

##### **How does Direct Debit work?**

Once your authority has been returned to the union office, your details are recorded. Your bank account is debited with the regular amount and credited to your membership account with the union.

**What will it cost me?**

Direct Debit for union fees doesn't cost you anything to set up. Simply complete the Direct Debit form including the details of your nominated bank account and your union will arrange the rest.

**What day will you debit my union fees?**

The union will debit your fees to coincide with your pay dates:

Permanent firefighters and communication officers and casual communication officers union fees will be debited fortnightly (every second Thursday).

Auxiliaries will be debited monthly (second Thursday of each month).

This will alleviate the risk of debits being rejected and of your membership becoming unfinancial.

**Can I change when my payments are made?**

The union has various periods throughout the year that direct debit can be made. Contact the union office via email [debit@ufuq.com.au](mailto:debit@ufuq.com.au) or telephone 1800 816 589 to make arrangements.

**What if I change my bank account or credit card details?**

If you wish to change the bank account that your fees are debited from, simply contact your union office and advise them of your preferred account details.

**What if the UFUQ deducts more money than I have authorised?**

This will not occur. Like any organisation receiving a direct debit payment, the union is subject to strict government regulatory frameworks.

**I am concerned that giving my bank or credit card details to the union may have privacy implications.**

Our process ensures that your details cannot be accessed by anyone beyond the staff member administering your membership.

**How do I get a statement for tax refund claims?**

Union fees will still be tax deductible. Currently your union fees appear on your group certificates. This will no longer be the case. Simply contact your union at the end of the financial year and a statement will be sent to you.

**What is my commitment?**

Your responsibility is to ensure that you have sufficient cleared funds in your account to cover this transaction. Some financial institutions may charge a small fee if there are insufficient funds to cover the amount. If your financial institution returns the transaction unpaid on two consecutive occasions, the union will cancel the arrangements, with your membership possibly becoming unfinancial.

## **How do I cease my payroll deductions and arrange Direct Debit?**

Simply complete the Direct Debit Deductions form and return it to the union office (not your financial institution). You will also need to contact shared services to cancel your payroll deductions.

**To ensure that resources remain focused on the fight for our wages and conditions during arbitration, it vital that this process is completed as quickly and seamlessly as possible. All members are urged to complete the necessary paperwork as a priority. If you require more information, please contact the union office on our toll free number 1800 816 589 or via email to [debit@ufuq.com.au](mailto:debit@ufuq.com.au)**

**[MAKE THE SWITCH TODAY!](#)**

**John Oliver**  
**State Secretary**