



UNITED FIREFIGHTERS UNION OF AUSTRALIA
UNION OF EMPLOYEES QUEENSLAND

18 November 2014

Mr M Roche
Acting Deputy Commissioner
Queensland Fire and Emergency Service
GPO Box 1425
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Acting Deputy Commissioner,

Re: "award modernisation process"

As you aware, UFUQ wrote to the fire service on 14th April 2014, and provided, draft "modern awards" and explanatory tables, the union had prepared for discussion with the fire service to see whether any matters could be agreed in the knowledge of the likelihood that the pre-modernisation awards applicable to the fire service would be expected to be affected by statutory changes.

We subsequently wrote to you on 7 and 23 May, 6 and 20 June, 7 and 25 July, 8 and 25 August 2014 and sought that you provide your feedback to the material we have prepared and meet with us to discuss it. In correspondence to us dated 23 July and 1 September, you indicated that you would be in a position to discuss the material later in this year.

We subsequently wrote to you on the 24 September 2014, including updated versions of the material we provided you in April, (updated principally to account for the 2014 state wage case). As the QIRC had written to us, requesting documentation or information we may have compiled in the knowledge that award modernisation was to occur in 2014/15, we advised that we would provide QIRC with the correspondence between the parties to date, including the draft awards and tables.

In our correspondence of 24 September 2014, we also requested that you provide us with any material or documentation that you have provided to the QIRC. You did not provide us with any material, but on 12 November 2014 the QIRC circulated an email of 14 documents, described as "QFES submissions". I have attached to this letter a list of the documents circulated by QIRC and request that you confirm to us that, those documents comprise all of the relevant material provided on behalf the fire service to the QIRC to date, or if there is any omitted material please provide it to us.

In the material we provided, was a proposed redraft of the career fire officers' classification structure to reflect the contemporary situation. This matter had been raised some time ago, well in advance of any contemplation of an "award modernisation process", but more recently set out in an email from our Mr Cooke to your Ms Swindells dated 14 October 2013.

At a QIRC conference yesterday, convened to discuss the "award modernisation process", Commissioner Knight suggested that the fire service and UFUQ, might want to take the opportunity to meet and discuss reaching agreement on matters for inclusion in a modern award or awards as the case may be.

S T R E N G T H P R I D E C O U R A G E

ABN 97 709 271 604

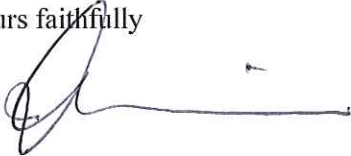
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I am advised, that at the conference, your representatives, suggested that now the QIRC had called on conferences dealing with "award modernisation", the fire service may now be in a position to discuss potential agreement on matters, including, for example updating the classification structures.

I request that you provide feedback to our documents and arrange to meet with us to discuss what agreement may be reached.

Please contact Ms Paula Newman at this office on (07) 3844 0366 in order to arrange a meeting.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by a horizontal line.

John Oliver
State Secretary

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

1. QUEENSLAND FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY, COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES CERTIFIED AGREEMENT 2001
2. QUEENSLAND FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY – ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP CERTIFIED AGREEMENT, 1999
3. QUEENSLAND FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY – ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP CERTIFIED AGREEMENT, 2000
4. QUEENSLAND FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY – ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP CERTIFIED AGREEMENT, 1997
5. QUEENSLAND FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY – SUPPORT SERVICES STAFF AND RURAL FIRE DIVISION ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP CERTIFIED AGREEMENT, 1997
6. QUEENSLAND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE – CERTIFIED AGREEMENT 2009
7. QUEENSLAND FIRE AND RESCUE COMMUNICATIONS CENTRES AWARD – STATE 2003
8. QUEENSLAND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE – ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP CERTIFIED AGREEMENT
9. QUEENSLAND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE – CERTIFIED AGREEMENT 2006
10. QUEENSLAND FIRE AND SERVICE WORKPLACE REFORM PROGRAM
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT FIREFIGHTERS AND JUNIOR OFFICERS
ARRANGEMENT OF MEMORANDUM
11. QUEENSLAND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE INTERIM AWARD – STATE 2013
12. CERTIFIED AGREEMENT – QUEENSLAND FIRE SERVICE SCHEDULE A TOTAL
FORTNIGHTLY SALARY RATES
13. QUEENSLAND FIRE SERVICE – SUPPORT SERVICES STAFF AND RURAL FIRE
DIVISION CERTIFIED AGREEMENT 1995
14. QUEENSLAND FIRE SERVICE – WORKPLACE REFORM CERTIFIED AGREEMENT 1996