

Jihad Dib

Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government
Minister for Emergency Services
Minister for Youth Justice

Statement

Recruitment of new Commissioner for Fire and Rescue NSW

Monday, 17 July 2023

Minister for Emergency Services Jihad Dib today announced the departure of Commissioner Paul Baxter from Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW).

Paul Baxter was appointed to the role in 2017 after serving as National Commander and Chief Executive of the New Zealand Fire Service and the National Rural Fire Authority.

A recruitment process for the new Commissioner will commence shortly. Deputy Commissioner Megan Stiffler will continue to act as Commissioner until 19 July 2023, with Deputy Commissioner Jeremy Fewtrell then acting in the role from 20 July.

The new Commissioner will work with Minister Dib to address ongoing challenges of financial sustainability and organisational direction.

Minister for Emergency Services, Jihad Dib said:

“It is the right time to bring in new leadership to guide Fire and Rescue NSW into the future.”

“The Minns Government is committed to strengthening this vital service and ensuring it is sustainable, including through the recruitment of an additional 600 firefighters.”

“I thank Paul Baxter for his service and contribution to FRNSW over recent years, as our frontline crews and other staff have continued their outstanding work to keep the people of NSW safe.”

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