



31 March 2026

The Hon Chris Minns MP, Premier

Cc: The Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC, Treasurer, The Hon Jihad Dib MP, Minister for Emergency Services, The Hon Sophie Cotsis MP, Minister for Industrial Relations

By email

Dear Premier and Ministers

Re: Cost of fuel and its impact on professional firefighters

As with many other workers in NSW, professional firefighters are being stung by increases in the cost of fuel, with no changes to date to the value of the allowances paid per kilometre of travel performed for official duties.

Today I also wrote to the Federal Government seeking their support in issuing a temporary determination through the ATO to offset the increased cost of fuel, but in the meantime, I am seeking your support for the NSW Government to issue a Premier's Memorandum or similar instrument which would create a supplement to the current kilometre allowances with a temporary amount which could be known as the "Excessive Fuel Cost Supplement" and paid any time a kilometre allowance is paid, to ensure that my members and other workers who claim that entitlement are not being forced to shoulder the burden of these increased costs while delivering a critical service to the people of NSW.

The value of this supplement should be reviewed regularly, and be equal to the nearest 5% increase on diesel prices at the time of the review, compared to prices on 28 February 2026.

The supplement should only exist as long as the Federal Government does not provide a temporary ATO determination, or until fuel prices stabilise and return to a price point within 10% of the prices in place on 28 February 2026. I would also ask that this supplement be backdated to the date at which prices increased by an average of 10% over the prices in place on 28 February 2026.

I am also seeking your confirmation that should the situation not stabilise and rationing of fuel comes into effect to some degree, that all operational employees of Fire and Rescue NSW will be considered to be essential workers, and exempt from any caps, limits, or bans on purchasing fuel, to enable them to continue to show up to work and perform their duties as required.

I am available to meet to discuss these matters further with you, and would appreciate your support of professional firefighters in New South Wales.

Yours fraternally

Leighton Drury
State Secretary