



Mr Bernard King  
Director Employee Relations  
Fire and Rescue NSW  
1 Amarina Avenue  
Greenacre NSW 2190

By email only: [ircorrespondence@fire.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ircorrespondence@fire.nsw.gov.au)

5 August 2019

Dear Mr King

**No. IRC 221565 Fire and Rescue NSW v FBEU  
Home Fire Safety Visit Dispute**

I refer to the above dispute. As you are aware the matter is due for report back before Chief Commissioner Kite on Wednesday 7 August 2019 and then for an arbitrated hearing before Commissioner Constant.

**Request for meeting**

The Union would like to work with Fire and Rescue NSW to ensure that more homes are targeted across the state. The Union appreciates the benefit of this community engagement work and understands that it does reduce the risk of fires.

However, our members remain concerned with aspects of the procedure including the door-knocking component of the work from a physical and psychological safety perspective.

We would like to meet with you later today or early tomorrow to discuss alternatives to door knocking but at the same time increase the numbers of at risk homes being targeted. The Union is committed to resolving this matter in a way that both parties are comfortable with the outcome.

In order to assist the resolution of this dispute the Union requests that you confirm that risks assessments have been undertaken in relation to attendance of firefighters at premises without prior invitation. To that effect, we ask that you confirm whether any internal or external research or reports addressing the physical and psychological risks that have been commissioned regarding the Home Fire Safety Visits or its predecessors. Please provide us copies of any risk assessments undertaken by Fire and Rescue NSW by close of business today.

Please also confirm whether any safe work method statements have been prepared identifying risks and measures to mitigate risk in relation to attendance of firefighters at premises without prior invitation. Please provide us copies of these documents by close of business today.

I confirm that you have provided the Union with the following documents:

1. Preliminary report from Greg Anning, Consultant Psychologist on the Psychological Risk Assessment of Home Safety Visits dated 25 July 2019
2. An economic evaluation of the pilot program – Home Fire Safety Checks in NSW

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

Anastasia Polites  
Senior Industrial Officer

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