



State Rescue Board of New South Wales

Memorandum

TO: Members, State Rescue Board of New South Wales
Region Emergency Operations Controllers (REOCOs)

FROM: Deputy Commissioner Peter Thurtell APM
Chair, State Rescue Board of New South Wales

DATE: 31 October 2024

SUBJECT: **Rescue unit availability reporting**

Recently, there has been discussion in a public forum regarding interpretation of the NSW State Rescue Policy reporting requirements. This memo is a reminder of the State Rescue Policy requirements for rescue unit offline/online reporting.

The Policy outlines the requirements for when an accredited rescue unit becomes temporarily unavailable for tasking and interim response arrangements apply. Section 2.09 states the NSW Police Force Rescue Coordination Officer (RCO) must be notified immediately when a rescue unit becomes unavailable.

Temporary response arrangements can be put in place for a maximum period of six months, with a requirement for units to report to the Local and Regional Rescue Committees on the progress to rebuild capability. (Section 2.13 (g)).

I am seeking your support to communicate through your agencies that the SRB expects that rescue unit reporting requirements under the NSW State Rescue Policy are to be strictly applied as written, and that agencies will notify the RCO whenever a unit is unavailable to perform its accredited role.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. Thurtell'.

Deputy Commissioner Peter Thurtell APM
Chair, State Rescue Board of New South Wales