



Mr Leighton Drury
State Secretary
Fire Brigade Employee's Union of NSW
1-7 Belmore Street
SURRY HILLS 2010

25 February, 2019

Dear Mr Drury,

Thank you for your recent correspondence detailing the needs and concerns of firefighters throughout the state.

I am pleased to confirm a future Daley Labor Government will commit to ensuring no staff reductions occur in Fire and Rescue NSW. In addition to maintaining staffing levels, a Daley Labor Government will commit to employing 200 extra firefighters across NSW in order to keep up with the growing demand placed on our state's firefighters.

This provision of additional firefighters will allow for communities in areas such as Ballina, Salamander Bay and Western Sydney to fill the gaps in order to finally maintain permanent 24/7 facilities to service the ever-increasing population growth in these areas.

A Daley Labor Government will have a wages policy that is fiscally and economically responsible, but which is also fair. In government, Labor will develop a principled and collaborative framework for dealing with claims by workers and unions for improved pay and conditions, with an appropriate role for the independent umpire, the Industrial Relations Commission of NSW.

To go beyond the 2.5 per cent, the drivers will be workplace change, improvements in service delivery and increases in productivity - outcomes that lift the quality of the services being delivered to the community and which improve the workplace.

At present, there is no incentive for the workforce or management to make improvements in the way work is done and the way services are delivered to the wider community. We will change that. Under a Daley Labor Government the drivers will be workplace change, improvements in service delivery and increases in productivity – outcomes that lift the quality of services being delivered to the community. Continuous improvements in the skills of the workforce will be part of that.

A Daley Labor Government would also welcome ongoing consultation and discussion with Fire & Rescue NSW and the FBEU with regards to any major issues or changes to the scope and nature of the duties NSW firefighters perform.

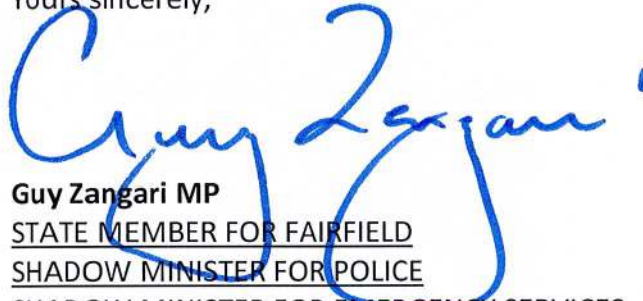
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NSW Labor understands and appreciates the vital role firefighters play throughout the state as frontline emergency service workers. We will do our utmost to ensure NSW Firefighters are always well resourced and provided with the support they deserve.

To enhance community safety and to ensure precise coverage across the entire network, NSW Labor will ensure Automatic Vehicle Location capabilities are installed across the Fire & Rescue NSW and Rural Fire Service fleets while mandating the provision of a permanent 24/7 Rural Fire Service Liaison Officer to be placed in the Fire & Rescue Communication Centre. This will ensure incidents throughout the state can be responded to by the most suitable and available unit at any given time.

Should you require any further information, please don't hesitate to contact my office.

Yours sincerely,



Guy Zangari MP

STATE MEMBER FOR FAIRFIELD

SHADOW MINISTER FOR POLICE

SHADOW MINISTER FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES

SHADOW MINISTER FOR CORRECTIONS