RULE CHANGE PROPOSAL UPDATE – ELECTRONIC VOTING ON PLEBISCITES

As we have received no request for a plebiscite regarding the proposed rule change to allow for electronic voting on a plebiscite, as outlined in SitRep 39/2026, this rule change will formally be made in the coming days. We will begin the process of formally altering our rules to include this rule change with the NSW Industrial Registrar.

Allowing electronic voting on plebiscites is an important first step towards modernising our Rules and ensuring they reflect the goals and needs of our Union today and into the future.

Once this rule change is formalised, SCOM will review the other outstanding rule changes for which a request for a plebiscite was received, to determine how to progress these from here. Importantly, electronic voting on plebiscites will give all members equal access to participate in this aspect of our democratic process.

PERMANENT MEAL ALLOWANCES ON OVERTIME – UPDATE FOR RETIRED MEMBERS

With the Department now processing meal allowances while on overtime for permanent firefighters including back paying all claims to 26 February 2023, we are reaching out to all members who have retired since that date to advise you to contact the Department's Industrial Relations Team at IRCorrespondence@fire.nsw.gov.au, about your claim.

The Department has not provided the FBEU with specific advice yet as to how retired members can submit claims, however we encourage all retired members to join us in trying to find out.

If you know of a retired member who retired after 26 February 2023, please pass this information along.

CODE RED REMINDER

A reminder for all members to regularly review the FBEU's Code Reds. There are 11 Code Reds currently in place, and all should be followed until lifted.

These include Duty Wear Shorts, Metro North Reliever Transfers, Relieving SO's being assigned to Zone Offices, Chalking old appliances, Strategic Operations Centre, Assist Ambulance Calls (currently suspended), Traffic Management, Sustainable Retained Firefighter Program, Returning to the scene of traumatic events, SOSB entries into SAM, and Minimum Crewing Peak Hill.

If you have any questions about any of these Code Reds, please reach out to your SCOM Rep or contact the FBEU Office for advice.

In Unity,

Leighton Drury
State Secretary