



WORD BACK

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A B C D Day Retained

ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT UPDATE

The UFU State Council and Shop Stewards met yesterday to discuss the way forward on our next Enterprise Agreement (EA).

The meeting heard the report that while an offer has been put forward by the Government which in large part now addresses our claim for increased resources and training, the pay offer on the table is only 1.6% per annum while the national cost of living figures are at 1.9%.

While we have focused on measures to enhance the safety and professionalism of the SAMFS and we have committed to a “modest” wage increase, many at the meeting expressed the view that the current pay offer is insulting rather than “modest”.

In addition, the issue of injury management has not yet been properly resolved and the UFU has real concerns about the interim arrangements in place and the lack of communication from the Chief Executive of SAFECOM about them.

Accordingly, a meeting with the Premier was sought to pursue a proper outcome and the only time available was 15:00 hours yesterday. This meant the formal proceedings of the joint Council and Shop Stewards meeting was cut short to enable Industrial Officer Max Adlam and myself to meet with the Premier.

I'm pleased to report a productive discussion with the Premier resulted in agreement to work towards a more satisfactory outcome which would recognise the work towards the modernisation and productivity measures being discussed between the parties in the life of the EA. The Premier invited the UFU to submit another proposition based on those discussions and we are now working on a draft document which we anticipate may address the outstanding issues.

On that basis, I have taken the decision that the initiation of our industrial campaign will be held in abeyance to allow those discussions to proceed.

A further joint meeting of the UFU State Council and Shop Stewards will be conducted in the near future to review and endorse the proposition to be put back to the government.

In the event that we are unable to reach a satisfactory agreement through this process with the Government, I have left the Premier in little doubt of the consequences.

Accordingly, I thank all members for your ongoing solidarity and support (as well as your patience) in this campaign and seek that you continue to maintain our discipline, “*keep our powder dry*” and remain in a state of readiness.

Greg Northcott
Secretary