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A B C D Day Retained

ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT UPDATE

Negotiations for our next enterprise agreement (EA) are now progressing well and I am cautiously optimistic that the Union will soon receive a renewed offer which I can recommend for your consideration.

As previously reported we have been hammering out the details of a renewed offer with the government, trying to ensure that we achieve the best possible outcomes for firefighters, maintaining decent wages and working conditions, looking after injured firefighters and enhancing our training and professionalism.

It was anticipated that a renewed offer would be formalised and presented to us this week however I am informed today that it appears that some administrative problems have arisen which mean that the government decision-making process will take another week.

The UFU State Council met today and heard a report about the intensive negotiations which have been taking place and the probable components and conditions of a renewed offer.

I believe it's fair to reflect that, like me, State Councillors are very positive about the potential negotiated outcome. However, it is an understatement to say that our collective patience is being sorely tested by the delays being experienced.

By resolution, the State Council expressed disappointment at the delays and called upon the union to convene a meeting of the State Council and Shop Stewards for Friday, 20 October 2017 to consider our position.

Accordingly, a meeting will be convened on Friday, 20 October 2017 at 10:00 hours at the UFU office to consider a report on the situation at that time and to determine appropriate further action.

As stated above, I am cautiously optimistic that a satisfactory offer will be made by that date in the terms negotiated. However, in the absence of such an offer, our path will be clear.

Once again thank you for your solidarity and support and I will keep you advised of any progress.

Greg Northcott

UFU Secretary