



WORD BACK

A B C D Day Retained

No.22/2018
15 August 2018

National Driving Licence Laws

Members would be aware that pursuant to SAMFS Memorandum number 69/2018 the Chief Officer has directed that only staff with HR licenses can currently drive the MFS heavy urban fleet.

Following discussion, the MFS has agreed that where staff movement is required as a result of this situation, volunteers will be sought in the first instance and that travel payments will be applicable to those needing to relocate between stations.

The UFU understands that while the MFS is seeking advice and clarification about the way forward as a matter of urgency, a significant number of employees may need to upgrade from MR to HR licenses. Accordingly, the union has urged that an immediate program be implemented to address the shortfall and we understand that the MFS is making plans to do so.

Senior Firefighter Year 1 SDF Training September/October 2018

The UFU commends the commitment by the MFS to consult on this matter and we acknowledge the current difficulties being experienced within the Learning and Development Department, in finding the time and resources to deliver all such training during rostered time at work.

Consistent with agreements reached in the EB negotiations, MFS management and the UFU are currently discussing various options available for the delivery of training in rostered paid time of the training participants.

The Agreement provides in clause 27.2.3 that *“Where the SAMFS offers training either internally or externally, which an employee applies to attend for career progression, such training will be undertaken in the employer’s time.”*

The options currently under discussion however do include consideration of the situation where the MFS is unable to facilitate the training during the employer’s time, as contemplated by clause 27.2 of the *South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service Enterprise Agreement 2017*.

In our discussions the union has and continues to seek a balanced approach demonstrating a commitment by the employer, while remaining flexible about how training delivery can be managed on current resources. A number of questions have been raised by members in relation to the MFS proposed options and we look forward to a further meeting on this issue in the coming week. We are committed to seeking an appropriate resolution in a timely way and members will be kept informed of progress.

In solidarity,

Max Adlam
UFU Secretary