



Fact sheet

Assets and Fire and Emergency New Zealand

To operate effectively from Day One – 1 July 2017 – Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) will need to have usage of the operational response assets around the country.

The FENZ Transition Project has been working with Rural Fire Authorities to build a picture of the response assets in each area. This includes property, vehicles and equipment needed for FENZ's firefighting and other emergency work.

This fact sheet details which response assets are included in this process, those that aren't, and how we will work with asset owners and managers to make case-by-case decisions on use and ownership matters.

What is needed by 1 July 2017?

The FENZ Transition Project needs to know which response assets FENZ can use from 1 July 2017. Ownership matters will be worked through with asset owners on an individual basis, and over time from 1 July 2017. In fact, we have up to four years to make agreed ownership changes, depending on the preferences of local owners.

Assets not needed for fire and emergency services are not affected

FENZ only needs usage of assets directly related to FENZ's firefighting and emergency work. If your authority or fire force has memorabilia, vintage equipment, a holiday home, social club funds, or a pool table or television, it stays with your brigade or force.

Assets of other organisations are not affected

Asset transfer does not affect assets owned by forest owners (and used by rural fire authorities), industrial brigades, Defence or DOC. Use of these assets will continue to operate as it does now, by agreement.

Community funded assets stay in the community

Some entities have built up assets through fundraising and community donations or have entered into financial or other non-financial arrangements. Those assets should continue to be used in the community/region that brought or fundraised for them using the principle outlined in the FENZ Bill that the assets obtained for a community should be retained by the community.

Equipment on appliances

If appliances have equipment that is not authorised to be on an appliance, the equipment may need to be assessed. This is to ensure it doesn't affect performance of the appliance, or have health and safety, legal or insurance implications.

Taking time to get it right for ownership of assets

Although FENZ needs to know what it can use by 1 July 2017, we have allowed up to four years to complete any agreed ownership transfers. This is because some ownership matters can be far from straightforward. Assets, for example, may be owned, jointly owned, leased, or licensed.

The date an asset changes hands can also have financial implications for its owners. For example, owners may wish to hold onto an asset until it is fully depreciated on their books.

Debts and insurances transfer with an asset

If an asset is transferred to FENZ, FENZ will assume responsibility for debt associated with the asset. However, FENZ has the ability to question the associated debt or decline to take on the asset.

When FENZ begins using an asset, FENZ becomes responsible for maintaining and insuring the asset.

Non-compliant vehicles and equipment

It's important we start the new service with safe, legally compliant vehicles and equipment. Non-compliant vehicles and equipment needed for FENZ's work may be upgraded or replaced at FENZ's cost. FENZ will work with the asset owner to agree which option works best for the local service and community.

If you have a question, please contact:

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