



WHAT'S CHANGING AND WHAT'S NOT

Fire and Emergency

New Zealand will amalgamate the fire functions of urban and rural fire services into a new single fire service for New Zealand from 1 July 2017.

On Day One of Fire and Emergency New Zealand, most things will stay the same, although there are likely to be some interim arrangements.

Establishing Fire and Emergency New Zealand is a large task and will take a number of years to fully achieve. For this reason we have divided the work into three key phases: **Amalgamation** of urban and rural fire (1 July); **Integration** into a single organisation (1 July 2017-1 July 2020); and **Unification** (from 2020 onwards)

This hand out is based on the Fire and Emergency New Zealand Act 2017.

If you have any questions not answered here, or in the Frequently Asked Questions on our website, you can talk to your leader or ask the **Transition Project Team** at myvoice@fenzproject.co.nz.



PEOPLE

ON 1 JULY 2017 THIS WILL BE THE SAME

Personnel will continue to be members of existing stations, volunteer fire brigades, or Volunteer Rural Fire Forces (VRFF)

Local leadership roles will continue in brigades, VRFFs and stations

Rank structures will continue

Social clubs and honours systems will continue

Current workforce (career or volunteer) retains existing entitlements including superannuation

Gratuities will remain in place for anyone who is currently eligible to receive them

Relationships with unions and associations will continue

AND THIS WILL BE DIFFERENT ON 1 JULY 2017

All personnel (career, volunteer, urban and rural) become part of Fire and Emergency New Zealand

Personnel will receive clear guidance on the functions and powers they are authorised to perform or that have been delegated to them by Fire and Emergency New Zealand

Fire and Emergency New Zealand will appoint Fire Risk Management Officers and specialist fire investigators to use inspector powers



OPERATIONS

ON 1 JULY 2017 THIS WILL BE THE SAME

First response and operational zones will remain the same on Day One, but over time may be reassessed

Emergency call taking and resource dispatch through ComCen continues

A clear command and control policy will be in place for Day One

Brigades and VRFFs continue to respond to the same kinds of incidents they are equipped and trained for now

Assistance from agencies, industry brigades, and contractors continues

The issuing of fire permits continues

AND THIS WILL BE DIFFERENT ON 1 JULY 2017

Fire and Emergency New Zealand will have a new mandate for some non-fire incidents, such as hazardous substances.

Operational agreements with agencies (eg DOC, NZDF) and contractors will be in place

Firefighters will have immunity when carrying out (in good faith) the broader functions of Fire and Emergency New Zealand (i.e. including non-fire activities)



WHAT'S CHANGING AND WHAT'S NOT



VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

ON 1 JULY 2017 THIS WILL BE THE SAME

Volunteers will have access to free advocacy and support services

AND THIS WILL BE DIFFERENT ON 1 JULY 2017

An interim dispute resolution process will be in place



SAFETY, HEALTH & WELLBEING

ON 1 JULY 2017 THIS WILL BE THE SAME

The existing Physical Competency Assessments will still apply for career NZFS firefighters with an operational role. Rural health and fitness guidelines will continue

AND THIS WILL BE DIFFERENT ON 1 JULY 2017

A Fire and Emergency New Zealand health and safety plan, policies and systems will be in place



RESPONSE ASSETS

ON 1 JULY 2017 THIS WILL BE THE SAME

Firefighters will have the equipment and training needed to respond

Assets built up through fundraising and community donations will continue to be used in the community that bought or fundraised for them

AND THIS WILL BE DIFFERENT ON 1 JULY 2017

Arrangements will be in place with territorial authorities and other agencies for use of response assets



OTHER PERSONNEL

AND THIS WILL BE DIFFERENT ON 1 JULY 2017

Personnel working in Rural Fire Authorities (RFAs), other than DOC or Defence, who solely work on fire related activities will transfer to Fire and Emergency New Zealand

Arrangements will be in place with councils to continue performing fire-related work where necessary



IDENTITY

ON 1 JULY 2017 THIS WILL BE THE SAME

Identity is important to all of us. Uniforms, badges and vehicles etc. will change to the new Fire and Emergency NZ look in stages

AND THIS WILL BE DIFFERENT ON 1 JULY 2017

There is a new Fire and Emergency New Zealand logo, and a new website and intranet will be available from Day One



BIG PICTURE

AND THIS WILL BE DIFFERENT ON 1 JULY 2017

Fire and Emergency New Zealand is funded to carry out its broader functions and for the training and equipment required

Rural and urban fire functions will become Fire and Emergency New Zealand's responsibility

Local advisory committees will continue to be developed - and following public consultation on boundaries and new regulations, will be established after July 2018