

QUEENSLAND FIRE SERVICE
SENIOR OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

Union of Employees
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NEWSLETTER

Issue 10

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DES Policy on Emergency Response Vehicles (ERV's)

On 8 May 2008 the President and Secretary met with the Deputy Commissioner to discuss the issue of proposed changes to the use of ERV's, as these have the potential to significantly impact on all senior officers. This meeting provided general information that eased some, but not all, concerns and this issue was discussed at the State Conference that was held on 10 May 2008.

On 15 May 2008 the Director-General released the DES Policy on the use of government owned motor vehicles. It has been noted by many senior officers that this policy contains a number of clauses that has caused considerable discussion and concern across all senior officers within the QFRS.

Without discussing each clause in the policy point by point (or each issue as raised by senior officers), this policy contains changes to current arrangements that affect senior officers. Also, the SOA has not had the opportunity to be involved in consultation on these changes. Amongst a range of points, this policy provides a requirement for justification for home garaging (in the form of a "benefit analysis" for each ERV) within the next two months.

The SOA is concerned about these changes but is not going to overreact without the opportunity to acquire all the facts. However, the SOA advises all members not to submit the requested benefit analysis until the SOA has had the opportunity to consult with the QFRS on all the details in this policy, and the impact on senior officers.

The SOA Executive will endeavour to meet with the QFRS as the earliest opportunity to discuss this policy and will report back to members as soon as possible after such a meeting occurs.



Ron James
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