

Department of Health

AMBULANCE TASMANIA

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File:

Ms Kim Fazackerley
PO Box 559
ROSNY PARK TAS 7018

Dear Kim,

Through the recent election commitments, we have agreed to meet with the Volunteer Ambulance Officers Association Tasmania (VAOAT) to negotiate on developing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Ambulance Tasmania (AT) and the VAOAT. I am pleased to inform you that these meetings have been undertaken. An agreed position on the development of the MOU is very much underway. Ambulance Tasmania is working on several strategies to improve the training of our Volunteer Ambulance Officers.

These initiatives include -

- Reviewing and updating the current volunteer curriculum through the MOU, we have agreed for this to be undertaken by a professional curriculum developer;
- Reviewing and updating the clinical practice guidelines for volunteers ambulance officers through the Clinical Services Directorate;
- Our Branch Station Team Leaders now monitor volunteer training and implement strategies to ensure volunteers receive training opportunities, with the recent introduction of Paramedic Educators into the regions who are primarily required to develop and deliver volunteer training and ensure consistency in delivery;
- AT has introduced training for our volunteers to a minimum of Advanced First Aid level, which will be delivered through external RTO providers. This has been achieved through Ambulance Tasmania executive working closely with the Volunteer Ambulance Officers Association of Tasmania (VAOAT). Ensuring validation of the training and knowledge they have and building a base for future development;
- Undertaking with the VAOAT, a review into the current volunteer model, naming conventions, qualifications, levels and agreeing on future minimum requirements and training needs.
- Further organisational changes are being proposed with the aim of also moving resources into the regions to support the ongoing needs of our valuable volunteers. Non-operational roles providing opportunities for volunteers to contribute to the Ambulance Service are also being considered.

Ambulance Tasmania will continue to work closely with the Volunteer Ambulance Officers Association of Tasmania, and our volunteers, to ensure the best outcome for their training and future development.

Yours sincerely,

Rick Shegog
A/Director
Statewide Volunteer Services

2 August 2021