



Country Fire Service Volunteers Association

Future Direction Strategy

2016—2020



“Our strength is our volunteers and the diversity and unique culture they bring to CFS. The CFSVA’s future direction strategy is an acknowledgement of our volunteers and their outstanding work within South Australian communities.”

**-Andy Wood,
CFSVA President**



Our Vision

“To promote and advance the best interests of CFS volunteers, and support them in the provision of a professional emergency service to South Australian communities.”

Our Mission

“To represent CFS volunteers with diligence and integrity to ensure that their welfare and interests are protected.”



*“Your Association
Working For You”*

Our Values

- To support our volunteers
- To work to ensure the safety and welfare of our volunteers
- To achieve outcomes through the united voice of our volunteers.



Our Volunteers

- Dedicated and committed volunteers serving South Australian communities
- Respected, caring and considerate
- Proud volunteers bringing together a diversity of skills.



Our Leadership

- Ethical collaborative team
- Passionate and dedicated
- Leading by example
- Supportive and compassionate



Our Approach

- Treat our volunteers with respect
- Attentive to the needs of our volunteers
- Protecting, promoting and advancing the interests of our volunteers
- Understanding and appreciating the diverse culture of our volunteers



Our Strengths

- Our Membership
- Our understanding of community diversity and needs
- Diversity of skills and ideas
- Pride in the work we do
- Pride in the CFS brand
- Community respect and support

Opportunities

- To promote the role of CFS volunteers
- Support and promote the welfare of our volunteers
- To promote the CFSVA and the services offered
- To utilize the diversity of skills
- To provide leadership and training opportunities
- To provide effective communication with our volunteers



Our Objectives:

To ensure the voice of the CFS volunteer is recognised at the highest level, and the commitment and sacrifice made by our Volunteers is acknowledged and respected; and for the CFSVA, as the voice of the CFS volunteer, to continue influencing decisions that are relevant to our Volunteers, their families and their future.

To raise the profile of the CFSVA through improved communication and support of our volunteers.



Our Structure

CFSVA State:

Management Committee

Elected members:

State President
State Vice President
State Deputy Vice President
10 Branch Delegates

Appointed Members:

Youth Advisory Council (YAC) Representative
Executive Officer (non-voting)

CFSVA Branch:

Elected members:

Branch Presidents
Branch Vice Presidents
Branch Delegates
Group / Brigade Delegates



CFSVA Framework

The Country Fire Service Volunteers Association (CFSVA) is a professional and well respected organisation established in legislation to represent the interests of the Country Fire Service (CFS) volunteers and is a significant stakeholder within the CFS and the South Australian volunteers community.

Our operating principles are underpinned by the SA Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005, which recognises the CFSVA as the association that is empowered to promote and advance the best interests of the CFS Volunteers.

All CFS Volunteers are members of the Association by virtue of this legislation.



Leadership and Governance

The CFSVA has a strong and effective state wide management structure comprising of a Management Committee headed by an elected President supported by Branch Delegates representing each of the 10 State branches.

The CFSVA has representation on all Statutory and Advisory Committees relevant to the Country Fire Service including nominees to the SAFECOM Board and CFS Foundation as well as representation on the State Bushfire Co-ordination Committee and operates in consultation with the CFS in the following areas:

Community Engagement

Infrastructure Services

Strategic Services

Membership Services

Operational Services

Work Health & Safety



Our Achievements



The CFSVA has delivered a number of achievements including:

- The development and implementation of a CFS Volunteer Charter; an agreement between the CFSVA, the South Australian Government and the CFS which ensures a commitment to consult with volunteers on all matters that directly impact on volunteers.
- Equality for CFS volunteers under Presumptive legislation; which reduces the burden for volunteers in the event they contract one of the 12 identified cancers
- Reduced speed limits past emergency work areas; ensuring a safer workplace for all emergency responders
- Were instrumental in protecting the interests of CFS volunteers and the future of CFS during sector reform
- Provides support to volunteers and their families should a volunteer be injured or killed in the line of duty
- Provides “top up” life insurance for volunteers who suffer permanent injury or death in the line of duty.
- Provides advocacy and support to volunteers when providing evidence to coronial enquiries



Our Goals

As part of the CFSVA's Future Direction 2016—2020, the CFSVA will:

- Continue to support CFS volunteers with dignity and pride
- Strive to do our best to deliver outcomes to our volunteers
- Assist and encourage the personal development of our volunteers
- Enhance and improve information flow to volunteers with a view to increase volunteer engagement
- Consolidate and improve our relationships with CFS and Government so as to advance the interests of our volunteers
- Work collaboratively across the sector to ensure continued improvement of the sector
- Work collectively with the national body, the Council of Australian Volunteer Fire Associations (CAVFA) on Federal matters
- Remain flexible and open to innovation
- Seek opportunities to provide value added benefits for our volunteers



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Working For You”*

Contact Us

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