

Statement

The Hon Lisa Neville MP

Minister for the Coordination of Environment, Land, Water, and Planning – COVID-19
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for Water



Monday, 2 November 2020

JASON HEFFERNAN ANNOUNCED AS NEW CFA CHIEF OFFICER

I welcome the Country Fire Authority (CFA) Board's appointment of Mr Jason Heffernan to the role of Chief Officer.

Mr Heffernan brings a wealth of experience and commitment to the role, working at the Rural Fire Service in New South Wales for 15 years and as a volunteer firefighter for over two decades.

He is currently Assistant Commissioner of the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) and Director Area Operations and has been strongly endorsed by the former Chief and now Head of Resilience in NSW, Shane Fitzsimmons, and the NSW volunteer association.

Jason's experience in senior roles within the RFS ensures he is best placed to lead the CFA as it embarks on a new era, refocusing on volunteers and strengthening the role they play in keeping Victorians safe. He has also provided strategic advice and guidance to the NSW Volunteer Rescue Association on behalf of the New South Wales Government.

I look forward to working with Jason as he leads the CFA who continue to work hard to protect communities, especially as we approach the upcoming fire season. The CFA is working closely with Fire Rescue Victoria and other emergency services to ensure Victoria is well prepared for any challenge over summer.

I also want to thank Deputy Chief Garry Cook, who stepped up into the Acting Chief Officer role over the last few months and has been critical in ensuring the CFA is prepared for the summer ahead.