



THE UNITED PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS' UNION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA CIRCULAR

President: Alan Crossman

Secretary: John Marsh

CIRCULAR NO: 84/2026

12 October 2026

Union Office Closure - Wednesday, 14 October 2026

Member Services Remain Available - 24 Hours a Day

Attention All Members:

Members are advised that the UPFU Office at 21 View Street, North Perth, will be closed on Wednesday, 14 October 2026, due to a scheduled Western Power outage between 7:30 am and 6:00 pm.

While the Office will be physically closed, the UPFU remains available to assist Members throughout the day.

Union staff and officials will remain contactable by mobile:

- **John Marsh:** **0418 933 809**
- **Alan Crossman:** **0455 532 810**

All calls to the Union Office will be diverted to the UPFU Duty Phone, which continues to be attended by a Branch Committee Member 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Branch Committee Meeting – DFES Declines Assistance

The UPFU Branch Committee Meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, 14 October, will proceed as planned at an alternative venue.

In anticipation of the power outage, the UPFU approached DFES seeking permission to utilise the training room at Vincent Fire Station or an alternative Station, for this one-off meeting.

The request was reasonable and included assurances that there would be no interference with operational capability, station personnel, training facilities or normal station activities.

Disappointingly, DFES declined the request.

When the UPFU sought an explanation, DFES advised:

"It is not appropriate for the Branch Committee Meeting to be held at any DFES premises."

DFES further advised:

"The internal DFES governance protocols are not able to be shared externally to DFES."

The UPFU finds this response particularly disappointing.

Please read at Muster and post on Notice Board

The Union represents the career firefighters who work in these facilities every day. A reasonable, one-off request to utilise an available meeting room, without affecting operations, should not be an unreasonable proposition.

More concerning is the suggestion that the governance protocols relied upon to refuse the request cannot be shared with the Union.

Members may reasonably ask what DFES governance protocols prevent their elected Union representatives from utilising a DFES meeting room, and why those protocols cannot be explained to the organisation representing those employees.

The UPFU considers that greater transparency and a more cooperative approach would better serve the working relationship between DFES and the Union.

Thank You to the Volunteer Fire & Rescue Services Association

Fortunately, our colleagues at the Volunteer Fire & Rescue Services Association of WA (VFRSA) were more than willing to assist.

Following contact from the UPFU, the VFRSA generously offered the Association's facilities at Guildford for our Branch Committee Meeting.

We sincerely thank the VFRSA for their hospitality, cooperation and willingness to assist at short notice. This practical support is greatly appreciated and demonstrates the value of maintaining strong relationships between organisations representing Western Australia's firefighters.

Despite the inconvenience, the important work of the UPFU Branch Committee will continue uninterrupted.

Business as Usual for Members

We apologise for any inconvenience caused by the temporary Office closure and remind Members that Union representation, advice and assistance remain available throughout the day and night.

The Union Office is expected to reopen for normal business on Thursday, 15 October 2026.

Strength in Unity – Fighting for our Future.



John Marsh
Secretary

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