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Our patron, Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Margaret Gardner AC, Governor of Victoria

Chair, CFA Board
8 Lakeside Drive Burwood East Vic 3151

Mr Leigh Harry
Secretary

2 April 2026
Ref: 26/13

CFA Volunteers Group (CFAVG)

By email: cfavolunteersgroup@gmail.com

Dear Mr Harry,

Response to request for clarification

Thank you for your letter of 23 March 2026. I confirm it was received and provided to all members of the CFA Board.

Regarding the issues you raise, the Board statement issued on 12 January 2026 was prepared in response to extensive speculation and commentary in the media, and on social media, about CFA funding arrangements. As you know, these arrangements are complex and total available funding is made up of several components, including regular grant payments, new initiative funding, revenue received for CFA services, and supplementation following emergencies. The statement's intention was to refocus attention on the pressing matters at that time: ongoing fire activity, community impact, recovery support, and to highlight the tireless efforts of our volunteers with the broader Victorian community.

While the Board statement outlined the facts about CFA's total available funding levels over recent years, it should not be interpreted as an assessment of ongoing funding requirements or a commentary about the sufficiency of funding. Any recent change in CFA's funding mix does not alter the significant financial sustainability challenges we face. These include:

- Appropriate renewal of our extensive operational fleet and station network
- Continuing investment in training, wellbeing services, and equipment for volunteers
- Cost pressures across supply chains and core programs, such as firefighting aviation costs and volunteer compensation expenses

To ensure we are able to do the best by our people, CFA must be nonpartisan and work within the resources provided by the Government of the day. This work is focused on what matters most - supporting the dedicated volunteers who are the heart of everything we do. Their service to communities across Victoria drives our work and guides our priorities.

I am confident that we share the common goal of ensuring CFA's volunteers have the resources and support they need to continue serving Victorians well.

Yours sincerely



Jo Plummer
Board Chair