



WORD BACK

No. 3/2017

29 May 2017

A B C D Day

DO YOU HAVE, OR HAVE YOU HAD, CANCER?

OR HAS ONE OF YOUR SAMFS FIREFIGHTER MATES, CURRENT OR RETIRED?

IF SO, PLEASE READ THIS AND

ACT NOW!

There are currently 12 cancers recognised under the presumptive legislation for which firefighters may be compensated, as these cancers were caused by exposure at work to carcinogens.

The UFU has been diligent in pursuing claims on behalf of all members affected, both current and retired, and we have achieved compensation including lost wages, medical costs, lump sum payments for impairment and significant payments to family dependents where the condition has cost a firefighter their life.

However, we are concerned about a range of changes to the workers' compensation system, proposed to be introduced from 1 July this year, which potentially impact upon your ability to make a successful claim.

While we have been attempting to address these concerns politically and soon industrially, this deadline approaches and it is vital that *anyone* possibly affected, contact the union office on 8352 7211 as a matter of urgency.

Failure to address this matter now could mean you will lose your right to be compensated.

This includes retired members, as well as current members, who may have successfully combated one of the conditions below in the past. For example, if you have had primary site prostate cancer successfully treated and not made a claim, **then you need to ring us NOW.**

Retired firefighters may know that these conditions often have a long gestation period so sometimes they show up just when you have retired to enjoy your sunset years.

These are serious conditions which can return and which tragically we know can be terminal. Compensation does not restore your health or your life, but it does assist you and your family when you need it most.

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So, if you or anyone you know has been diagnosed with one of the cancers listed, and have not yet made a claim, please call us now for confidential advice and assistance about your rights.

Below is the list of the cancers (from Schedule 3 of the *Return to Work Act 2014* (SA)) for which compensation may be payable and the relevant qualifying periods of employment required.

Description of injury	Qualifying period
Primary site brain cancer	5 years
Primary site bladder cancer	15 years
Primary site kidney cancer	15 years
Primary non-Hodgkin's lymphoma	15 years
Primary leukaemia	5 years
Primary site breast cancer	10 years
Primary site testicular cancer	10 years
Multiple myeloma	15 years
Primary site prostate cancer	15 years
Primary site ureter cancer	15 years
Primary site colorectal	15 years
Primary site oesophageal cancer	25 years

Act now!

Call the UFU on 8352 7211

Greg Northcott
Secretary