

1 September 2022

Dear Industry Stakeholder,

## **RE: CHANGES TO STATEWIDE STRUCTURAL FIRE SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES**

In 2020, the Victorian Government Fire Services Reform package saw the formation of Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV) on the 1st of July 2020.

As part of the formation of FRV, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) and FRV have signed a Service Level Deed Agreement which sees FRV provide services on behalf of CFA in relation to the built environment for the state of Victoria. These services include statutory service delivery under Victoria's building legislative framework.

To enable FRV to meet its obligations under the Deed, recently, the Chief Officer of the CFA utilised powers under the CFA Act and the Building Act to delegate and authorise a number of FRV personnel to exercise the powers of the Chief Officer within the Country Area of Victoria for the purposes of the Building Act and Building Regulations

From 22 August 2022 on behalf of CFA, FRV is now wholly responsible for:

- Applications for Report and Consent pursuant to Building Regulation 129;
- Applications for Report and Consent pursuant to Building Regulation 187;
- Pre-applications pursuant to Building Regulation 129(1);
- Undertake reviews of Fire Engineering Briefs;
- Undertaking Consultation in regard to BCA Part A2.2(4)(a); and
- Undertaking necessary fire safety and ESM inspections across the state.

With the Chief Officer providing delegation and authorisation to FRV personnel this means that CFA no longer needs to sign off on work already undertaken by FRV staff on its behalf. This will improve the consistency of process and documentation across the state and the response times to applications.

FRV is currently updating templates and documentation to suit. Industry will see a change that all documentation for the above will be issued on FRV documentation.

For industry there is no change to the application process and applications will continue to be sent to [bcaadmin@frv.vic.gov.au](mailto:bcaadmin@frv.vic.gov.au).

We encourage you to share this document with your colleagues.

Yours sincerely,

Built Environment and Fire Safety Departments  
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