



INDEX OF LATE REPORTS OF THE BLAYNEY SHIRE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 16 JUNE 2026

LATE REPORTS	2
23) Mayoral Minute - Transfer of Rural Fire Service Trucks, Support Vehicles and Mobile Equipment.....	2
24) Application for Leave of Absence	5

23) MAYORAL MINUTE - TRANSFER OF RURAL FIRE SERVICE TRUCKS, SUPPORT VEHICLES AND MOBILE EQUIPMENT

Author: Councillor Bruce Reynolds Bruce Reynolds

File No: ES.PL.1

Recommendation:

That Council acknowledge the decision of the NSW Government to assume direct ownership and responsibility for NSW Rural Fire Service trucks, support vehicles, and major mobile equipment, removing them from Blayney Shire Council's asset register.

Item:

The NSW Government announced on Friday 10 June 2026 it will introduce legislation to transfer ownership of the State's 'red fleet' of more than 6,000 firefighting vehicles from councils to the RFS.

This reform is something Local Government has been seeking and advocating over several years for.

This reform will consolidate operational responsibility for the red fleet under the State Government for the first time since the RFS was established almost 30 years ago. Ownership and management would be transferred from councils from 1 July 2027.

Blayney Shire Council currently accounts for these firefighting vehicles in its financial statements, with the proposal to transfer these assets to the NSW Government.

There have not been any details on how the transfer would work. Additionally, there has not been any mention of compensation to Council for the transfer of these assets. Therefore, a potential write off of these assets from Councils Accounts is likely on 30 June 2027.

Enclosed is correspondence received from Minister for Emergency Service Hon. Jihad Dib MP and RFS Commissioner Trent Curtin and from Local Government NSW President Darcy Byrne.

Enclosures (following report)

1 Red Fleet Reform Correspondence

2 Pages

Attachments (separate document)

Nil



Mayor / General Manager
Blayney Shire Council
Via email: council@blayney.nsw.gov.au

Re: RED FLEET REFORM

Dear Mayor / General Manager

We are writing to inform you of an important reform to enhance community and firefighter safety and emergency response as the NSW Government and NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) work alongside local government to deliver strong community outcomes.

The NSW Government has announced that, from 1 July 2027, ownership and management of NSW's firefighting fleet will transfer from local councils to the RFS.

This reform responds to longstanding challenges associated with fleet management arrangements in NSW, including complexity in governance, funding and accountability.

In addition to community and firefighter safety dividends, it will also support improved fleet reliability and ensure more consistent standards across NSW by aligning ownership, management and operational responsibility within the RFS. This will ensure a more modern, accountable and effective approach to fleet maintenance.

We recognise the strong and longstanding partnership between the RFS and local councils in supporting bush fire preparedness and response and we thank you for this partnership. This reform will reduce the financial and administrative burden on councils associated with fleet ownership, while maintaining your important role in emergency management and supporting your local communities. The collaboration between councils and the RFS remains critical to delivering the best outcomes for the people of NSW.

Importantly, this is a staged transition. Local councils will continue to be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of RFS fleet assets until the transfer date, and maintaining current standards during this period will support safe and reliable operations.

In parallel, the reform will deliver broader benefits for regional communities, including the creation of jobs, apprenticeships and new capability through an expanded RFS maintenance model that continues to leverage local industry and expertise.

We are committed to working closely with Local Government NSW, the Country Mayors Association and all councils throughout the transition to ensure this reform is implemented in a way that is practical, transparent and supports continuity of service. This will include working with local government on the future provision of maintenance of assets.

Further information, including frequently asked questions, will be provided shortly. In the meantime, should you have any questions or require a briefing, please contact fleet.transition@rfs.nsw.gov.au.

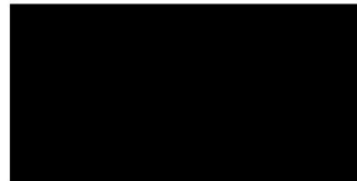
OFFICIAL

Thank you for your continued partnership and for the vital role you play in supporting your community and emergency services across NSW.

Sincerely



The Hon Jihad Dib MP
Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government
Minister for Emergency Services
Minister for Youth Justice
12/06/2026



Trent Curtin
RFS Commissioner
12/06/2026

Cc: Relevant RFS Area Command and District

OFFICIAL

24) APPLICATION FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Department: Executive Services

Author: General Manager

CSP Link: 1. Prioritise transparency, financial sustainability and strong partnerships with and for our community

File No: GO.CO.1

Recommendation:

That Council approve the Leave of Absence application submitted by Councillor Dorsett for the July 2026 Council Meeting.

Reason for Report:

Councillor Dorsett is seeking Council approval for a Leave of Absence, for the July 2026 Council meeting.

Report:

Councillor Dorsett will be an apology for 28 July 2026 Council meeting and has submitted an application for this Leave of Absence.

Risk/Policy/Legislation Considerations:

This request is in accordance with clause 5.6 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice and s234(1)(d) of the Local Government Act (1993), whereby Council may grant leave prior to or at any of the meetings concerned.

Budget Implications:

Nil

Enclosures (following report)

Nil

Attachments (separate document)

Nil