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Update - Provision of accommodation & meals for pilots and associated aircraft support personnel.

Briefing Note 19 was first produced in 2007 to deal with issues that had arisen during aircraft operations where Agency support personnel were confronted with unreasonable and non-contractual requests for welfare/accommodation by pilots and associated personnel ie. engineers, refuellers.

Owing to some issues that have already arisen this season, this updated briefing note has been prepared to clarify and remind Agency personnel of the arrangements.

Overview

National, State Fleet and Call When Needed (CWN) operators are advised that when the Agencies provide accommodation at an incident, every reasonable measure will be taken to provide accommodation to an equivalent public service standard where the resource is required to remain away overnight from its NOB in order to carry out Services required by the Agencies.

Operators acknowledge the often remote nature of Agency operations and accept the Agencies commitment to provide the best possible accommodation under the circumstances that prevail at the time.

National (NAFC) Fleet Type 1 Helicopters

NAFC has specified that for Type 1 National Fleet operations (Erickson Airplane, S61 & AAS platform) fair and reasonable accommodation will be provided for "Flight Crew and Crewpersons". This is to be read as the:

- Type 1 pilots (2) and;
- accompanying AAS platform pilot (1) and;
- engineering crew-chief plus up to two engineering personnel and;
- Type 1 helicopter refuelling tanker driver.

The inclusion of the accompanying AAS in this list sees welfare/accommodation required for 8 persons.

State Fleet & CWN Aircraft

For Victorian State Fleet and CWN aircraft, the agencies will provide meals and fair and reasonable accommodation for the pilot of each aircraft.

The Agencies will provide accommodation /meals to support personnel ie. engineers directly attached to an aircraft, where possible.

Accommodation

The Agencies have agreed that they will ensure that where possible, pilots and engineers and Type 1 helicopter refuellers will be provided with single room accommodation.

There is no commitment by the Agencies to provide single room accommodation for any AAIMS Air Operations unit personnel.

If aircraft operators of State Fleet or CWN aircraft wish their support personnel to have single room accommodation then they are responsible for the provision and payment of such.

Owing to potential accommodation shortages during fires, the Agencies give no commitment to operators, that personnel from the same company will all be accommodated at the same venue.

There is a commitment from Type 1 helicopter operators or an operator with multiple aircraft at an incident, that when deployed to an incident there will be one contact person for the resource (usually lead pilot) with regard to providing numbers and names of personnel from their company who will require meals and accommodation. Requests direct from engineers or refuellers are to be referred to their respective contact person or via the accompanying AAS.

Additionally the Agencies will not pay for any alcohol and 'personal' expenses.

For National, State Fleet or CWN aircraft, there is no commitment or agreement by the Agencies to provide accommodation / meals for the following:

- Pilots or engineers rotating in/out or resting off rotation; *or*
- Family members, partners or spouses associated with pilots/engineers/refuellers; *or*
- Additional engineers brought in for specific non scheduled servicing.

Aircraft operators are responsible for the provision and payment for such meals and accommodation for such additional personnel.

Comments

Any situation which arises, where Air Operations unit or Logistics personnel feel they are being intimidated by aircraft contractor personnel over such matters, must be immediately reported to the State Airdesk.

Contact Officer

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