

LABOR NATIONAL POLICY PLATFORM

The UFUA National Office was able to secure the insertions (outlined below) into the ALP Policy Platform at the ALP National Conference in July 2015.

The National Office has also had discussions with the Leader of the Opposition who is understanding and supportive of the issues surrounding the preservation age for firefighters.

This is a significant achievement for the National Union as these matters will be able to be realised if there is a change of government. Irrespectively they are now part of ALP National Policy.

Branches are also encouraged to inform their members of the following policy matters as it is in their interests that the policy develops into tangible outcomes which can only occur with a change of government.

The UFUA negotiated insertions into the ALP National Policy are as follows:

- *Labor recognises the physical toll on men and women employed in physically rigorous occupations that leads to earlier than average retirement ages. In this context, Labor supports exploring the introduction of early access to preserved superannuation accounts for these workers.*
- *Labor recognises that firefighters' workplace is an unpredictable, volatile and dangerous workplace and is to be recognised as a high risk occupational in health and safety legislation.*
- *Labor believes in achieving the highest level of workplace safety and that workers' rights to a safe workplace should be enshrined in legislation. Labor recognises that that firefighters face extraordinary hazards and the importance of a regulated requirements of safe crewing on the fireground which includes the principle of two-in two-out.*

