

**Chris Minns**  
Premier of New South Wales



**Jihad Dib**  
Minister for Customer Service and Digital Government  
Minister for Emergency Services  
Minister for Youth Justice

## Media Release

# Minns Labor Government delivering next-generation fire trucks for the NSW Rural Fire Service

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**Editor's note: [Vision of trucks available here](#)**

The Minns Labor Government is protecting NSW communities from bush fires and other emergencies, delivering 290 new and refurbished firefighting vehicles to NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) brigades across the state over the past year.

And in a NSW-first, the RFS has taken possession of six ultra-large firefighting trucks from specialist vehicle manufacturer Tatra.

Weighing up to 26 tonnes and carrying up to nearly 9,000 litres of water, these will become the biggest firefighting trucks in the RFS fleet.

The milestones reflect the NSW Government's ongoing investment in frontline emergency services, supporting firefighter safety, operational readiness and community safety.

Most trucks are being deployed to regional areas, benefiting communities from Cobar to Coffs Harbour, with the state's southwest receiving the largest uplift.

Deployed trucks have already assisted in May's flood recovery activities on the mid north-coast and are equipped with rescue capabilities, as RFS teams complement the work of other emergency services.

The Tatra trucks, in 4x4 and 6x6 variants, boast unique off-road capabilities.

This includes including tyres that inflate and deflate, with the manufacturer also specialising in military vehicles.

Built in the Czech Republic, with final fit outs done domestically, the first vehicle is to be put to the test during the coming bushfire season as part of next generation fleet trials.

Along with firefighting fleet, the RFS has refurbished their Mobile Command Centre and upgraded base camps to accommodate not only frontline personnel, but evacuated residents during a crisis.

Building on the NSW Bushfire Inquiry and other inquiry recommendations to modernise the RFS fleet, the trucks are equipped with Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) to improve crews' communication, connectivity and safety in remote and disaster-impacted areas. To date, MDTs have been installed in 3,600 vehicles across 30 RFS Districts.

The equipment and resources are vital to the state's bush fire readiness and expand the RFS capability and versatility.

It comes as the RFS prepares to move its home base for equipment and infrastructure later this year. The agency will upgrade from its Glendenning logistics warehouse to a new, larger State Logistics Facility in nearby Marsden Park.

The new firefighting tankers and equipment boost the RFS ahead of the upcoming bushfire season.

The Bush Fire Danger Period for parts of northern NSW begins on 1 August, with the Danger Period for the entire state beginning 1 October.

**Premier of NSW Chris Minns said:**

“These trucks are more than just vehicles. They’re vital tools protecting lives, supporting our firefighters and strengthening community safety across NSW.

“We are providing our firefighters and the communities they protect with the best possible equipment and technology.

“In recent months we have seen the best of our emergency volunteers who have come out in force to support communities across NSW and the investment in this new equipment is vital.”

**Minister for Emergency Services Jihad Dib said:**

“This Government is committed to providing frontline volunteers with the equipment and technology they need and the strongest support possible.

“The people of NSW can be confident the skills and capabilities of the RFS are respected both nationally and internationally — from establishing base camps in Tasmania and the Northern Territory to deploying firefighters and aircraft to the United States and Canada.

“These new trucks and the logistics support demonstrate the versatility of the RFS; regardless of the wet weather, they’ve been undertaking vital work with the SES over recent months, and I thank our volunteers.”

**NSW RFS Commissioner Trent Curtin said:**

“The rollout of these modern, purpose-built vehicles is part of a long-term strategic program to future-proof our fleet and better protect our members.

“These vehicles feature the latest in crew protection systems, improved safety design and communications equipment helping our crews to operate in the toughest conditions. This work will help make sure our volunteers will come home safely after fighting bush fires across the state.”

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