



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

# MEDIA RELEASE

## Shoalhaven Heads Rural Fire Brigade welcomes \$1.3 million investment

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The NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) Shoalhaven District is today welcoming a \$1.3 million investment with the official opening of the newly extended Shoalhaven Heads Brigade station and truck handover.

Member for Kiama Gareth Ward and NSW RFS Acting Deputy Commissioner Jason Heffernan will attend the official opening to inspect the brigade's upgraded home, hand over a new fire truck and thank volunteers for their ongoing commitment to the Shoalhaven District area and the Service.

"This refurbished station, located on Shoalhaven Heads Road, will continue to provide enhanced support to volunteers as well as the communities they protect," Mr Ward said.

"With the new facilities, it will further help members of the Shoalhaven Heads Brigade assist with vehicle housing, training and the fighting of fires locally.

"You only have to look at the last season to see how hard our skilled firefighters and support crews work to keep us safe when bush fires and emergency situations threaten.

"I offer my sincere thanks and gratitude to all the NSW RFS members for their outstanding efforts."

"I also congratulate the Brigade on their new \$370,000 Category 1 vehicle, replacing their older model."

Acting Deputy Commissioner Heffernan said the NSW RFS is committed to providing volunteer firefighters with the equipment, infrastructure and resources they need to carry out the important work of protecting their local communities from fire and a diverse array of incidents.

"This improved facility provides our volunteers with the space to perform vital activities away from the fireground," Acting Deputy Commissioner Heffernan said.

"The upgrade includes an extra vehicle bay, meeting rooms, kitchen, office, outdoor area, change rooms and other amenities to increase operational capabilities and comfort for our volunteers.

"Today, the more than 40 members of this brigade continue to protect their community from grass and bush fires, structure fires, as well as a diverse array of emergencies including motor vehicle accidents.

"I congratulate them also on their fundraising efforts, providing \$50,000 towards the cost of these upgrades.

"I would like to take this time to praise all our volunteers for their ongoing efforts each and every day, particularly when dealing with emergencies here in the Shoalhaven District.

"We also thank the family, friends, employers and colleagues of these and all volunteers. We know it takes their ongoing support and patience which in turn enables Rural Fire Service volunteers do what they do."



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