

## Provision of Personal Protective Clothing (PPC)

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### Scope

This policy applies to all CFA members involved in the provision and management of CFA approved Bushfire and Structural Personal Protective Clothing and associated equipment.

This policy does not apply to specialist clothing including Rescue, USAR, Chemical Protection, Fire Investigation and Mechanical Maintenance.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Provision of Personal Protective Clothing Procedure.

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### Definitions

**Brigade Classification:** The category assigned to a brigade based on the risk which that brigade is exposed to or responsible for.

- **Classification 1:** Bushfire (risks predominately bushfire, grass & scrub)
- **Classification 2:** Bushfire with Low Structure (risks predominately bushfire, grass & scrub)
- **Classification 3:** Bushfire with Structure (risk evenly spread between bushfire & structural)
- **Classification 4:** Structure with Bushfire (significant township, city or suburban environment with predominately structural risk)
- **Classification 5:** Structure with Bushfire (fully urbanised environment)

**CFA member:** A person described in Regulation 5 of the CFA Regulations 2004 (“member or member of a brigade”) or a person who is an “operational employee” and/or a person who is employed by the Country Fire Authority of Victoria who becomes involved with operational activities.

**Operational activities:** CFA approved, coordinated or pre-planned action, or series of actions, in response to and in support of a potential or existing emergency incident, including training and exercises.

**Personal issue:** Protective clothing issued to individual CFA members exclusively for their own use in undertaking CFA activities.

**Personal Protective Clothing (PPC):** Protective clothing includes clothing used to provide protection to CFA members from the risks associated with performing operational activities and training exercises.

**Stakeholder Groups:** CFA requirements contained in the Volunteer Charter and Operations Staff Enterprise Bargaining Agreement.

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### Policy Objective

This policy outlines the general principles for the provision and management of CFA Bushfire and Structural PPC used for the protection of members during operational activities.

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### Policy Statement

1. Only PPC approved by the Chief Officer and fit for purpose is to be issued to and worn by CFA members.
2. The provision of PPC will be based on the CFA Chief Officer's Principles for allocating resources for Operational Service Delivery. Brigade classification shall be a leading principle in determining eligible brigades for the dissemination of PPC.
3. PPC worn during operational activities shall match the specific risk associated with the task being performed at an incident.
4. Eligibility of members within the approved locations shall be based on operational qualifications for the appropriate risk.
5. Members provided with PPC must be familiar with the application, limitations and maintenance of the PPC.
6. PPC shall be allocated to the individual member as a personal issue (including during training). In some cases pool garments are available for identified activities.
7. The wearing, maintenance and return of PPC shall be in accordance with the Chief Officer's Standing Orders, Standard Operating Procedures and Provision of Personal Protective Clothing Procedures.
8. PPC is to be returned to the Brigade/District when a CFA member leaves the organisation.

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### Delegations/Authorisation/Responsibilities

1. The Chief Officer is accountable for the approval, allocation and dissemination principles for PPC.

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### Links and References

- CFA Act 1958
- Occupational Health and Safety Act
- Chief Officer's Standing Orders and Standing Operating Procedures
- CFA Chief Officers Principles for Allocating Resources for Operational Service Delivery
- AS/NZS Standards

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## Policy Manager

Deputy Chief Officer Capability and Infrastructure

Directorate: Fire and Emergency Management

### Policy Stakeholders

- Volunteer Fire Brigades Victoria
- United Firefighters Union
- Assistant Chief Officers
- Operations Managers
- CFA/VFBV State PPC/E Committee
- CFA/UFU PPC/E Committee

Date approved (this version): **23/03/2015**

Date due for review: **23/03/2016**

Date to cease: **N/A**