

Tuesday, 30 May 2017

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY TO BE REVIEWED TO ENSURE FAIRNESS

The NSW Government will defer the introduction of the Fire and Emergency Services

Tuesday, 30 May 2017

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY TO TO ENSURE FAIRNESS

The NSW Government will defer the introduction of the Fire and Emergency Services Levy (FESL) to ensure small to medium businesses do not face an unfair burden in their contribution to the State's fire and emergency services. Premier Mike Baird, Minister Berejiklian and Treasurer Dominic Perrottet announced today.

matched the intention of the reform for commercial and industrial sectors, particularly for small and medium businesses.

"The FESL is a complex reform and we always knew there would be challenges during the transition phase," Mr Perrottet said.

"It's not enough for this reform to work on paper – its real-life implementation has real life consequences for families and businesses, and we need to make sure they are not placed under unfair strain.

"We are committed to reducing NSW's high rates of under insurance and to making the funding of our fire and emergency services fairer – but we want to get this right."

The NSW Government will work with local government, fire and emergency services, the insurance industry and other stakeholders to find a better and fairer path forward.

The Fire and Emergency Services Levy will continue to be collected via insurance policies until the NSW Government has completed its review of the policy, and the funding requirements of fire and emergency services agencies will be met in full.

The FESL is revenue neutral, raising no more than the amount required to fund the State's fire and emergency services.

The Insurance Monitor will oversee a smooth continuation of the existing system and ensure insurance companies collect only the amounts necessary to meet fire and emergency services funding requirements.

Further information can be found at [www.fesl.nsw.gov.au](#).

The Fire and Emergency Services Levy will continue to be collected via insurance policies until the NSW Government has completed its review of the policy, and the funding requirements of fire and emergency services agencies will be met in full.

The FESL is revenue neutral, raising no more than the amount required to fund the State's fire and emergency services.

The Insurance Monitor will oversee a smooth continuation of the existing system and ensure insurance companies collect only the amounts necessary to meet fire and emergency services funding requirements.

Further information can be found at [www.fesl.nsw.gov.au](#).

MEDIA: Ehssan Veiszadeh | Premier | 0418 986 206