

Your response on CFA's Community Engagement Framework

Engage CFA <notifications@engagementhq.com>

Thu 2/24/2022 7:17 PM

To: Women's Health <WHealth@whealth.com.au>

Engage CFA

Hi ,

Thank you for completing the survey CFA's Community Engagement Framework. Your responses are listed below for your reference:

Do you agree with how CFA is proposing to engage with communities?

Yes

Please provide more detail:

The engagement framework has a solid approach including: • Outlining shared responsibility • Naming the values of the CFA • Engagement with diverse communities • Expectation of and from the community. Please see Question 7 below for more.

Do you agree with your role listed in "Our expectation of communities" section?

Yes

Is there anything we should change about our expectation from communities?

No

Please provide more detail

We support the local, place-based approach outlined in this section of the document.

Any other comments:

Question 2 (continued) However, we see a gap in consultation with the people of our First Nations. We note that the section on "inclusion and diversity" does mention 'working closely with Traditional Owners ... – from volunteerism and employment to partnerships and service delivery.' This doesn't explicitly refer to their cultural wisdom and experience in managing fire. This lack of consideration is also embodied in the

mission statement that states it is to "to protect lives and property". We see this Mission as incomplete and would like to strongly suggest that it is expanded to encompass both the cultural heritage and the life of the land that we inhabit. As the land with the oldest living culture in the world, we need to understand and protect our cultural heritage. We also need to further investigate and understand First Nations' stewardship and relationship with the land and in particular their relationship with fire. Looking further to the breakdown of the Mission we note that it is to: educate people about how to prevent, prepare for and respond to fires. When discussing prevention, we see a large role for our First Nations' to contribute and would like to see a place for explicit engagement with the community. First Nations' peoples can bring significant experience to fire prevention. QUESTION 7: We support the 'inclusion and diversity' section of the framework and naming specific community groups. However, no list is exhaustive, and we would suggest renaming this section "whole of community" or something similar to ensure that all community members are included and will be considered. We'd also suggest other updates to terminology to better describe the cohorts the framework is clearly targeting. Please note these comments: - (in place of the section on "women"): "Gender – There are different vulnerabilities in disaster depending on gender. This means that women and gender-diverse people must be included in all aspects of fire-planning." It is very encouraging to see the public statement about Gender Impact Assessments. It would also be good to have a statement about a culture that supports gender equality and (whether the CFA has) a zero-tolerance for gender-based violence and a robust and transparent system for dealing with reports. - (note the suggested edits): "CFA works closely with Traditional Owner groups across Victoria to incorporate Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people, their culture and wisdom around fire management in everything we do – from volunteerism and employment to partnerships and service delivery." - (note the suggested edits): "People living with disability – CFA is working towards making our activities and content accessible for all members of our community, including those living with a disability." - (note the suggested edits): "CFA commits to providing a safe, supportive and inclusive environment for LGBTIQ+ people and supports local and state-wide community events such as Midsumma Pride March." - (see question following): CFA provide child safety training to our members and requires Working with Children Checks for key programs and engagement activities It would be good to have clear statement here about (whether the CFA has) a zero-tolerance for child-abuse and providing a safe environment for all children. While training is an excellent start, a culture of ensuring child safety is needed and a robust and transparent reporting system is needed. - (see question following): Culturally and linguistically diverse communities (CALD) – CFA understands that many different cultures have a connection with fire, and we recognise the importance of engaging with multicultural communities. We're not sure what this paragraph is trying to achieve and would suggest that it be redeveloped to ensure that CALD communities are included in all consultations in their own language and in the context of their cultural understanding and experience of fire.

CFA's approach to community engagement

Overall, CFA's approach to community engagement is easy to understand and resonated with me. Somewhat agree

Would you like to be involved in further engagement on this framework?

Yes

Please select your preferences:

I would like to be both invited to the workshop and receive the final copy of the framework

Please include your best contact email:

whealth@whealth.com.au

Thank you,
Country Fire Authority (Victoria)

Other projects that might interest you

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Thank you for attending one of CFA's Fire Safety ProgramsCFA offers a range of fire safety...

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