



RFSA

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22 February 2019

Mr Joseph Waugh
Senior Policy Officer
NSW Sentencing Council
via email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Waugh,

Thank you for the opportunity to put forward a submission on the view of penalties for fire offences.

The NSW Rural Fire Service Association, as the officially recognised body in the Rural Fires Act, effectively represents the view of over 74,000 members and wishes to submit the following submission:

The RFSA supports the recent increase in the maximum penalty for lighting bushfires from 14 years imprisonment to 21 years.

As a deterrent, and in the interest of safety for our members, we would support a similar increase to the standard non-parole period (SNPP) for lighting bushfires, and the maximum penalties for destroying property by fire of one-third of the existing penalties.

I trust that the Sentencing Council will find this information of use during its deliberation.

Yours sincerely

Ken Middleton
President