OB-19-001 Operating at reduced category due unavailability of ULFV Mk8

Applicability: ARFFS Fire Stations with ULFV Mk8 Sharing

Context
Some ARFFS Fire Stations currently have arrangements to share ULFV Mk8 vehicles when one (1) of the Fire Stations has an unserviceable ULFV Mk8 vehicle.

Occasionally, a shared or spare vehicle is not available for the required location to maintain Category, when maintenance (planned or unplanned) is necessary. In these instances, the affected aerodrome requires ARFFS to advise a temporary Category drop, e.g. from 6 to 5. Where possible, the maintenance is completed between scheduled aircraft movements allowing the affected aerodrome to return to Category 6 for the scheduled aircraft movements.

While operating at a reduced category, due to vehicle unavailability, there is the potential for equipment stowage to be impacted, particularly for the provision of hose for category as per AFFM-CT.

Note: This OB does not apply to a reduction in category due operational response where equipment is available on the responding vehicle.

Mandatory Actions
The Local Operations Managers of the affected Fire Stations ensure that:
- During a reduction in Category due vehicle unavailability, correct Category staffing is maintained
- The additional, required hoses/equipment are available on the GUV.
- The spare FF’s will respond using the GUV carrying the additional hoses/equipment

Lifecycle
This Bulletin:
- Replaces any previous advice that specifically relates to the Applicability and Context of this Bulletin
- Remains effective until it is superseded by a later version of this Bulletin, or
- Is cancelled by the:
  - Relevant aspects of its content being incorporated into a permanent ARFFS’s document, or
  - Specified actions being completed with no record required in permanent ARFFS’s documents