



My name is Jeff Shrimpton (Shrimpy) and I am standing for National President.

I am currently a Senior Firefighter of 33] years based at Howick fire station in Counties-Manukau, the Auckland Local Vice-President and the Northern Branch President.

I specialise in representing our people to make sure they are rehabilitated, compensated defended, and reassured in any situation that may arise. Our peoples concerns is why I do what I do. Welfare is my passion, especially when it comes to the psychological wellbeing of the members. Our members are being exposed to more and more traumatic events and situations every day, effecting not only the individual but also the families of our members.

I would like the Union to front foot these concerns and look at funding programs designed to help alleviate the stressors and precursors to physiological harm. We cannot afford to wait on just FENZ to come to the party, we need to make a start ourselves.

It is time that the Union makes a stand and steps up demanding proper recognition from FENZ for our members that are exposed to these traumatic situations. From our dispatchers that take the 111 calls to our firefighters responding and assisting New Zealanders every day, it is well past time that they we are recognised financially for the extra stress and psychological harm that is placed on us. Medical emergencies are only increasing and demand for our services is predicted to steadily increase over the next 5 to 10 years. Our members deserve better from FENZ, and I want to make sure that they are held accountable.

As well as physiological wellbeing, another passion is the physical well-being of the members, specifically around the carcinogens we are exposed to on a daily basis. As a cancer survivor myself I appreciate the immense impact that this has on ones lifestyle and family. I would like the Union to also front foot the campaign for a change to presumptive legislation in New Zealand thereby allowing ACC coverage for a diagnosis of one or more of the different types of cancers already recognised internationally.

As an Executive member of both the Auckland Local and the Northern Branch I am able to work well with others and know how to lead a team. I believe the Union needs strong leadership over the next three years as we inevitably enter a new tranche restructure instigated by FENZ. With strong leadership comes strong direction and something that the members can get behind. A vote for me will get you that strong leadership.

I look forward to working with the Union Council and the National Committee to help set a direction for us to head towards in these uncertain times.