



UNITED VOICE AMBULANCE OFFICERS

STRONGER UNITED

A NATIONAL PLATFORM

United Voice ambulance delegates from across the country recently came together in Sydney, including representatives from Western Australia, Victoria, Queensland and the Northern Territory.

Members discussed the opportunities that could come with a national approach, including sharing common goals and challenges that we currently deal with state by state.

We know we have to get the balance right between harnessing the power of a national platform and maintaining local processes that currently work well.

That is why the national meeting discussed the importance of keeping existing Ambulance State Councils, who can continue to drive state-based issues, which would feed into a National Ambulance Industry Council that would deal with national campaigns and resources.

SHARING OUR VISION

The proposal for amalgamation with the National Union of Workers includes a national structure, which would establish a powerful, national voice for ambulance officers.

This proposal would see members come together across state boundaries to form the biggest national union of ambulance officers in Australia.

We could campaign nationally to win better outcomes for ambulance members everywhere on important issues like occupational violence, fatigue, pay, ramping and PTSD.

It would also see us having even more power to fight off threats of privatisation and health cuts across the country.

The national structure would still allow for State Councils to continue driving local issues, and ambulance members would make up an important part of the broader union.

NEXT STEPS

We want ambulance members to remain front and centre as our amalgamation discussions with the NUW continue.

We will continue to provide more information as it becomes available, and encourage you to ask questions and provide feedback.

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REPORT BACK

Here's what ambulance officers from around the country are saying:

It was great to meet other paramedics from across the country and talk about how we could work more closely together to help everyone in all states. I think a new, national union would mean better collaboration across the country to benefit all members and the industry as a whole.

- Matt, Northern Territory

A national union representing the country's paramedics, transport officers, and communications staff means a strong and consolidated front on the issues that affect ambulance members on a national level.

There is enormous strength in working together on the things that matter to us, such as presumptive legislation for PTSD, occupational violence and fairer working conditions for all ambulance workers. Having these issues recognised and addressed on a national level benefits us, our industry and the communities we serve.

- Sarah, Western Australia

All states have worked very hard in fighting against privatisation, verbal and physical abuse of paramedics, pay rise recognition, PTSD, just to name a few. Now is the time to fight together as one united force.

As a national union, we could build on the great work that each state has been achieving and have our concerns nationally recognised.

- Joy, Queensland