

**Prue Purdey**

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**From:** Roy Taylor [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 27 June 2017 1:27 PM  
**To:** LCSC  
**Subject:** FW: Fire Service Reform

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Dear Comittee Members

My name is Roy Taylor and i am a career fighter with the MFB with 32 years experience based at Croydon fire station.

I urge you to fully study all the facts into fire service reform and make a decision on those facts as fire service boundries are long overdue for reform.

Croydon fire station sits on the boundry of MFB area and CFA area. We turnout with only 1 other MFB station which is Ringwood. CFA stations we turn out with are Wonga Park, Chirnside Park, Mooroolbark, Montrose and Bayswater which are fully volunteer stations. The issues we find when we turn out with these brigades are many, we have two radios in the truck 1 MFB and beside it the CFA radio, which one to use to communicate with becomes very hard sometimes as the boundry can sometimes be just one side of the road to another, no change in density of housing no change to bush just an imaginary line. In MFB there is a guaranteed response time of 8 minutes to 90% of calls sadly in the CFA area we turn out to this figure can blow considerably due CFA brigades not responding due to lack of personel or waiting for personel with the correct qualifications to turn up, This is issue is not personel one as i believe volunteers do a great job and put many hours into serving there community but a problem with the system as many volunteers do not work in the community they serve especially in surburban areas like this, or trying to rush to there stations in peak hour traffic only to be slowed down in a line of traffic which is going slow.

Other issues faced are hoses and fittings which are not compatible, fire hydrants with different threads depending which side of the road they are on MFB/CFA. Breathing Apparatus which is non compatible, lack of breathing apparatus operators on CFA trucks, our standard operational procedures state we need 4 BA operators on scene before structural fire fighting can begin, this never happens in CFA area a major problem when it comes to oh&s issues

All this happens in communities where there is a high density of housing, light and heavy industry and heavy traffic. Some parts of the community recieve the 2017 model which is highly trained and skilled and other parts get the 1950's model of dedicated volunteers who's skill level is unknown it all depends on who's available Metropolitan Melbourne deserves a better fire service delivery model than the one that operates now, one that is consistant throughout the the metropolitan area.

My belief is that if reform dosen't happen lives will be lost due to slow response time and lack of skilled operators on the fire ground

Regards Leading Firefighter Roy Taylor  
[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10