

Prue Purdey

From: SINCLAIR, Nicholas [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 27 June 2017 5:53 PM
To: LCSC
Subject: Fire Services Reform

To whom it may concern,

My name is Nick Sinclair, I have been an MFB career fire-fighter for 5 and half years. I am a Leading Fire-Fighter at Eastern Hill Fire station.

I have lived within the MFB district since moving to Melbourne, from Sydney, to commence my career as a fire-fighter. However, I have recently purchased a house in the North Eastern suburbs, bordering the MFB/CFA districts. The North East of Melbourne is fast being urbanised, but retains a very high fuel load in terms of the bushland and topography. As I will shortly become a resident of an area in question, I want to know that all residents are receiving the same level of coverage and response, whether they fall inside or outside the MFB district. As it has been pointed out, some urban area's which have been covered by a volunteer response are now in need of a modernised response model, as Melbourne continues to grow and reach further out into area's that had previously been adequately serviced by the out-dated volunteer/integrated model.

I recognise, and greatly appreciate the amazing work of all volunteers, and their work will continue to be invaluable, especially during the summer months when many properties and areas come under direct attack from bush fires.

The North Eastern suburbs that I will soon call home have a large number of schools, nursing homes, shopping centres etc that require an adequate response from all emergency services, including the fire brigade. The current model does not adequately allow enough resources in a timely manner to provide safety for residents, as well as current emergency service members. But most importantly, the largest asset that needs/requires an updated fire service is the residents and their homes. The density of homes is continuing at an alarming rate, and with this, comes the simple need for services to continue to grow and expand with this increase in population and critical infrastructure.

I personally don't take much notice of the politicisation of the current issues, but the on-going attack on career fire-fighters and our career is almost impossible to ignore. The media is constantly full of attacks, whether it be in the newspaper, online, TV or radio, it's hard to escape. I would like to see the issue resolved, primarily for the residents of Victoria and an essential update to the fire services, but also to allow myself and my colleagues to return to our normal everyday lives, and to continue to protect and serve this great state of Victoria.

Thank you

Regards

Nick Sinclair | Leading Fire Fighter | Eastern Hill Fire Station |
Metropolitan Fire Brigade | 456 Albert Street | East Melbourne VIC 3002 |
[REDACTED]

*The MFB is committed to minimising its impact on the environment.
Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.*

WARNING
This email and any attachment may contain confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient you are not authorised to copy or disclose all or any part of it without the prior written consent of the Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board.
