

**Kirra Vanzetti**

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**From:** NEALE, Ryan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 28 June 2017 4:32 PM  
**To:** LCSC  
**Subject:** Fire services reform

To whom it may concern within the Legislative Council Select Committee,

My name is Ryan Neale and I am a level three Firefighter for the Metropolitan Fire Brigade. I am writing today in full support of the fire services reform, not only as a proud professional Firefighter but also as resident along the urban fringe.

Throughout my 31yr lifetime, growing up in the Northern suburbs of Melbourne I have seen dramatic changes throughout the landscape, largely in the form of urbanisation. In my time alone the Northern fringe of Melbourne has grown (developed) exponentially and one would assume the State Government and Emergency Services provided would follow suite. Although my time within the Metropolitan Fire Brigade has been short (2.5yrs) I have been extremely impressed and inspired by the professionalism, work ethic, qualifications and turn out times of professional Firefighters, Both MFB and F/T CFA alike. With Myself and my beautiful wife expecting our first child later this year I could only hope that if (God forbid) anything were to go wrong as my residence within Craigieburn that I could 100% rely on professional Firefighters, ontime, fully trained, with all the correct gear ready to undertake what needs to be done. Saying this I expect this from all our Emergency Services across Melbourne.

I have the upmost respect for the CFA volunteers and know they are wanted and needed throughout much of Victoria. Knowing what I know now on response times, training, and equipment I would only hope that even the volunteers see the need for permanent fulltime stations. It is a fact that times do change and Melbourne is not immune to such change, there is still a need, and always will be a need for a volunteer fire service but with the current growth rates on the outer fringe a guarantee is expected from myself and all other residents in such built up areas. A guarantee to me means 100% on time, professional, fully trained, and fully geared up, Melbourne is perhaps the most liveable city on the planet and our emergency services need to recognise and grow with that in mind.

**Ryan Neale | Firefighter Level 3**  
**Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board**

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