

**Kirra Vanzetti**

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**From:** Sasha [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 2 July 2017 10:06 PM  
**To:** LCSC  
**Subject:** Fw:

To whom it concern,

I am a fire fighter located at South Melbourne fire station. I have recently reached the rank of Leading Fire fighter, with just on 5 years of experience. I have a few specialist qualifications, being both HAZMAT & USAR(urban search & rescue) trained. Which means I can respond and act in highly specialised situations, as well as in my role as a day to day fire fighter.

I am strongly in favour of the proposed fire service reform. Being located in the very urbanised setting of South Melbourne, we respond into Southbank, Docklands, West Melbourne, the CBD and the inner city surrounds. This is a virtual and actual concrete jungle that includes a dense mixture of Commercial, Industrial and Residential buildings, with Schools, public transport, chemical storage, a busy port, sports stadiums, parks & gardens, and anything else you can possibly imagine present in a thriving and world class metropolis, like Melbourne.

We are located in the virtual heart of Melbourne, and the MFB's fire district. We are located as far as possible away from any CFA coverage. Our response is fully professional, fully manned and full time, round the clock, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. We have world class specialised gear that responds to any incident within our aimed target of 7.7 minutes, any time of day.

South Melbourne is another world away from a small rural volunteer station, such as Wye River, for example. Our needs are at the opposite ends of the spectrum. Our environments couldn't be more opposed. These are the core reasons that they need to be treated separately. Country and metropolitan are simply different, this cannot be disputed. The reform doesn't affect Wye River, and nor should it. The model in place in Wye River is fully suited for Wye River. But why do we have a Wye River response in our regional cities, or in Melbourne's fringe and even middle band suburbs? Factors such as 7 guaranteed fire fighters on the fire ground is a minimum standard, not a bonus if it ever occurs, as it seems to be in these areas currently.


The proposed reform to bring a fully professional model to the whole of Melbourne and various other regional centres is a win for the residents of those areas. I am not from those areas, I don't live/work or even associate in those areas. But that doesn't stop me from wanting them to have the best possible coverage, one that is afforded to part of the state, but excluded from the vast majority of it.

Please consider the length of the current dispute, and the toll it has had on everyone, professionals from both organisations, volunteers, management from both organisations and the poor public, who are sick and tired of the public slandering that has been occurring for years now. I am also a part of the MFB's peer support program. A program that puts support structures in place for average fire fighters like myself to identify and help my colleagues get the help that they may require if they are struggling. Within my role in this program I have been approached multiple times, even despite my junior rank, about the stress and heart ache that the public attacks from the media, and surrounds, are having on my colleagues. Please put an end to it with the proposed fire reform.

Kind Regards,

Leading Fire Fighter  
Sasha Bugryn  
Melbourne Metropolitan Fire Brigade



Mobile 

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