

**FIRE SERVICES BILL SELECT COMMITTEE 2017  
SUBMISSION**

My name is Nicholas John Sharp and I am employed as a Fire-fighter by the CFA.

I work at the Rosebud Fire Station and also live within the Rosebud Area.

My postal address is [REDACTED] and my contact telephone number is [REDACTED].

I support the Fire Services Reform Bill which will provide a more efficient and effective Fire Service to the residents of Victoria.

On Thursday the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at 4-09am in the morning Rosebud Pumper was paged to a house fire at [REDACTED]. Rosebud Pumper is manned by career staff.

Rosebud Staff were supporting Rye Fire Brigade.

Enroute to the house fire Rosebud Pumper received further information that flames could be seen through the window of the house.

We also received further information that Rye Fire Brigade had a delayed turnout.

Rosebud Pumper was the first appliance on scene and commenced the first attack on the fire with two Fire-fighters wearing Breathing Apparatus.

Rye Fire Brigade arrived at the scene with a crew of three.

The number of fire-fighters manning the Rye Fire Brigade Pumper and the skills mix were inadequate for the response required to respond to the emergency.

A further two Brigades were paged and responded.

Subsequently as a result of the inadequate response a temporary turnout note was issued requiring the paging of an additional Brigade when responding to house fires in Rye. This band aid fix after the event does not diminish the real and existing problem of a broken fire service.

This is one of many incidents that regularly occur on the Mornington Peninsula where a volunteer brigade responding to an emergency does not have the adequate number of personnel or skills mix to safely respond to an emergency.

Fire-fighters and the community are being subjected to unnecessary risks due to a Fire Services Structure in Victoria which is inadequate and outdated and needs to be reformed.