

To whom it may concern

Re terms of reference of this committee are

A) Impact on fire service delivery across Victoria

I personally think that the impact on the fire service delivery across Victoria, in the short term the impact there will be low impact and in long term it will be devastating in fire service delivery across Victoria as there is too many grey areas and nothing is black and white.

B) Effect on volunteer engagement and participation in fire service delivery.

I have already had 1 member resign due to the current situation and I have many members concerned about the long term effect it has on the CFA, none of us can understand why the volunteers are being segregated from the paid fire fighters and this is having a severe effect on us all. As the captain of a brigade I cannot answer members questions in the forward future for the CFA. Yes we are still here to protect the community but feel aggrieved by the lack of consultation from the Andrews government. We all feel strongly that the government is only looking after union members and not volunteers.

C) Short term and Long term cost impact on service provision

I am very concerned about the impact on long term cost with the FRV for the CFA this will also include the reforms for training, trainers, alerting systems, brigade support, equipment operations, staffing and the mutual respect between the FRV and CFA.

D) Underlying policy rationale

Re the new legislation on cancer on fire fighters I think it is ludicrous that the CFA volunteers to face an Andrews government panel to prove that they have one of the nominated cancers and the paid staff don't have to face the panel, this is discrimination against volunteers.

To end my submission I have no faith in the new system, why break something that is working and I strongly think that the Andrews government has promised EFU prior to being elected the world and now they have to fall on their sword to appease the EFU which has a huge impact on CFA paid and volunteers. I have no faith in this government and its proposals.

John Ward

Wooragee CFA Captain