

Kirra Vanzetti

From: Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017 [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 4 July 2017 6:39 PM
To: LCSC
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017

Ms Sara Cook

T: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

--

I'm writing to you to relate my first hand experience and express the urgent need for fire services reform, including for a professional fire service in Torquay.

In March 2013, my timber Jan Juc home caught fire due to a faulty solar system inverter. Luckily my 17 year old daughter was at home at the time, and after noticing the smoke drifting around the house, she investigated. The side of the house was on fire. She phoned triple zero, and evacuated herself and the dog to the other side of the road.

Whilst waiting for the fire brigade, a neighbour joined forces with my daughter and encouraged her to put the fire out with the garden hose. A dangerous move, with the fire next to the fuse box. However, a good decision, as this confined the fire to that room. Belmont Fire Brigade, career firefighters, were first on scene, from twenty kilometres away, twenty minutes later. The entire house would have been a write off if my daughter had not taken action. The local volunteer crews of Torquay and Anglesea arrived after the Belmont crews.

Torquay's population has grown considerably in recent years, over 10,000 in the 2011 census and I suspect thousands more now. The need for a 24 hour, professionally staffed fire station is urgent, given the large baseline population, as well as the periodic holiday increases, and considerable industry infrastructure.

I would urge you to consider that Torquay, and other heavily populated regional areas are in urgent need of the same level of response, and thus safety metropolitan Melbourne takes for granted.

Kind Regards

Sara Cook

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

--

File1:

File2:

File3: