

Kirra Vanzetti

From: James Walker [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 5 July 2017 1:45 PM
To: LCSC
Subject: fire service reform

Dear Assistant Clerk Committees,

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL-NOT FOR PUBLIC VIEWING

I am writing you to express my support for the reform of Victoria's fire services. I believe that it is vital to maintain the highest levels of safety for both the community and also Victoria's fire-fighters.

By passing the reform it will allow outer Melbourne areas that have grown, and continue to grow significantly to have the best available service in the case of emergency. When someone calls 000 they expect that they will get a quick response from a team of fire fighters that is large enough, and able to safely carry out the fire fight. This means that there should be at least 7 fire fighters on the fire ground ASAP. 2 teams of 2 for BA (breathing apparatus) operations including internal searches of the property, and internal fire fighting, whilst 2 teams allows this process to be undertaken quickly it also provides safety for the fire fighters that are in the most dangerous areas, if something is to go wrong then there is another team of 2 in close proximity to help out. An incident controller that can oversee operations and make sure things are done in a logical order and to organise and task resources. A pump operator to ensure the supply of water for the fire fight, and an extra hand to carry out an array of tasks, including scene safety, first aid application, finding a water source, external fire fight, etc.

On the fire ground seconds count, CFA volunteers do an amazing job, but due circumstances out of their control such as work, family commitments, and everyday events sometimes they are unable to turn out to incidents in a timely manner. This can mean that it can take longer for a safe amount of fire fighters to arrive on scene.

Although I have only been in the job for a short amount of time it seems clear that something needs to change with our fire service. By merging the MFB and CFA career staff it will give Victoria a fire service that is best equipped to deal with Victoria's ever growing population.

Thank you for taking the time to read my correspondence.

Regards.

James Walker.



**James Walker, Firefighter
A Platoon.**

Greenvale Fire Station, 33 Barrymore Road Greenvale Vic 3059
 [REDACTED]

<p>ORDINARY PEOPLE. EXTRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENTS.</p> <p>2017</p>	 <p>FIRE AWARENESS AWARDS</p>	<p>Have you or someone you know, developed a great fire project in your community?</p> <p>APPLY NOW</p>	<p>Entries close: 17 Sept 2017</p> <p>Supported by RACV</p>
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