

**Kirra Vanzetti**

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**From:** WHITE, Gareth [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 5 July 2017 9:59 PM  
**To:** LCSC  
**Subject:** FIRE SERVICES BILL SELECT COMMITTEE 2017

Dear Committee,

My name is Gareth Gregory White and I've been a Leading Firefighter with the Metropolitan Fire Brigade for seven years. I live in St Kilda and work in West Melbourne. I am writing this submission in support of the proposed reform of the fire services for the following reasons;

- Have guaranteed backup - guaranteed that two trucks with at least 7 firefighters will be dispatched within 8 minutes.
- Better community safety and protection
- Volunteer support will be maintained with operational firefighters (OO's OMs etc being employed by FRV but continuing their roles through an arrangement with CFA)
- Employing all career firefighters in one fire service will not affect volunteer turnout or surge capacity
- The reform areas are around the 35 integrated stations primary response areas – no effect on other volunteer brigades or bushfire response
- The 35 areas are now highly urbanised – high residential and other risks
- The reform will assist with standardisation of career training/specialist response/response standards and equipment.
- The reform will benefit volunteers as it has included a package to assist with volunteer recruitment and retention across the CFA; and includes funding for volunteer station upgrades etc.

Yours sincerely,

Gareth Gregory White

[REDACTED]

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