

Kirra Vanzetti

From: BROWN, Ross [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 5 July 2017 10:16 PM
To: LCSC
Subject: Fire Services Reform

My name is Ross Brown and I have been a professional MFB firefighter/fire service employee for 34 years. I am currently based at Oakleigh fire station as a Senior Station Officer. I'm also a First Responder for Emergency Medical Response.

I live in Upper Ferntree Gully which is in CFA area.

I write to express my support for the proposed fire services reform.

I've also been stationed at Croydon and Ringwood fire stations that border CFA areas.

I've seen first hand what happens when volunteers are unable to respond to fire calls with a delayed response in areas that are now considered urban.

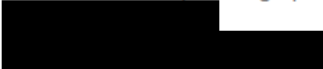
I've been responded to fire calls in areas bordering volunteer brigades where CFA crews have not responded some 11 to 15 minutes later.

Volunteers are in no doubt valuable in country areas away from urban areas. Volunteers that live and work in a country environment can respond safely and quicker to an emergency than urban volunteers.

Unlike urban areas, volunteers have to first travel to a fire station through at times heavy road traffic and are times working in another suburb. This is a delayed response that can put the public at risk and further damage to premises from fire.

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