

Kirra Vanzetti

From: Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017 [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 6 July 2017 9:40 AM
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

Mr Anthony McCarthy
 [REDACTED]

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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I vehemently recommend the Fire Service Reform takes place. I am a serving Senior Station Officer with the MFB for 36 years. During this time I have experience no change to the delivery of service or protection to the fringe areas of the eastern suburbs.

Example: Areas within minutes of Ringwood/Croydon MFB response is still under the control of Volunteer. I am grateful and respectful of a volunteer system however it makes no sense to have a ready group of firefighters able to respond within eight minutes not even aware of an incident being attended to by a delayed volunteer firefighter who may or may not be qualified to deal with the incident.

I have on many occasions attended incidents within minutes to find volunteers already in attendance! This means the closest nearby professional MFB were held back from initial calls.

I have often been confused as to the number of volunteers on scene unable to perform any firefighting because they were not specifically qualified for the task.

The lack of not knowing who, how many or when a volunteer brigade will attend as support has never sat well with me as I have felt very vulnerable about my own safety dealing with hazardous situations.

When I joined the MFB in 1981 we did not have the science and data that we have today that highlight the difference minutes make.

Our growing urban communities deserve more than a system based on 'maybe - maybe not' response.

I have endured countless trauma during my career and have experienced the difference in outcomes of early intervention.

Yours Sincerely
 A McCarthy

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File1:

File2:

File3: