

Kirra Vanzetti

From: GIRVAN, Martin [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 7 July 2017 10:09 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: LCSC
Subject: Fire service reform

To whom it may concern,

As a Professional Firefighter in the MFB, it is very encouraging to hear that an overhaul of the current fire service is being considered. I have been in the job for two years and am stationed at Newport fire station. Within metropolitan Melbourne when I attend a fire call I know I will be backed up by another appliance, which is especially important when responding with some appliances which only have 3 on board. This reduces the chances of us being placed in a position where we either have to put ourselves, the public or property in unnecessary danger. In the out regions of the MFD the unknown response times of CFA appliances makes this more prevalent. There is no guarantee of appliances response times or what qualifications the crews hold. This makes the environment in these areas unsafe as there is no guarantee there will be 7 Firefighters on the Fireground. This places those on the Fireground in a position where they have to decide on breaking operating procedures. These procedures are there for the safety of the public, property and the responding crew. I feel it is an unfair position to place crews in, to either have to wait for oncoming appliances or break procedure in extreme cases.

I have worked on the outer fringes of Melbourne and one thing that stood out to me was the vastly different way the CFA operate, I firmly believe any change that standardises the way our Fire service operates can only be a good thing going forward for the people of Victoria, and the Victorians who serve in the Fire service.

Yours sincerely
Martyn Girvan
[REDACTED]

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