

Kirra Vanzetti

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 7 July 2017 12:20 PM
To: LCSC
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fire Services Review

Thank you for the opportunity to have my say in this review and to be part of making Victoria better and more safe. My details are;

- [REDACTED]
- MFB: Senior Station Officer
- 30 years service on 1/6/17
- I have been an officer from November 1992
- I would like my name & contact details kept confidential, but please include my submission
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

This is a wonderful opportunity for Victoria to have a truly modern fire service. A chance for those on the committee to show that they are visionaries and not stuck in the past. The horse and cart worked well until the population grew and better models and systems were introduced by visionaries.

The trouble with the current/old system is it is fragmented and too many different models, standards & systems.

Currently, all MFB firefighters are trained in the use of wearing Breathing Apparatus when they leave their recruit course. On their first shift as a Senior Station Officer, I know that I can send them into a smoke filled house safely and they can do the tasks that I require, such as rescuing someone that is trapped inside.

The CFA model, only some of the fire fighters are trained in the use of Breathing Apparatus. When I have been stationed at out stations on the border of MFB/CFA areas, if and when the CFA arrive on scene at a fire, I have had circumstances where I have directed the CFA crew to go inside the smoke filled house and they couldn't as they weren't qualified to wear a Breathing Apparatus. I had to wait for a second MFB crew to arrive to perform all tasks that I needed to bring the fire under control. The MFB crew that I was with were limited as there were only 3 of us qualified, yet there were about 10 firefighters on the fire ground

If a fire call comes into the MFB area, professional firefighters are despatched within 90 seconds and are on scene in 7.7 minutes 95% of the time. If they are at a call, the next nearest station is called instantly resulting in no delay to the community. If the same happens with the CFA, they are given many minutes to reply before the next nearest station is called. This is lunacy.

Once they are called there is a delay by the time the butcher or baker, finishes what they are doing, then they drive in their car to the station (sometimes in a very unsafe manner), arrive at the fire station, lock their car, unlock the station, open the door so as the fire truck can exit, and then they are on the road. Much, much slower than the MFB model.

Please change this antiquated system and vote for the reform and the new FSV model.

The MFB area was formed many, many years ago when Melbourne was surrounded by paddocks. Areas such as Edithvale, Sunbury, Melton. Hoppers Crossing, Werribee, Knox were all small towns. They are now thriving cities that require a full time professional fire service. They are paying for it via their Fire Service Levy but they are receiving an unsafe antiquated system. Their lives depend on better

Volunteers will still be respected, their surge capacity will not change, if anything it will be better

There will be admin savings as there won't need to be as many Boards, and double up of costs & training

More importantly, they will be protected under a more safe system

Vote for the reform, PLEASE

Respectfully

[REDACTED]