From: Adrian Rulli
To: LCSC

Subject: Fire Service Reform - submission

Date: Friday, 7 July 2017 4:05:34 PM

Dear Assistant Clerk Commitees

My name is Adrian Rulli and I am a professional Fire-fighter with the MFB. With 4 years of service in the job, I currently hold the rank of Qualified Fire-Fighter and work at the Broadmeadows Fire Station.

I am writing this submission in support of the proposed reform of the fire services for the following reasons: As a current resident of Westmeadows, and having lived my whole life in the northern suburbs of Melbourne I have seen the landscape change dramatically over the last 20 years. Where once upon a time the areas such as Westmeadows, Greenvale, Meadow Heights, Coolaroo and Campbellfield were the outskirt suburbs of Melbourne before it was deemed to be country areas, that landscape has changed dramatically now with the vast northern sprawl into Roxburgh Park, Craigieburn, the new Donnybrook Estates.

The current fire service boundaries have not changed significantly in the last 60 years, and this is putting people and property in the community, as well as fire-fighters, at risk.

Throughout my 4 years with the MFB I have worked mainly at many stations that sit very near to the MFB / CFA borders in particular Broadmeadows, Tullamarine and Somerton fire-stations. I have seen first-hand the impact this has on the fire ground when arriving to calls and not knowing how far off that second truck is away to give us our safe minimum of 7 fire-fighters on the fire ground. In the events of house-fires for example, this element is critical for not only our safety but also the community's safety, especially when there is need to use Breathing Apparatus (BA) at a call.

To add to this, our advanced training in EMR (Emergency Medical Response) not only assists our Ambulance service in time of need, but we save lives.

To have an out-dated fire service in these growth hotspots is really a dis-service to the community that reside there.

These already highly urbanised areas warrant fire service reform as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely, Adrian Rulli MFB - Qualified Fire-fighter