From: Adrian Pena
To: LCSC

Subject: Fire Service Reforms Submission

Date: Friday, 7 July 2017 4:47:39 PM

Attachments: Fire Service Reforms Submission.docx

To whom it may concern,

My name is Adrian Pena and I would like to register my support for the Fire Service reforms.

I live with my wife and one year old child in a built up residential area on the edge of the massive grass and bush lands of the Plenty River and the Plenty River Gorge. I am very keen to see a review of the service boundaries as we feel particularly vulnerable to bush fires despite living in a residential area.

Whilst I am sure of the enthusiasm of the volunteer fire fighters from the Diamond Creek CFA station whose area we are in, I believe that during the day nobody is in attendance and the volunteers could be working quite a while away, meaning that their response time could be very long, if at all.

It has been a very long time (before I was even born), since parts of Greensborough, Diamond Creek, Eltham and Templestowe would have been considered "the country".

The Fire Levy we pay is a higher rate in this CFA area than for the people who live a few hundred metres away on the other side of the Plenty River in the MFB area and we get less service.

Because we live in such a high risk area, I strongly support the long overdue reform of fire fighting services in the ever expanding urban areas. It would see the formation of a new, larger career staffed urban fire service (Fire Rescue Victoria) and ensure professional standards, quick response times and the implantation of ongoing reviews of boundaries.

These changes can only be a good thing.

Adrian Pena