

Assistant Clerk Committees
Department of the Legislative Council
Fire Service Bill Select Committee
Parliament House, Sprint Street
East Melbourne Vic 3003



Hello Clerk Committee,

RE: Fire Services Bill Select Committee 2017

I am writing to you to express support in the need for a full restructure of the Fire Services of Victoria. I have been an employee in the CFA for over three years and worked in the following areas within Victoria - Rowville, Springvale, Dandenong, Greenvale, Bendigo, Craigieburn and Portland with both Volunteers and Career Staff.

In the metropolitan areas where Career Staff share boundaries with Volunteers areas, I see a substandard service provided to the community. This is due to the way Fire Stations dictate when and what support will be accepted. We need to create a minimum standard across the metropolitan area regardless of who is providing the service, and this cannot be done within the current framework in place. It does not sit well with any Career Staff member when you hear a job on the radio which is within 10 minutes of your Fire Station and you cannot assist. We have the infrastructure in place to provide a world class emergency response to the Victorian community and we are not!!

We need a Fire Service that is able to be shaped for the future and can handle the growth of Victoria. Currently I see a lot of poor financial decisions that do not take the growth of Victoria into consideration.

Yours Sincerely

Andrew Stewart

