Paul Evans

I have been employed by the MFB for 27 years.

In my time the fire service reform should have happened many years ago, if for some reason it doesn't go through this time when will it ever happen as we know Melbourne is growing at an alarming rate ,stalling it for some crazy notion or idea will only make it more dangerous for our ever growing population.

It just doesn't make sense that every other state has one fire service, while Victoria is stuck in the dark old days.

As you will be aware it is harder and harder for volunteers to continually respond to every call in a responsible time frame(work comitments,family reasons,etc)

Personally in my own street in Aspendale I have elderly citizens living next door across the street and down the road, these residents have my mobile number to call me anytime of the day or night to help them with any medical or fire incident as I know that they could be waiting up to 15 minutes or longer for a volunteer Appliance to roll up and help, by that time the house will be fully involved or the neighbour will have passed away because of the CFA slow response.

All my neighbours are fully aware of the CFA SLOW RESPONSE.

They know to call me first then triple 000 as I will be there within a minute to offer assistance and then who knows.....

I live 500 meters from the boundary of the MFB zone where over that side of the creek they will have Professional Firefighters turn up within 7 minutes be able to fulfill their role professionally whether it be an EMR incident or a fire.

Whereas on my side of the creek(CFA area) I will not receive that professionalism but are expected to pay for it.

Paul Evans