

**Prue Purdey**

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**From:** JOYCE, Martin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 3 July 2017 6:49 AM  
**To:** LCSC  
**Subject:** Fire Services Bill Select Committee Submission

Dear Members of the Fire Services Bill Select Committee,

My name is Martin Joyce, I am a leading Fire-fighter with the Metropolitan Fire Brigade and I would like a to make a personal submission to the Fire Services Bill Committee supporting the Governments proposed Fire Services reform bill.

I work at the Footscray Fire Station where I am a Ladder Platform Operator. I have been a fire-fighter for over 14 years and during this time I have responded to countless fires, attended major bushfires including Black Saturday and worked on the boundary between the CFA and the MFB.

Prior to my career in the MFB and I was a Police Officer in the Victoria Police where I worked in areas that were attached to both the MFB and the CFA. Prior to this I grew up and worked on family farm in Willaura in the Western District where I was a volunteer Fire-fighter and where I still regularly return too.

My submission is founded on my experiences as a professional fire-fighter with the MFB and also my prior experience as a volunteer fire-fighter.

I have been of the belief that Victoria’s Fire Services needed major reform for some time now. This belief is based on several key factors.

- The disparity of fire service levels in suburban Melbourne
- The shortcomings of volunteer response in suburban Melbourne and regional Victoria and how this results in greater danger to the community but also greater danger to fellow fire-fighters as they may be working without adequate backup or safety systems due to a lack of qualified fire-fighters being on scene.
- The differences between urban fire-fighting and rural/bush fire fighting and the benefits of having two separate organisations that focus on one core responsibility- whether that be urban or bush fire fighting.

I thank you for considering my submission and would gladly provide any further information that you need.

Sincerely

Martin Joyce  
LFF 10220  
Footscray Fire Station

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