

Kirra Vanzetti

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 4 July 2017 9:11 PM
To: LCSC
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fire Services Reform

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Sirs and Madams,

My name is Dean Hester and I am a Leading Firefighter stationed at the Richmond Fire Station. My phone number is [REDACTED]. I live in Rye on the Mornington Peninsula.

As an urban based firefighter living in a rural area, I feel I have a impartial view on this situation. I fully embrace and understand the need for a professional fire service on the Peninsula and in other rural areas that have grown at a similar rate.

The peninsula has an ever increasing permanent population that have largely remained covered by a volunteer organisation. I find this very hard to understand. As an ex Police member working on the peninsula I know for a fact that the number of Police officers on the Peninsula has increased as the population has increased. Unfortunately we cannot say the same thing for the fire services in the area. One would assume that all emergency services would need to adapt and expand with the ever increasing permanent population and industry in this area, and other areas experiencing similar growth.

I can see no downside to providing more professional, career firefighters that are ready to respond to fires, car accidents, medical calls or any other incidents that my colleagues and I respond to. It takes nothing away from the volunteers yet provides a prompt and professional response to residents in both rural and urban areas. I feel that residents of rural and urban areas deserve this as a minimum.

I hope you can see that the proposed Fire Service Reforms will be of benefit to those who matter most, which is our community, and that you will embrace these reforms and see that they come to fruition.

Yours Sincerely,

Dean Hesterhes

Email sent using Optus Webmail