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From: "DOUGLAS, Adam"

Date: 7/07/2017 3:39 PM (GMT+10:00)

To:

Subject: Fire Services Reform Select Committee

Fire Services Reform Select Committee

Submission

Adam Douglas



Dear Fire Services Reform Select Committee,

I am a Leading Fire fighter (LFF) working for the MFB. I have been a firefighter since 2012. Please find below my submission to your Select Committee. This is a great opportunity to share my experiences on the proposed changes to Victoria's Fire services, and the level of fire/emergency protection Victorians are able to be given.

During my time as a firefighter I have been lucky to work in Melbourne city and out on the edges of the MFD. Through the course of my new carer I have also been stationed at Frankston fire station during the Hazelwood power station fire and got to work with the CFA carer and volunteer firefighters. Living in Langwarrin and seeing the rapid development of housing and Industry around me makes wonder why these reforms haven't happened a long time ago.. our volunteers do great work but I also understand they have to work and can't be round the corner 24/7. And with a growing population the chances of multiple calls is a real possibility.

To not have fire boundaries increased for decades, and compounded by several reports from all areas of development in this state, shows that population and urban growth is not being matched by appropriate fire services and response. This is not acceptable. The Mornington Peninsula is a very well developed and built up area. A subpar emergency service response is, for want of a better phrase, absolutely appalling.

This job is not one that can be accurately measured by numbers of fire calls attended, but by the response time, skill level and standards brought by the crews attending said calls. It's high time

Victoria's fire services was increased and brought into the 21st century.

The changes put forward are well over due, I look forward to seeing a new fire service that can move into the future, not as a one off but constantly evolving with the state of Victoria.

Regards,

Adam Douglas Leading Fire Fighter Eastern Hill Fire Station

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