



"HOLLAND, Craig"

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To Consultation/DTF@DTF
cc
bcc
Subject Fire Services Reform.

INQUIRY INTO THE FIREFIGHTERS' PRESUMPTIVE RIGHTS COMPENSATION AND FIRE SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (REFORM) BILL 2017

Leading Firefighter Craig Holland [REDACTED]
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Dear Assistant Clerk Committees,

My name is Craig Holland I have been a full time firefighter with the MFB for 29.5 yrs in that time a lot has changed.

I haven't had a lot to do with volunteers on a daily basis like the cfa integrated stations but have dealt with them on step ups to cfa stations and on the fire ground in the Dandenong's in the 90's and the tragic 2009 black Saturday fires we all have a job to do and we do it.

The volunteers are very much respected and an integral part of any team no one is denying that however the landscape of the metropolitan district major and rural cities have changed dramatically over the last 50 years.

Once upon a time volunteers left there place of employment when there pagers went off, now that is not always possible because work commitments some work to far away or they can't leave work.

There is a growing list of failed turnouts (that's not saying there at fault it is because times are changing)

This could have gone pear-shaped very quickly after a failed response from a local brigade

Leaving 1 cfa crew on their own for longer

The Age
November 20 2016

Springvale Commonwealth Bank fire: What we know so far
6 people seriously injured

Six people with serious burns, including the man allegedly responsible for the fire, have been taken to The Alfred hospital including:

- **Two men in their 20s**
- **A man in his 60s**
- **A man in his 70s**

- **A man (no details on age)**
- **A woman in her 20s**

On Sunday a spokesman for The Alfred hospital said:

- One patient is in a "critical" condition**
- Another is in a "critical but stable" condition**
- Three remaining patients are "stable"**
- One patient has been discharged from hospital**

An additional 21 people, including three children, were treated for smoke inhalation

Victims, including a toddler and some people aged in their 80s, were treated for breathing problems and taken to hospital.

Eight women and two men have been taken to the Monash Medical Centre in a stable condition.

Ten women and one man have been taken to Dandenong Hospital in a stable condition.

I was talking to my father retired MFB Firefighter Noel Holland (reg 1289) 33 yrs service about all that is happening and was astounded when he said when he was in the job (retired 1988) City of Dandenong wanted MFB to take over from CFA unfortunately Springvale was in-between.

I feel something needs to be done sooner than later or do we wait for loss of life and property then say we might put on permanents now

I would strongly recommend THE FIREFIGHTERS' PRESUMPTIVE RIGHTS COMPENSATION AND FIRE SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (REFORM) BILL 2017 go through for the greater good and safety of all communities.

Craig Holland

Disclaimer: This submission is made by me as a concerned private citizen whose profession is fire-fighting. This submission is not being made in any capacity as a public official and any views expressed are personal and do not necessarily represent the views of my employer, being the Metropolitan Fire Brigade (MFB)

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