



06/07/2017 09:57 PM

To Consultation/DTF@DTF
cc
bcc
Subject Fire Service Reform

To whom it may concern,

My name is [REDACTED], I support the need for a Fire Service Reform, as such I provide this submission with my personal views and experiences. I am currently a level 1 Firefighter stationed at Caroline Springs. I have been on station for 7 months since graduating out of recruits.

In this short time being on station, I have seen instances where a fire services reform would be ideal for the community and us as fire fighters on the fire ground.

Out of recruits I was stationed at Melton. The next closest staffed station is Caroline Springs which is 15 minutes away.

On a Saturday morning about 830am in Melton, a call came through of a gas leak at a local shopping centre. We turned out with 3 in the pumper, 2 in the rescue and 2 volunteers in the pumper tanker. While at the gas leak another call came through of an alarm activation at the Sutton Park nursing home on Exford road Melton South. Bacchus Marsh were also paged to this call but failed to even turn out, luckily it was only burnt toast that set off the smoke alarm. The nursing home has 113 beds plus staff, so in a worse case if it wasn't just burnt toast the next closest professionally staffed appliance would have been 15 minutes away. With the fire service reform it allows there to be two staffed primary appliances on the fire ground which would of meant in that instance Caroline Springs pumper would have already been on the way when the call came through. This would of allowed us to have at least 9 professional firefighters on the fire ground to assist with the fire fight, rescue and evacuation compared to the 5 professional firefighters that we had.

Another reason I support the fire service reform is that my partner and myself are currently building our first house in the new estate Woodlea situated in Rockbank. While working at Melton and Caroline Springs, I have seen on many occasions Rockbanks brigade fail to turn out. This concerns myself as Woodlea is a booming estate, which currently have sold out 30 stages with each stage containing well over 20 blocks of land. If It wasn't for Melton and Caroline Springs, Rockbank would be without adequate fire protection.

I would like my name and identity to be kept confidential.

Thanks for your time

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Protecting lives and property

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