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Subject Fire Services Review Submission

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The proposed reforms to modernise Victoria's fire services would create a more effective system - ensuring the safety of people and property in big cities and urban areas.

Growing urban areas around Melbourne and cities like Geelong and Ballarat would get the modern, urban fire response they need to keep people and property safe from fire.

Victoria's outdated fire services system is a risk to people, properties and firefighters who protect them.

The fire service boundaries have not significantly changed in 60 years - they have not kept pace with the enormous population growth in Victoria, particularly in outer-metro areas, like Dandenong, Springvale, Melton, and Craigieburn.

Many urban areas like these are wrongly zoned as "country" for fire service response purposes - this means they do not get the fire service response that a busy urban area needs.

Reform is vital to give Victoria a modern fire services system that ensures the safety of all people and properties in a growing state.

The CFA's volunteer surge capacity would not be affected.

There would be no adverse changes for volunteers - the role of volunteers would be further enshrined under law.