



"DUNMORE, Kevin"

06/07/2017 03:06 PM

To Consultation/DTF@DTF
cc
bcc
Subject Submission for the fire service reform

Dear Committee members,

My name is Kevin Dunmore I am 51 years old, married father of two boys, I live in Bacchus Marsh Victoria.

I have been employed by the Metropolitan Fire Brigade for the past 27 years. 5 years of which I have been a station officer stationed at various station in the metro city and out in the western suburbs. I have the qualifications of aerial appliances, front end loaders and Chemical, Biological & Radioactive qualifications.

I am writing to you today in the support for the proposed fire service reform. I currently live on the fringe of a CFA district and the Metropolitan fire district and I have observed the high population growth in my area. This growth has concerns for me as I have witnessed the slow response times provided by the current volunteer system in these areas, I believe areas need the volunteer system but for these high growth areas the service the permanent fire fighters can provide, quicker response, seven on the fire ground, which enables the first appliance on scene can get to work quicker and safer knowing that back up is coming and the crew on board are fully equipped and highly trained, this provides a professional service which our community deserves and expect.

Example

Six years ago I was stationed at Deer Park Fire Station, this station is on the fringe of CFA and MFB districts, we respond into Caroline Springs which is co- located with permanents and volunteers. On this particular afternoon we respond to a double storey house fire in Caroline Springs,(Caroline Springs station should be first on scene) our turnout sheet stated that we are responding with Caroline springs unbeknown to us that the permanent CFA crew were at another call and the backup crew was the CFA volunteers from that co-located station. We arrived on scene to find this house well alight, with only three crew on board we attempted to fight the fire, from a distance we heard sirens these sirens made us feel confident that we could forcefully tackle the fire through an internal attack. Once the other appliance arrived we ask the crew to put on their breathing apparatus and provide help to the crew going in to do the internal aggressive attack, the reply we got from the volunteers was that none I repeat none were trained in BA the only help they could give us was that one was an operator of the pumping appliance and the others could only gather water from the hydrant in the street. This put us and the public at risk.

Please consider when voting for the reform think of the risk you are placing on fire fighters and the risk to the public in not providing a permanent professional service.

Kind regards

Kevin Dunmore



*The MFB is committed to minimising its impact on the environment.
Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.*

WARNING

This email and any attachment may contain confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient you are not authorised to copy or disclose all or any part of it without the prior written consent of the Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board.
