



Luke Grigoropoulos

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To Consultation/DTF@DTF  
cc  
bcc  
Subject Submission in support for Fire  
Services Reform

Dear Assistant Clerk Committees,

I am a FireFighter with the Metropolitan Fire Brigade and am approaching 2 years of service. I live in Hurstbridge, situated NE out of Melbourne and am currently at No. 5 station, Broadmeadows. I have previously been a volunteer of the CFA for 5 years. I am writing this submission in support of the proposed reform of the fire services. My reasons are supported by my time as both a Professional and Volunteer Firefighter aswell as residing in a community with CFA Volunteer Firefighters.

Community safety and the Emergency Service they receive should remain the motivation for ongoing improvement. With time given as a CFA Volunteer I can reinforce that the service they provide is valuable however only where it is not feasible to have Professional Firefighters. These should be areas with a low number of 000 calls or lower population density however Melbourne has grown and our fire protection hasn't adapted with it. From personal experiences I know its not guareenteed Volunteer Firefighters can respond a truck to all emergencies. It is not guareenteed a driver of the truck is available even if crews are waiting. It is not guareenteed that Volunteer Firefighters will have the necessary training and qualifications required once on scene. For example if a volunteer truck responds to a fire it may not have enough qualified Breathing Aparatus operators with the correct structural PPC to start a rescue, extinguish a fire internally or be ready on standby for other crews safety hindering rescue time and chance of survival or containment to the point of origin. I believe this increases lives and property at risk and this system can be improved with the reform of the fire services.

Yours sincerely

Luke Grigoropoulos