



Rebecca Linke [REDACTED]
07/07/2017 04:00 PM

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

Dear Fire Services Reform Committee,

My name is Rebecca Linke and I am writing to you to express my support for the proposed fire services reform.

I have been working as a professional firefighter for the CFA for the past 15 months and I am currently stationed at Ocean Grove fire station.

To ensure the safety of all Victorians - including me as a firefighter, I ask you to please seriously consider your support for the proposed fire services reform.

I believe that all Victorian, professional and volunteer firefighters, deserve modern fire services that meet the needs of our growing communities. The current system is out dated and has not changed significantly in 60 years. This out dated system currently has 35 wrongly zoned areas as 'country', despite being heavily urbanised and residential.

Including areas such as;

- Frankston
- Cranbourne
- Dandenong
- Craigieburn
- Melton
- Springvale
- Boronia, and
- Geelong

The above areas desperately need to be modernised as they are highly urbanised areas as part of the reform of the fire service. A rapid 8 minute response, with 7 professional career firefighters on two fire trucks is the minimum standard needed in highly urbanised areas.

Reform of our fire services will ensure the safety of your constituents, and all communities in our growing state. Additionally, it will ensure the safety of our firefighters and stop the ever increasing and unrealistic demand being placed on volunteer firefighters because of the enormous urban growth resulting in increased emergency calls.

I also respectfully submit that you give consideration to my request to modernise the fire service along with the introduction of presumptive legislation laws to protect fire service employees. Both are needed to be endorsed and implemented by Parliament before the commencement of the fire season. This is important to me and my colleagues.

I would also welcome the opportunity to meet with you in person to talk to you further about my personal experiences as a professional firefighter and why this reform is so important.

Kind regards

Rebecca Linke

Firefighter

**Rebecca Linke Firefighter**

Ocean Grove Fire Station,
5-11 Shell Road, Ocean Grove Vic 3226

Protecting lives and property



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