



"LAMBERT, Robert"

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

I am a full time firefighter with the MFB, being employed for the last 14 years and currently a leading firefighter . I am stationed at Ringwood fire station and turn out on a regular basis with the surrounding CFA stations both integrated and volunteer.

From my observation of the job over the years there is a need for a reform in fire service that can put the communities safety and welfare above the politics that had been created over the fire service .

Having a service that combines CFA and MFB management will create a more stable platform that can have access and utilise the resource across both services.

A major area of concern has been the expanding population in what was considered the country, which is now an extension to the suburbs. The lack of ability for the age old boundaries to reflect the population density increase has a major impact on response times, OH&S with manning levels on the fire ground, property loss/damage and ultimately the communities safety. It would be unrealistic to believe that these areas could only be served by full time or volunteer brigades, there is a need for both, with the ability to upgrade stations when the growing suburbs hit a size or density.

There is also a need to align the training and equipment to enable more functional and effective working between the 2 services.

Kind Regards

**Leading Firefighter Rob Lambert | D Platoon
Ringwood Fire Station | Eastern District | South East Metro Region
Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board
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