



"Russell Breguet"

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To Consultation/DTF@DTF
cc
bcc
Subject Fire services reform.

To whom it may concern, My name is Russell Breguet, I am a professional fire fighter with the MFB, I am a station officer. In my opinion the fire service reform is well over due, for the past 30+ years this reform has been talked about, finally the government of today has seen a need to take action. The city of Melbourne has grown so much in the last 30 years that change needs to happen, the outer suburbs have become satellite cities, we all pay our fire service levy, so the people living there should expect a high level of service and will receive that from a reformed professional service. The state of Victoria needs its volunteers they do an excellent job in the rural areas where their local knowledge and expertise is outstanding, but the growing outer suburbs need a full time fire service, so that they can respond 24/7 and provide fire cover and emergency medical cover. In my position as a station officer working in the western suburbs I have had to deal with the non response of some of the volunteer brigades, this has put myself and my crews safety at risk because the back up trucks do not arrive, we then have to wait longer for the professional crews to arrive from a greater distance. Some of the volunteer brigades see fit to send 1 man in a ute to book on scene and therefore the stats show that they have responded, this is unacceptable as it puts other crews at risk and the residents deserve better. We need the fire service reform to happen so that we can all move forward and have some stability in our fire services into the future, and be able to provide a first class service to the community. Regards, Russell Breguet, [REDACTED]