

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

Good morning,

My name is Ryan Mullett and I am a level 1 career firefighter at Mornington Fire station.

I am writing to express my thoughts about the proposed fire services reform. While I am new in to the CFA organisation I have seen first hand the impact of:

•An outdated boundary system.

With the amount of population to the state of Victoria and more noticeably what was once country Victoria.

Relying on volunteers to provide a service to these populated areas is not in the best interest of our state.

- ${ullet}$  We as career staff will be out of the station within 90secs and at the scene of an incident within 6 mins.
- We have 1 appliance full of highly trained professionals ready to help.
- ${ullet}$  We often, most times will not have a volunteer turn out to support from our brigade or neighbouring volunteer brigades
- I am not under rating the importance of volunteers to the community but we cannot rely on them to service these now high growth areas. And being volunteer they have an option of turning out to an incident.
- In my particular area being Mornington, If we don't have any volunteers supporting us, we have a tanker appliance sitting in the station. Therefore no back up for us on scene at an incident potentially. Unless another volunteer brigade maybe might attend.
- 7 career firefighters on scene in 2 appliances gives us support and crucial back up for every incident. This is crucial for our and the communities safety.

And to finish, the emotional and mental drain that this had had for everyone involved has been zapping. I have seen in my short time in the job a decrease in the working relationship between volunteers and career staff.

Training numbers and attitudes drop from the volunteers.

And due to a lot of incorrect and misguided information from media and other sources a drop in respect and appreciation from our direct community.

The fire services reform makes total sense for a better and updated service to the community while providing volunteers with the same responsibilities that they have had for there community.

Giving career staff the support and back up that is so vital to do our jobs effectively.

I thank you for your time on hearing my thoughts on the fire services reform from someone on the frontline and who has the safety of my crew and the safety of the community at heart.

Thank you, Ryan Mullett

Level 1 firefighter Mornington fire station

Country Fire Authority

Sent from my iPhone

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