



07/07/2017 04:41 PM

To Consultation/DTF@DTF  
cc  
bcc  
Subject fire service reform submission

My name is [REDACTED] and I have been a Firefighter with the MFB for 28 years, I am currently stationed at Bundoora Fire Station.

I write to express my support for the proposed fire services reform . In my area of Bundoora I respond with South Morang fire station, CFA, Which has recently become an Integrated station with both Career and volunteer Firefighters, since the addition of the Career staff we have seen a real time change in The turn out and on scene times in the area. With a 24/7 manned station the delay of personal to respond is no longer a concern to me.

As I am the [REDACTED] at Bundoora Fire Station, MFB, my main concern is the safety of my crew and others on the fire ground, and with the career staff now at South Morang I know that they are able to respond as quickly and perform their duties as we do, the main concern previously with a volunteer crew was a lack of Breathing Apparatus trained Firefighters on scene, this causes undue stress on myself and my crew to enter and search a burning building due to no back up crews to don breathing apparatus and assist with the firefighting inside the structure.

The fire boundaries in Victoria need to change due to the growth of the urban areas , what was once a country area is now suburban and continuing to grow at a rapid rate. These areas now need reform to come in line with a rapid 8 minute response time, with 7 professional career firefighters, 2 fire trucks to meet the modern fire standard in highly urbanised areas.

This reform of the fire service will ensure the safety of firefighting crews , the community and stakeholders, life and property are the factors involved in this reform, and we will be more protected and supported by this new direction of modernising the fire services.

There is still a need to retain the Volunteer brigades as they are a vital resource to assist the Career fire fighters and community in all emergency responses. Now we are faced with enormous urban growth resulting in an increase of emergency calls, this has put far too much strain on the old model of fire protection, were volunteers could once cope with smaller number of emergency calls.

I also respectfully submit that you give consideration to my request to modernise the fire service along with introduction of the 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.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Bundoora Fire Station  
D Platoon  
MFB.

[REDACTED]

Name and phone no. to be Confidential.