Kirra Vanzetti

From: TRIGT, Adrian

Sent: Wednesday, 28 June 2017 4:42 PM

To: LCSC

Subject: Fire Sevices Reform Bill Submission

My name is Adrian Trigt and I am a Leading Fire Fighter with the MFB. I am currently at Box Hill FireStation and live in a mutual aid area.

I have spent the last eight years serving at another fire station where we often turned out with volunteers. My experiences there varied considerably. On many occasions we worked amicable. However isolated incidents led to greater friction than necessary. I believe situations such as these would be dramatically reduced under one fire service.

It was also very noticeable the difference in turn out times. Whilst as volunteers the turn out times may be considered reasonable, with the development in these areas and the greater number of housing projects appearing, that time difference became significant. The delay between fulltime fire fighters and volunteers arriving could be considerable. One fire service with no separate boundaries would be able to act as necessary when the urban sprawl continues and full time stations are required thus dramatically reducing response times.

I personally experienced house fires whereby attending volunteer crews could do little as they were not trained up in breathing apparatus or other areas such as rescue. I believe one fire service would only improve the training provided and therefore better protect the community. I have never believed that a member of the public cared about which sticker was on the side of an appliance, as long as that appliance and the crew could offer the help required.

I live in a mutual response area and often see MFB appliance passing my house. Of interest is the following time taken for the volunteer brigade to pass considering how close I live to that station. I fully understand that volunteers are exactly that volunteers, living where I do I just hope that they are volunteering on the day I may need them.

I would like to see one fire service developed in Victoria to improve the training offered to everyone, the adjustments necessary to change manning at varying stations as necessary in a timely manner, and to improve morale amongst all services because I for one am mentally tired of what I see as an inadequate public service.

Regards, Adrian Trigt LFF **Box Hill Fire Station**

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