



Stephen Trist [REDACTED]

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To Consultation/DTF@DTF  
cc  
bcc  
Subject Fire Service Reform

Dear Assistant Clerk Committees

My name is Stephen Trist and I have been a professional CFA fire fighter for over 3 years. After graduating from Country Fire Authority's training college at Fiskville I was stationed at Rosebud Fire Station before transferring to Hallam Fire Station where I am currently based.

In my area of Hallam we have neighbouring support from career and volunteer stations depending on the location of an incident. When we have a fire or emergency the response varies. The response from other career stations is a guaranteed additional fire truck and crew, our response from volunteer trucks isn't. From our own brigades volunteers, or neighbouring supporting brigades the response varies from a fire truck with a full crew, through to no response at all. This response varies due to many factors. The biggest factors are peoples work commitments, and peoples family commitments, which limits their ability to respond to fire calls.

With reform of the fire services comes additional professional fire fighters responding to fire calls. Here at Hallam Fire Station we will receive an additional fire fighter for our primary appliance. On my shift at Hallam we had one of our Leading Fire Fighters injure his back on Christmas day over two years ago. It was 18 months before he returned to operational duties. If we had an extra fire fighter then this injury may not of occurred.

The reform of the fire service will realign the fire districts to reflect the areas that are no longer country areas. Areas such as Frankston and Springvale have not been country for a long period of time, and have been labelled country incorrectly.

These changes will greatly improve the service delivery in these highly urbanised areas. Responding two fire trucks with a minimum of 7 professional fire fighters into these areas giving the community the response needed within 8 minutes.



**Stephen Trist Firefighter**

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