



James Devlin [REDACTED]
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To Consultation/DTF@DTF
cc
bcc
Subject Submission Fire Service Reform

Dear Sir/Madam

My Name is James Devlin and I have been a professional fire-fighter in the MFB for 4 years, I am currently based at Tullamarine fire station.

I am writing this submission in support of the Fire Services Bill Select Committee 2017.

I have grown up in the North Eastern suburb of Diamond Creek and now live in Doreen. Witnessing the rapid expansion of Melbourne's urban growth area's first hand and now being employed as a professional fire-fighter has made me realise how out-dated the current boundaries are leaving my family and friends in the local community extremely vulnerable in an emergency situation.

Combining the professional fire services is a necessity for the expanding urban growth areas of Victoria.

Since working alongside CFA professionals at jobs on the MFD boundary in Greenvale/Craigieburn I was astounded that so much of our equipment, pumpers and training were not compatible. In its current structure interoperability between the services is very difficult. The trucks and equipment are different, our personal radios are different, MFB hose doesn't connect to CFA hose, and CFA hydrants are different to MFB hydrants just to mention a few. By combining the professional fire services it will only enhance the outcome of operations, this improving the reason we all do this job helping to protect and preserve life and property.

To ensure the safety of all Victorians - including me as a fire-fighter, I ask you to please seriously consider your support for the proposed fire services reform.

Reform of our fire services will ensure the safety of all communities in our growing state. Additionally, it will ensure the safety of our fire-fighters and stop the ever increasing and unrealistic demand being placed on volunteer fire-fighters because of the enormous urban growth resulting in increased emergency calls.

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

Kind Regards,

James Devlin