

**Kirra Vanzetti**

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**From:** Garry Harbrow [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 30 June 2017 12:47 AM  
**To:** LCSC  
**Subject:** FW: Fire Services Bill Submission

To the Fire Services Bill Select Committee,

My name is Garry Harbrow, I have been a career fire fighter with the CFA since 1983. I am currently stationed at Frankston Fire Station and hold the rank of Leading Fire Fighter.

I cannot believe that areas like Frankston, Dandenong, Hallam, Springvale and Cranbourne are still classed as "country area of Victoria". Frankston has grown so much in the last 30 odd years since I have been stationed here. There is a huge residential population also the commercial and industrial areas have grown in size. There are numerous Nursing Homes, Monash University and Chisholm Institute. We also have several hospitals which we have to service, Frankston Hospital is classed as one of Major Risks in the area.

We don't attend fire calls only in Frankston, our appliances also respond to Patterson Lakes, Carrum Downs, Skye, Langwarrin, Baxter and Mt Eliza also anywhere else in the state if this is required.

I have been sent to many Campaign Fires for a long period of time during the Summer period over the years.

The manning at my station is five Fire Fighters, when we respond to a neighbouring brigades area there is usually only two fire fighters on the appliance as a crew has to stay at station to cover the Frankston Fire district. We are usually the first arriving appliance on scene and do not know how many Volunteers will arrive from the Primary brigade if any, this is critical as we can't commence fire suppression safely and efficiently until we have enough qualified personnel on the fire ground.

I will give an example just two days ago we were responded to an Alarm operating in another brigades primary area. On my appliance there were 3 Fire Fighters, usually only 2 so this call it was a "luxury". On arrival the primary brigade had not responded, as it turned out it was a false alarm but if there happened to of been a fire it could have been another 10 minutes for another appliance to arrive.

I am imploring you to vote in favour of the proposed Fire Services Reform, yes we do still need volunteers and that will never change but volunteers can't be expected to respond to approx. 1500 fire calls here at Frankston and other various busy stations.

Keep the politics out of this decision there has been far too many mistruths leading to this must have reform. The new reform will make a more effective and efficient Fire service giving the people of Victoria what they deserve, when you call for a fire truck you get one at your door within 8 minutes with suitably qualified fire fighters.

Staff and Volunteers will still work together to get the job done, this is what the community deserves.

Kind Regards

Garry Harbrow  
[REDACTED]



**Garry Harbrow** Leading Fire Fighter

Frankston Fire Station – 3 Cranbourne Road, Frankston 3199



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