

**\*CONFIDENTIAL NAME & CONTACT DETAILS\***

**SUBMISSION TO FIRE SERVICES REFORM SELECT COMMITTEE**

July 2017

██████████ Qualified Fire Fighter at Country Fire Authority (CFA)

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I was a volunteer with CFA for five years and currently enjoy a good working relationship with volunteer members of CFA. As such I am keen to point out that I am not entering a submission to disrespect the commitment of volunteers whatsoever, simply express my point of view for your consideration. I left CFA as a volunteer to pursue work interstate then returned to Victoria after six years to work for CFA as a career fire fighter.

My family and I support reform to the Victorian Fire Service because we live in highly urbanised areas that demand the prompt and efficient emergency response provided by a modern urban fire service, currently this is not guaranteed.

Prompt indicates timely which staff can provide i.e. a response time of 90 seconds to emergencies. Efficient indicates responding with the correct equipment and qualified personnel. Regularly brigades are failing to respond to calls with correctly qualified members and indeed failing to respond at all. This is no fault of their own but a result of life; by this I mean people have to commit to work, school, university etc. so they are not always available to respond to emergencies.

Notable risks in our area include hospitals, numerous nursing facilities, heavy and light industry, large retail operations, rail, freeways, large logistics operations and a mixture of urban, semi-rural and rural properties. I have witnessed large and ongoing development in our area which is crucial to the local, state and national interest. I am concerned that the current arrangement of the fire service in Victoria is not appropriate to provide adequate protection.

I believe that reform will allow the concerns of my family and fellow fire fighters to be alleviated and issues addressed.

I have been a staff member for three years and in that time I have seen incessant attacks on CFA members in the media. It is disheartening to see my fellow fire fighters both volunteer and staff be subjected to this diatribe; it has had a negative effect on all members. I know we would all benefit from this issue being brought to a close. In the meantime can you please disseminate the correct information to every Victorian, so the unqualified opinions being expressed can be removed from people's decision making?

I understand the committee has a lot of material to cover, so I do appreciate the opportunity to enter a submission.

Regards,

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[REDACTED]  
07/07/2017 03:03 PM

To Consultation/DTF@DTF  
cc [REDACTED]  
bcc  
Subject Confidential name & contact  
submission to Fire Service Select  
Committee

1 attachment



Confidential name & contact TL submission.pdf

Hi

Please find attached name & contact details confidential submission.  
Contents of submission are not confidential.

Regards

