

**Kirra Vanzetti**

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**From:** Shane Sutton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 6 July 2017 10:26 PM  
**To:** LCSC  
**Subject:** Fire Service reform submission

I recently retired after 30years of service as a CFA Operations Officer based from Shepparton. I was a volunteer before I joined the CFA career ranks.

I thought I'd share some consistent conversations that I've had over the last 12 months.

They start with 'what's going on with' or 'I heard they'. The one thing they have in common is they are all spawned from lies and one sided opinions that are being spread as facts. This results in good people being led down a path based on what they think is a fact. The end of the discussions always ends with 'well if I knew that' or 'now that I know, that's how it works'.

In my honest opinion the resistance we are seeing about the reforms is uninformed people trying to make a mountain out of a mole hill. The only people who think it is are those who are not informed and whole heartedly jumped on the misinformation bandwagon or have an axe/agenda to grind.

I fully support the reforms as it is the best result for;

- Most importantly the community - if you live in a suburb of Melbourne you deserve the expectation that when you ring 000 a truck is guaranteed to respond with a crew capable of seeing to your emergency. If FRV and CFA get called and the CFA truck gets there first and resolves the issue; perfect because all that matters is service delivery to the community not whose 'patch is it' not the colour of your truck. Just because someone live on the other side of a line on a map doesn't mean they should be denied Emergency Medical Response. As regional communities expand, as Melbourne expands it is simple common sense that boundaries are revised.
- Volunteers will continue to do as they have done for the last however many years. As I mentioned earlier they'll realise they've been had.
- Presumptive legislation for all firefighters - When I hear someone say 'the Board, the CEO can't be wrong' I instantly realise they have no idea about facts and are caught up in the spin of this whole thing. You know what; as someone who was forced to train in the filthy cancer burning pits at Fiskville. The Board should have been sacked immediately for the cover up and denial that they oversaw. I wouldn't wish cancer hanging over the heads of firefighters, or me and my name is registered as a person of interest, or anyone. Presumptive legislation for all firefighters as it is, is a sad necessity and reality for firefighters.

I could continue; however I retired to get away from 'this'. It wears you down. It takes a toll.

**This opportunity for reform must be taken. It is long overdue.**

Tomorrow one of my peers is being buried and guess what, he died of bone, liver and pancreatic cancer, we were all exposed.

Shane Sutton



Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10