

Kirra Vanzetti

From: COCKS, Reece [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 5 July 2017 3:24 PM
To: LCSC
Subject: Submission letter for Fire Service Review Committee

My name is Reece Cocks and I have been employed for nearly 30 years by the MFB. I Currently hold the rank of Leading Fire-fighter and are based at Bundoora fire Station in the Northern suburbs, I am writing this submission in support of the proposed reform to the fire services for the following reasons.

* It is important to me as a Fire fighter to have a guaranteed back up of at least 7 Fire fighters on the fire ground dispatched within 8 minutes not only for my safety and efficient fire fighting capabilities, but for the safety and protection of the our community.

* Combining the CFA and MFB career fire fighters in the one service will not affect volunteer turnout or surge capacity in anyway, Volunteers will continue to do what they have always done and be unaffected by this reform.

* Boundaries for the MFB and CFA have not changed since the 1950's when the Metropolitan area of Melbourne had a population of approximately 1,525,000 people and Victoria's total population was 2,450,00 people, since then our population in Victoria has increase to 6,140,00 people and greater metropolitan area of Melbourne to 4,820,00 people surely the urban sprawl and population growth should dictate the expansion of the boundaries.

* The dispute over this has caused considerable strain to my work colleagues and myself due to the uncertainty of our careers.

I have lived in a CFA volunteer area for approximately 30 years and have been subjected to verbally abuse and accused by volunteers of trying to take over their area. On several occasions I have had to defend myself by informing them that this is not the case and that they have been misinformed and nothing will change for them.

I have stated that I understand admire and appreciate all the work that they do for the community, And that we do this for the community and not for ourselves

Yours sincerely

Lff Reece Cocks
Reg No; 4145
Metropolitan Fire Brigade



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