

Kirra Vanzetti

From: Tony Birtwistle [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 6 July 2017 10:17 AM
To: LCSC
Subject: Fire Service reform

My name is Tony Birtwistle and I am a Station Officer with the MFB. I am currently based at Glen Waverley.

I am writing to you to express my support for this reform.

Over the time I have been stationed at Glen Waverley I have responded to several calls with the CFA, both staff and volunteers from Springvale, Rowville and Scoresby. I find it hard to believe that currently, areas such as Scoresby and Bayswater with there population, industry and infrastructure are still protected by Volunteers. I have experienced first hand, volunteers responding to a car fire with two personnel in a private 4x4 with no hose or water and arrived well after my crew and I had extinguished the fire. Further more this fire was in their area not ours. I know they down grade their response in order to fudge the statistics. I have even had my response into CFA area down graded after the CFA had booked on scene. Having ignored the downgraded message I arrived on scene to find 1 volunteer in a private car! There are things occurring that the general public are not aware of, and I for one am sick of seeing the abuse and degrading comments in the press over the work that my colleges and I do.

The CFA volunteers do have a role to play in Victoria, this is without question. However the current system no longer works and is in need of this reform. I urge you to invoke the change.

The increase of population and the urban sprawl demands it. Things change! Things have changed! If you don't believe this to be true, then I suggest to turn off you PC and throw you mobile phone in the bin, as these items were not around when some of these areas were farmland and bush. Its time the Fire services reflected the needs and demands of the wider community.

Yours sincerely

Tony Birtwistle (Station Officer)
Fire Station 31 Glen Waverley

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