Metropolitan Fire Brigade

Presentation to Environment and Planning Standing Committee:

Inquiry into Fire Season Preparedness

Mr Jim Higgins ASM,
Chief Executive Officer
About MFB

- 2300 employees
- 47 stations across 26 LGA
- Serving 4 million Melburnians
- State, national, international response
- 38,000 responses p.a. (2016)

At any given moment, a minimum of 271 MFB firefighters are on duty to safeguard Melburnians
• Specialised urban fire and emergency service
  – Fire (structure / non-structure)
  – High Angle Rescue Team
  – Urban Search and Rescue
  – Marine response
  – Emergency Medical Response
  – Hazmat
  – Fire investigation and analysis
  – Road Accident Rescue
  – UAV: Unmanned Aerial Vehicles
Breakdown of Calls Attended by Type of Incident (MD only)

- **Fires and Explosions:** Average 6390, 2014/15 7017, 2015/16 7372
- **Hazardous Conditions (Not a Fire):** Average 3281, 2014/15 3270, 2015/16 3304
- **Emergency Medical Response:** Average 4978, 2014/15 3960, 2015/16 4123
- **Rescues and Other Medical Assistance:** Average 3083, 2014/15 3773, 2015/16 1421
- **Service Calls:** Average 1379, 2014/15 1407, 2015/16 1144
- **False Alarms and False Calls (Not Good Intent Calls):** Average 14781, 2014/15 15086, 2015/16 16175
- **Other Situations:** Average 1217, 2014/15 107, 2015/16 124

AIRS data was affected by Industrial Bans Sep’05, Jan-Mar’06 (this does not affect the total number of incidents reported but disaggregation is not possible)
MFB demand profile

2005/06 – 2015/16

Number of Structure Fires (MD only)

Number of EMR (MD only)
MFB Plan

OUR VISION

Safer and more resilient communities

OUR PURPOSE

To provide a world class fire and emergency service for Melbourne and Victorians

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SECTOR - SHARED GOAL

A sustainable and efficient emergency management system that reduces the likelihood, effect and consequence of emergencies. We work as one.
MFB Plan 2015-2018

1. Always Safe
   
   Our priority is ensuring that everyone always returns home safe.

2. Improving Community Safety and Resilience
   
   Community safety and resilience is at the core of what we do as an organisation.

3. Valuing our people
   
   We are proud of our people and we will continue to invest in developing their skills and capabilities.

4. Delivering exceptional service
   
   We will strive to continually improve the services we deliver to the community.

5. Working with others
   
   We will work seamlessly with our partners to achieve the best outcomes for the community.
“Significant change is required to create more harmonious fire services that work collaboratively with their key stakeholders to ensure their firefighters are as equipped and operationally ready as possible to meet the needs of the community.”

• Significant challenges for Victorian fire services
  – Interoperability
  – Morale and culture
  – Relationships

• MFB must be able to deliver change
  – Findings of FSR with relevance to MFB incorporated into 2016-17 MFB Plan
MFB submission: Fire Services Review

• Submission identified key challenges for MFB
• Made 12 recommendations to enable MFB to:
  – meet statutory obligations
  – meet Govt and community expectations
  – keep our people safe, morale high and MFB sustainable and efficient
• Outlined a vision for a reformed MFB
  – Improved health and safety
  – Improved workplace culture
  – MFB more responsive to needs of community; and
  – MFB more agile and flexible in responding to major incidents, working interoperably with sector
MFB is committed to:

Providing a world class fire and emergency service for Melbourne and Victorians

- Effective consultation
- Highly engaged workforce
- Workplace safety as fundamental