

Mr David O'Byrne
Fire Services Review,
Level 19, 121 Exhibition Street
Melbourne VIC 3000.

Dear Sir,

Re: Submission to Fire Services Review

I make this submission as a current member of the Tatura & Blackwood Fire Brigades. (Membership No [REDACTED]). I have been involved directly & indirectly with CFA since 1964.

Unfortunately, time restraints have prevented a more comprehensive & considered response. My brief submission is set out below:

RELEVANT TERM OF REFERENCE	OPPORTUNITY FOR CHANGE	RECOMENDATION
a) An assessment of the resourcing requirements necessary to ensure Victoria is appropriately equipped and fire ready	Recognising the needs-based resourcing of CFA volunteer Brigades & Groups, in their role of providing front line fire response in a wide range of emergencies in rural & regional areas as well as state-wide surge capacity in the event of large-scale events.	Promote, retain & expand the unique & vital role of volunteers in supporting emergency response in Victoria.
(c) The interoperability between the CFA and MFB (d) the interoperability across fire agencies responsible for preventing and suppressing all types of fire in Victoria, whether on public or private land	Develop seamless joint emergency management structures Adopt uniform equipment & Operation standards	Discourage "silo" culture & encourage greater coordination between Fire Services & the cost savings that follow.
h) The best mechanism to provide support for volunteer fire brigades and to ensure their viability in providing emergency services	Challenges surrounding the fundamental concept of a county-based volunteer CFA being the primary fire service in an expanding Outer Metropolitan area.	Adopt a pro-active stance by conducting an objective review of CFA in meeting demands in a changing outer Metropolitan area, being a potential catalyst for rationalisation of Fire Services in Victoria.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Bill Stockdale 31/8/15 [REDACTED]