

Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland

Submission No: 5

Submitted by: 

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Attachments:

Submitter Comments:

As a Secretary with a Rural Fire Brigade the biggest issue with volunteering is the on-boarding and training processes that are being controlled by the RFS/QFD. The application process once submitted to the RFS can take 8-12 weeks. I understand criminal history checks are undertaken which can take 2-3 weeks. It is unreasonable that the first hurdle for volunteering in a state run organization is such a long period of time. We lose many interested members through this process. The training scheme utilized by the service is also cumbersome and extremely top heavy with no real usable outcomes for the members at the coalface. It is a bureaucratic system serving its self rather than the members it seeks to serve. I know of many members who haven't yet completed any training because it is too difficult to do so.