

## **Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland**

<b>Submission No:</b>	60
<b>Submitted by:</b>	Federal Rural Fire Brigade
<b>Publication:</b>	Making the submission and your name public
<b>Attachments:</b>	See attachment
<b>Submitter Comments:</b>	

## FEDERAL RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

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Submission on behalf of the Federal RFB

Volunteering problems both onboarding and retainment.

Onboarding clunky and slow to finalise memberships, lack of consultation with 1<sup>st</sup> officers and brigade when problems arise, nil support from RFSQ staff.

Result== New members leave before membership is granted.

Retention Under the new QFD and RFSQ training for new and long standing members has become almost non available.

Lack of available trainers due to the sacking of volunteer trainers (RFSOs) and staff role changes (Brigade training and support officer now Brigade support officer) Brigades have no way of training FMS – FAS- Crew leader.

Due to the banking system with certain restrictions in place and bad management by senior staff many brigade treasurers are ready to resign.

Overall lack of respect and support shown to volunteers by staff will result in the decline of Rural Fire volunteers and closure of many brigades.

In closing I ask the minister to use her power to stem the decline and bring pack the staff to volunteer respect.

Many Thanks

Ian Pike AFSM

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