

## Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland

**Submission No:** 62  
**Submitted by:** David Taylor  
**Publication:** Making the submission and your name public  
**Attachments:** No attachment

### Submitter Comments:

Most volunteers tend to be of mature age. We come from various backgrounds and different times. I used to volunteer but quit due to conflicting ideas and protocols. Having run my own business for many decades I am quite familiar with general business practices and man management. Volunteering for local council you were micro managed. For us of an older generation that is not part of our ethos. We had more latitude in our day. Common sense was allowed, and people were allowed to think. I am quite capable of processing information and formulating my own opinion. My other issue was trust. There was little in the way of trust shown to volunteers. So many things restricted. We could sell products, but not trusted with the equipment to facilitate that. What you say and do restricted. It is a control fest. For myself and I know some others this is not acceptable. I had meetings with senior management. Young enough to be my son. They are from a different world I don't believe in. They won't listen to my generation and I have no wish to be part of theirs.

You ask for volunteers and yet treat us like paid employees. My answer was always the same, I don't work for you. Providing I am giving good service to the public, with no complaints, I am fulfilling my brief. The rest you are paid to put up with, I am not. A lot of people my age don't volunteer because they don't want to jump through hoops. You volunteer to provide a service. To help a community. Then the powers that be turn it into a military operation, with the paperwork to go with it. We don't want that. I ran my business for over 30 years, largely on a hand shake. I don't want to be pigeon holes and controlled, I'm too old for that. You want volunteers, you need to treat them as such. Respect their age and experience. Not treat us as free employees.

## Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland

**Submission No:** 62  
**Submitted by:** David Taylor  
**Publication:** Making the submission and your name public  
**Attachments:** See attachment

### Submitter Comments:

I volunteered in the rural fire brigade for ten years. I caught the end of the volunteer part. When I started it was a group of individuals giving their time to train and provide a community service for their area. As time went by it became more regimented. We were expected to fill out paperwork designed for American marines to go into battle in the 70's. Mission statements basically. Prepare to go. Assess on site. De brief after. Tracking on your phone. Tracking on your radios. All sorts of totally stupid radio protocols. The things didn't even work, no signal. They wanted blue cards. Identity cards. It was like you were in the military with 50 000 rules and the paperwork to go with it. News for you guys. We are volunteers. When I got told you have to do something. That is not true. I was not obligated to be there. I was not paid to be there. And all I wanted to do was what I started with. Help my local community by putting out bush fires. Come back. Have a chat and a beer and go home. The rest of your woke rubbish you could keep. Consequence, I left and so did many more. Now every organisation is desperate for volunteers and asking why. Because people don't mind volunteering but hate being treated as full time free employees. Employees get paid to put up with modern [REDACTED]. Volunteers don't and don't want it.