

Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland

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Submitted by: Leslie Green AFSM
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Submitter Comments:

I have been a Rural Fire Volunteer for 27 years, Brigade Trainer for 27 years and First Officer for 18 years, This Brigade has a strong membership and are very active, what i see is control has to be given back to Brigades as far as Training and the running of Brigade, we have to go back to basic Fire Training which should be carried out at a Brigade level, We have to make it easier for young Community Members who want to join their local Brigade , not so much paper based training and more hands on training, a lot of the modern Coputer base training and such does not suit most of the Rural Volunteers who do not have the skills to do so. there are many Volunteers that are in the age bracket that find it too hard and walk away, And the Blue Card has to change, not all Volunteer Fire Fighters need a Blue Card, Primary Producer Brigade and Fire Wardens do not need a Blue Card. My belief is that First Officers and VCE and any Members who chooses to have a Blue Card can have one, and with the finance of a Brigade the Committe has been doing a great job for many years without interference for any other Government Department. There are Brigade that have been running for 28 and 30 years. We need more Rural Fire Officers from Queensland in the upper-level o f Management Please contact me if you require any more information