



# Media release

## **The Hon Peter Ryan MP**

Deputy Premier  
Minister for Police and Emergency Services  
Minister for Bushfire Response  
Minister for Regional and Rural Development

Wednesday 14 September 2011

## **Vic Coalition releases the CFA Inquiry final report**

Deputy Premier and Minister for Police and Emergency Services Peter Ryan today released the final report of the independent inquiry into the Country Fire Authority (CFA).

Mr Ryan said the groundbreaking inquiry, led by former County Court Judge the Hon David Jones, investigated the effect of arrangements made by the CFA on the organisation's volunteers.

"The David Jones Inquiry was commissioned to address the widespread concerns of CFA volunteers around the impact of arrangements made by the CFA on issues like recruitment, training, deployment, utilisation and support," Mr Ryan said.

"His final report gives a voice to volunteers and provides valuable recommendations to achieve a greater level of consultation, co-operation and support between the CFA, the United Firefighters Union (UFU) and Volunteer Fire Brigades Victoria (VFBV) in the future."

Mr Ryan said the final report included 41 recommendations that would be closely considered by the Coalition Government in a formal consultation process with key stakeholders.

"The CFA, the VFBV and the UFU have all attended facilitated workshops as part of the ongoing consultation process," Mr Ryan said.

"The Coalition Government has ensured that volunteers have been actively represented in the consultation process that is helping to inform the final response to the report.

"In addition, the CFA has already begun a number of initiatives that address key recommendations in the report including the development of a CFA training strategy to underpin the delivery of training to both paid and volunteer members, as well as a review of its disciplinary process."

Mr Ryan said the Victorian Coalition Government was determined to provide greater consultation with and support for the CFA's volunteers, following years of neglect by the former Labor Government.

"The Coalition Government has signed the CFA Volunteer Charter and in March introduced amendments to the Country Fire Authority Act (1958) that enshrined the Volunteer Charter in legislation," Mr Ryan said.

"Respectful, trusting and informed relationships with CFA members, both paid and volunteer, are crucial to strengthening the organisation and ensuring it is best placed to provide vital services to the community."

A copy of the David Jones Inquiry report is available at [www.justice.vic.gov.au](http://www.justice.vic.gov.au)

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