



FIREFIGHTER POLICY

FIX THEM NOW. REPLACE THEM RIGHT.

Trucks are failing today.

Frankston firefighters are being sent out in trucks past its service life. Pumps are failing because trucks aren't being serviced, and some are breaking down on the way to fires. Replacement plans take years. Our firefighters need trucks that work this summer.

The Auditor-General agrees, an independent audit tabled in October 2026 found:

- No fire authority is completing all its scheduled truck maintenance.
- FRV has completed only around two-thirds of its scheduled maintenance since 2021.
- More than half of FRV and CFA trucks are 15 years or older.
- Fire services have received only about 12% of the budget funding they need for their trucks, after being told to ask for less.

Fix them now

- **Emergency servicing blitz:** every Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV) and CFA truck in the Frankston area inspected and pump-tested before peak fire season by the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator.
- **More fleet mechanics:** fund the mechanics and workshops needed to clear the servicing backlog.
- **Overtime approved around the clock:** fleet mechanics can work overtime until the backlog is cleared and every truck is serviced.
- **No truck goes out unsafe:** once the backlog is addressed, then no truck goes out unsafe, a published servicing standard, with failed trucks fixed or replaced immediately. With proper delegation of authority for approving overtime and purchases required to maintain these standards.
- **Replace them right:** Trucks are replaced at 12 years, with a proper rolling replacement program that commissions the trucks at the 10-year mark, replaces the oldest and least reliable trucks first.

Why it's worth paying for:

Fixing trucks now costs less than breakdowns and emergency repairs later. The Auditor-General warned that putting off maintenance leads to higher costs, less reliable trucks and fewer trucks available when we need them.

Protect the people inside

After a fire, firefighters come back covered in toxic smoke and chemicals linked to cancer. Some FRV stations and many CFA stations do not have decontamination showers, filtration and "clean areas". Many Firefighters carry that contamination into the station and home to their families.

- **One safety standard for every station:** FRV and CFA stations brought up to adequate health and safety standards. Starting with Frankston Station.
- **Decontamination showers and air filtration** at FRV and CFA stations, starting with those that respond most often.
- **Audit every CFA station** against these standards and publish the results.
- **Safe to speak up:** firefighters and volunteers can report unsafe trucks or gear without fear of repercussions.



Finish the job on cancer compensation

Firefighters shouldn't have to fight for compensation after fighting fires. I'll push to keep the list of covered cancers up to date with the latest science, and to make claims fast and simple for career firefighters and volunteers alike.

Where has the levy gone?

Since July 2025, Victorians have paid the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund instead of the old fire services levy. It is expected to raise about \$7 billion over four years, \$2.9 billion more than the old levy. Yet the Auditor-General found fire services have received only about 12% of the budget funding they need for their trucks.

- **Every dollar published:** a public, line-by-line report each year of how much the levy collected, where it went, and how much reached trucks, stations and volunteers.
- **Levy money for the frontline:** money collected for emergency services spent on emergency services.
- **Truth in the levy:** anyone who knowingly misleads Parliament or the public about where levy money goes should face serious penalties, including jail.

Industry bodies

Inspector-General for Emergency Management (IGEM) is the industry body that reviews, monitors and reports on the state's emergency management system, including bushfires, firefighter safety and training facilities.

Reports of deceptive reporting on response times have been submitted for enquiry. IGEM employees, management and officials are to be held personally liable with penalties if encouragement of deceptive reporting is substantiated. Failure to identify, review and improve deceptive reporting procedures amongst FRV and CFA will also hold IGEM staff personally liable.

Equipment, safety and consultation

For those that run towards danger, carnage and grief for the wider community, they deserve at least the bare minimum to do their jobs to the best of their ability and safely.

- Two way communication radios – with the correct radio waves for buildings and long distances.
- Data terminal – matching other emergency services that has the following features in their vehicles: log emergency updates, GPS, building specifications/site plans.
- Consultation and agreement provisions, and dispute resolution procedures, outlined in the current Enterprise Agreement to remain in effect in relation to equipment, safety and PPE.

Frankston first and Why an Independent?

At the Cranbourne Rd station, FRV career firefighters and volunteers work side by side, and its trucks back up nearby brigades like Carrum Downs. When one truck fails, the whole area is exposed. The Liberal Party let them down leading up to 2014. The Labor Party has let them down since. Party candidates vote the way their party tells them. I'll vote for Frankston and for Fire Fighters from day one, I'll demand the servicing records for our trucks and publish what I find. I will also lodge an enquiry into the missing Emergency Services levy funds that the fire fighters are not receiving.

Source: Victorian Auditor-General's Office, [Managing Victoria's Firefighting Fleet](#), October 2026. Levy figures: ACM analysis of the 2025–26 Victorian Budget, June 2025.