

Name	Have your say
Richard Martin	<p>Both proposed Models appear to lack any rationale to support such massive increases. A minimum 69% to a whopping 1287% increase even by this State's government standards is a journey into the absurd at best, or a revenue raising grab to cover other expenditure shortfalls. A football stadium perhaps or is this excessively cynical ?</p> <p>The "peace" offering is reduced insurance premiums. If we are to believe that then does one presume the fire levies cover the actual cost of providing this service as it was intended or simply a smoke screen. If past performance is an indicator, Insurance companies will not pass anything more than a token reduction.</p> <p>Turn back the clock to when we were told that Councils would no longer be responsible for sewage and water and that a new bureaucracy was needed and the costs would be minimal. Initially it was three water authorities until some level of sense belatedly arrived to reduce it to one authority. A small amount came off the council rates and the increased cost of services for water and sewage just keeps climbing.</p> <p>Is the funding model for the Tas Fire Service broken ? If not then why the proposed changes. Conversely if it is broken then perhaps consultation with other States as to how their Fire Services are funded would be a good place to start.</p> <p>As it stands, one wonders just who dreamed up the wish list for the Tas Fire Service before handing it to the financial wizards who became artistic with how to finance it.</p>