Inquiry into campaigning at polling places Submission 3

Dear Sirs

Whilst handing out Liberal How to Vote Cards for the Pre-season Polling for the Oakleigh State Electorate at the Pre-Polling Booth on the corner of North Road and Huntingdale Road, Huntingdale I was witnessed and also subjected to the antics of Union bullies from the Metropolitan Fire Brigade.

These people were using standing over tactics by telling voters in the queue not to vote Liberal because you cannot trust Abbott or the Liberal Party policies. I was disgusted and felt so intimidated by their actions I went into the Polling Office and asked the Polling Officer in Charge on whose authority were they allowed to act like this. The officer did come out and have words with them, however they did not heed any advice given.

A phone call to the Officer in Charge at the Oakleigh Electoral Office resulted in no action because there was nothing they could do. I was flabbergasted to say the least.

This was a very nasty experience and it leaves me reluctant to assist in pre-polling in the future.

Surely something can be done to stop this abuse of our electoral system.

Lorraine McBeth