

# COMMUNITY SAFETY AND LEGAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

## Minister for Minister for Fire and Disaster Recovery and Minister for Corrective Services

### ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

#### QUESTION ON NOTICE

##### No. 1

#### QUESTION:

Broken down by Command, will the Minister advise:

- a) The number of FTE firefighters as at 30 June 2020;
- b) The number of FTE firefighters as at 30 June 2023;
- c) The number of FTE firefighters as at 30 June 2024;
- d) The number of auxiliary firefighters able to respond to an incident as at 30 June 2023;
- e) The number of auxiliary firefighters able to respond to an incident as at 30 June 2024;
- f) The number of Rural Fire Service members as at 30 June 2023; and
- g) The number of Rural Fire Service members as at 30 June 2024

#### ANSWER:

The Government recognises and appreciates the efforts of the Queensland Fire Department (QFD) workforce, paid and volunteer, who work tirelessly to protect the Queensland community. This is evidenced by an ongoing commitment to grow the workforce model to ensure agility to address areas of population growth and enhance bushfire and emergency management initiatives.

I am advised by QFD that:

- a) As at 5 July 2020, there were 2696.3 Queensland Fire and Rescue (QFR) FTE firefighters, including 169.8 in the Far Northern Region; 202.5 in Northern Region; 244.1 in Central Region; 290.1 in North Coast Region; 166.4 in South Western Region; 900.6 in Brisbane Region; 576.8 in South Eastern Region; and 146.0 in QFR State Directorate.
- b) As at 2 July 2023, there were 2776.3 QFR FTE firefighters, including 175.8 in Far Northern Region; 220.5 in Northern Region; 252.1 in Central Region; 291.1 in North Coast Region; 181.4 in South Western Region; 901.6 in Brisbane Region; 601.1 in South Eastern Region; and 152.7 in QFR State Directorate.
- c) As at 2 June 2024, there were 2897.3 QFR FTE Firefighters, including 175.8 in Far Northern Region; 221.5 in Northern Region; 264.1 FTE in Central Region; 319.1 FTE in North Coast Region; 187.4 in South Western Region; 912.6 FTE in Brisbane Region; 648.7 FTE in South Eastern Region; and 168.7 in QFR State Directorate.

- d) As at 2 July 2023, the number of auxiliary firefighters available to respond to an incident was 1845, including 237 for the Far Northern Region; 132 for Northern Region; 412 for Central Region; 414 for North Coast Region; 347 for South Western Region; 103 for Brisbane Region; and 200 for South Eastern Region.
- e) As at 2 June 2024, the number of auxiliary firefighters available to respond to an incident was 1857, including 226 for the Far Northern Region; 140 for Northern Region; 422 for Central Region; 413 for North Coast Region; 345 for South Western Region; 106 for Brisbane Region; and 205 for South Eastern Region.
- f) As at 30 June 2023, the number of Rural Fire Service Queensland (RFSQ) volunteer members in each Area was 2,658 in Barcaldine and Emerald; 783 in Bundaberg; 1,723 in Burnett; 1,163 in Caboolture; 1,586 in Darling Downs; 1,862 in Far Northern Region RFSQ Northern; 867 in Far Northern Region RFSQ Southern; 1,534 in Gladstone; 1,630 in Mackay; 1,169 in Maryborough; 1,371 in North West; 1,101 in Rockhampton; 1,592 in South Coast; 1,040 in Sunshine Coast; 1,488 in Townsville; 2,236 in Warrego; 989 in West Moreton; and 1,839 in Western Rivers.
- g) As at 30 June 2024, the number of RFSQ volunteer members in each Area was 2,771 in Barcaldine and Emerald; 832 in Bundaberg; 1,727 in Burnett; 1,208 in Caboolture; 1,704 in Darling Downs; 1,840 in Far Northern Region RFSQ Northern; 870 in Far Northern Region RFSQ Southern; 1,573 in Gladstone; 1,613 in Mackay; 1,238 in Maryborough; 1,408 in North West; 1,127 in Rockhampton; 1,578 in South Coast; 1,115 in Sunshine Coast; 1,488 in Townsville; 2,285 in Warrego; 1,021 in West Moreton; and 1,954 in Western Rivers.

In relation to parts a), b), c), d) and e), I am advised by QFD that the number of QFR firefighters is more accurately reported by Region, as opposed to Commands, due to firefighters not being assigned to a specific command and may provide coverage to multiple stations, as required. I am further advised that the RFSQ reports locally through Area Offices, not Commands.

I am further informed, that the FTE data includes all permanent and auxiliary QFR firefighters, noting auxiliary firefighters account for 0.1 of an FTE, with figures provided for the pay period closest to 30 June of the nominated year, with the exception of 2024 data that has been provided as at 2 June 2024 due to regional boundary changes that occurred in June 2024.

## ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### No. 2

#### QUESTION:

Broken down by Command, will the Minister advise the number of FTE firefighter vacancies as at:

- a) 30 June 2020;
- b) 30 June 2021;
- c) 30 June 2022;
- d) 30 June 2023; and
- e) 30 June 2024

#### ANSWER:

I am advised by the Queensland Fire Department (QFD) that there are occasions where vacancies exist due to personnel moving to another position within the department, resignations or retirements. I am further advised that positions may also be held vacant until Queensland Fire and Rescue (QFR) recruits graduate and commence in their allocated regions.

Further, where a vacancy exists, QFD endeavours to fill these positions as soon as possible with appropriate operational coverage maintained.

I am advised by QFD that the vacancy breakdown for firefighter vacancies (including station officers, senior firefighters, firefighters and auxiliary) in QFR by the seven regional model is as follows:

- a) I am advised that QFD is unable to identify the total number of FTE firefighter vacancies as at 30 June 2020. This is due to historical reporting functions not aligning as a result of system changes and upgrades.
- b) As at 4 July 2021, 13.0 FTE for Far Northern Region; 22.5 FTE for Northern Region; 19.6 FTE for Central Region; 23.2 for North Coast Region; 18.4 for South Western Region; 57.1 FTE for Brisbane Region; 54.3 FTE for South Eastern Region; and 22 FTE for QFR State Directorate.
- c) As at 3 July 2022, 14.1 FTE for Far Northern Region; 14.5 FTE for Northern Region; 21.4 FTE for Central Region; 22.5 FTE for North Coast Region; 18.0 FTE for South Western Region; 61.8 FTE for Brisbane Region; 54.1 FTE for South Eastern Region; and 22 FTE for QFR State Directorate.
- d) As at 2 July 2023, 13.8 FTE for Far Northern Region; 28.9 FTE for Northern Region; 24.0 FTE for Central Region; 17.0 FTE for North Coast Region; 27.1 FTE for South Western Region; 83.6 FTE for Brisbane Region; 22.2 FTE for South Eastern Region; and 18.7 FTE for QFR State Directorate.
- e) As at 2 June 2024, 17.2 FTE for Far Northern Region; 24.4 FTE for Northern Region; 31.8 FTE for Central Region; 34.5 FTE for North Coast Region; 23.2 FTE for South Western Region; 37.6 FTE for Brisbane Region; 20.9 FTE for South Eastern Region; and 41.7 FTE for QFR State Directorate.

I am advised by QFD that the 2024 figures are provided as at 2 June 2024. This is due to the department being unable to provide the breakdown of FTE firefighter vacancies as at 30 June 2024 due to the transition of reporting functions as a result of the recent QFD reform moving from a seven regional model to a four regional model.

I am further advised by QFD that the number of QFR FTE firefighters is more accurately reported by Region, as opposed to Commands, due to firefighters not being assigned to a specific Command and may provide coverage to multiple stations, as required.

I am further informed, that the FTE data includes all permanent and auxiliary QFR firefighters, noting auxiliary personnel account for 0.1 of an FTE, with figures provided for the pay period closest to 30 June of the nominated year, except for 2024 data that has been provided as at 2 June due to regional boundary changes that occurred from 3 June 2024.

## **ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING**

### **QUESTION ON NOTICE**

#### **No. 3**

#### **QUESTION:**

With regard to the integration of the Rural Fire Service into the Queensland Fire Department, will the Minister advise:

- a) How many Rural Fire Service facilities are located on privately owned or leased land;
- b) The number and types of Rural Fire Service appliances and equipment stored on privately owned or leased land;
- c) How many Rural Fire Service facilities will require upgrades to meet standards for government-owned facilities; and
- d) The estimated cost of those upgrades.

#### **ANSWER:**

I am advised by the Queensland Fire Department (QFD) that:

- a) As of 12 July 2024, there are 413 Rural Fire Service Queensland (RFSQ) sites leased.
- b) It is acknowledged there are some appliances being stored at leased facilities as well as equipment needed by those brigades to protect their communities, such as trailers, slips-on, chainsaws, drip torches etc. I am further advised that QFD are unable to provide the exact number or types of equipment as there are occasions where Rural Fire Brigades (RFBs) store equipment on privately owned residences to assist with managing bushfire risk. This equipment is relocated dependent on the local need. Further, there are 809 Primary Producer Brigades who are primarily landholders and utilise property-based equipment for response to incidents on their land and neighbouring properties.
- c) In 2024-25, QFD will deliver a condition assessment program of all RFSQ sites and facilities. The outcomes from this program will allow QFD to make informed decisions regarding the status of facilities and what, if any, upgrades and/or maintenance works are required to meet government-owned facilities standards.
- d) Once the condition assessment program is complete, QFD will undertake work to identify the full scope and cost of any upgrades and/or maintenance works required.

## **ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING**

### **QUESTION ON NOTICE**

#### **No. 4**

#### **QUESTION:**

With reference to the Courier Mail article dated March 7th 2024 that states government was handed a 187-page business case calling for communications infrastructure upgrades. Will the Minister advise where funding for this vital equipment is included in the budget and when the upgrades will be completed?

#### **ANSWER:**

The Queensland Fire Department (QFD) is a member of the Public Safety Communications Interdepartmental Committee (PSC IDC) which has established the Queensland Critical Communications Modernisation project to deliver appropriate interoperable technology to meet mission critical requirements across Public Safety Agencies.

The Queensland Critical Communications Modernisation project will look to provide our frontline with world class connectivity, equipment to support community safety and health, and drive economic benefits through connecting Queensland services with digital technology.

The project is being led by the Queensland Government Customer and Digital Group within the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

The Queensland Critical Communications Modernisation business case will leverage vital work previously completed by QFD, including the approach to the options available for improving public safety communications.

QFD will continue to work closely with the PSC IDC and stakeholders in relation to the Queensland Critical Communications Modernisation project.

## ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### No. 5

#### QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise, broken down by financial year, how many Rural Fire Service appliances have been replaced each year for the last five (5) years?

#### ANSWER:

In 2024-25, the Rural Fire Service Queensland (RFSQ) budget is \$121.80 million which represents a 20% increase on the 2023-24 budget.

The 2024-25 RFSQ budget includes \$19.5 million for replacement and new rural fire appliances.

The number of Rural Fire Service appliances that have been replaced, as part of the then Queensland Fire and Emergency Services' replacement program, for the last five financial years, from 2019-20 to 2023-24, are as follows:

<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>
16	28	38	20	20

119 appliances were delivered in 2018-19 following a \$30.1 million injection of funds over two years commencing in 2017-18 as part of the Accelerated Rural Fire Service Fleet Program.

## ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### No. 6

#### QUESTION:

With regard to disaster events having taken place between 2019-20 and 2023-24, will the QRA advise the total amount allocated to betterment from all grant and funding programs and report separately by year, project and funding recipient?

#### ANSWER:

Betterment funding is a great example of all levels of government working together to improve the resilience of our communities.

The total of Betterment funding approved since the 2019 Monsoon Floods to build back to a more resilient standard and better protect Queenslanders is \$290 million.

More than \$93 million in these works have been completed and \$197 million currently in delivery.

This funding comprises \$250 million established under Category D of the joint State-Commonwealth Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA), and \$40 million available under the DRFA Efficiencies (Category E) framework.

The following Betterment programs are either complete or currently in delivery:

- 2018-19 Betterment Fund - \$102 million (complete)
- 2020-21 Betterment Fund - \$20 million (Cat E\*)
- 2021-22 South East Queensland Floods - \$150 million
- 2021-22 Betterment Fund (Cat E\*) - \$20 million
- 2022-23 Betterment Fund - \$100 million

In response to Tropical Cyclone Jasper and the South Queensland Storms in late 2023, the Queensland Reconstruction Authority is currently developing a further Betterment Program for approval.

#### Betterment project by year, project and funding recipient

Year	Funding Recipient	Project / Asset
2018-19	Aurukun Shire Council	Aurukun Access Road
2018-19	Barcoo Shire Council	Jundah Winton Road
2018-19	Barcoo Shire Council	Jundah Winton Road
2018-19	Burdekin Shire Council	Sandy Camp Road
2018-19	Burdekin Shire Council	Hodel Road
2018-19	Burdekin Shire Council	Coach Road
2018-19	Burke Shire Council	Lawn Hill National Park
2018-19	Cassowary Coast Regional Council	Stephenson Road
2018-19	Cassowary Coast Regional Council	Scougall Road
2018-19	Cassowary Coast Regional Council	Schumann Road
2018-19	Cassowary Coast Regional Council	Hamilton Road
2018-19	Cassowary Coast Regional Council	Blackman Street (Munro Plains)
2018-19	Cloncurry Shire Council	Sedan Dip Road
2018-19	Cloncurry Shire Council	Sedan Dip Road
2018-19	Cook Shire Council	Esk Valley Road R082-00
2018-19	Cook Shire Council	Flaggy Road R101-00
2018-19	Cook Shire Council	Percy Road R094-00
2018-19	Cook Shire Council	Wilton Access R037-00

<b>Year</b>	<b>Funding Recipient</b>	<b>Project / Asset</b>
2018-19	Cook Shire Council	Battlecamp Road R012-00
2018-19	Cook Shire Council	Melaleuca Street R018-52
2018-19	Cook Shire Council	Oakey Creek Road R033-00
2018-19	Cairns Regional Council	Goldsborough Road
2018-19	Croydon Shire Council	Claraville Road
2018-19	Croydon Shire Council	Guildford Road
2018-19	Croydon Shire Council	Coralie Road
2018-19	Carpentaria Shire Council	Normanton - Burketown Road CL
2018-19	Carpentaria Shire Council	Normanton - Burketown Road CL
2018-19	Charters Towers Regional Council	Dotswood Road
2018-19	Douglas Shire Council	Cape Tribulation Bloomfield Rd
2018-19	Douglas Shire Council	Zig Zag Rd
2018-19	Douglas Shire Council	Cape Tribulation Bloomfield Rd
2018-19	Diamantina Shire Council	Big Red Road
2018-19	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Kennedy Developmental Road
2018-19	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Landsborough Highway
2018-19	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Endeavour Valley Road
2018-19	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Flinders Highway
2018-19	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Flinders Highway
2018-19	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Richmond - Winton Road
2018-19	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Burke Developmental Road
2018-19	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Richmond - Winton Road
2018-19	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Richmond - Winton Road
2018-19	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Kennedy Developmental Road
2018-19	Etheridge Shire Council	Oak Park Road
2018-19	Flinders Shire Council	Dalkeith Road
2018-19	Hinchinbrook Shire Council	Atkinsons Pocket Road
2018-19	Hinchinbrook Shire Council	Barbagallos Road
2018-19	Hinchinbrook Shire Council	Yuruga Road
2018-19	Hinchinbrook Shire Council	Abergowrie Road
2018-19	Hinchinbrook Shire Council	Baillies Road
2018-19	Hinchinbrook Shire Council	Covells Road
2018-19	Hinchinbrook Shire Council	Menzies Street
2018-19	Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council	Elim Road
2018-19	Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council	Kowanyama Street
2018-19	Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council	Kowanyama Street
2018-19	Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council	Pormpuraaw Road (Magnificent Creek - Mitchell River)
2018-19	Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council	Pormpuraaw Road (Magnificent Creek - Mitchell River)
2018-19	Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council	Pormpuraaw Road (Magnificent Creek - Mitchell River)
2018-19	Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council	Portland Road (North)
2018-19	Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council	Pascoe Farms Road
2018-19	Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council	Portland Road (North)
2018-19	Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council	Portland Road (South)
2018-19	Longreach Regional Council	Stonehenge River Rd
2018-19	Longreach Regional Council	Silsoe Rd
2018-19	Longreach Regional Council	Tocal Rd
2018-19	Mareeba Shire Council	Fossilbrook Road
2018-19	Mareeba Shire Council	Shanty Creek Road North
2018-19	Mareeba Shire Council	Clacherty Road
2018-19	McKinlay Shire Council	Gilliat McKinlay Road
2018-19	McKinlay Shire Council	Dalgonally Millungera Road
2018-19	Mount Isa City Council	Lake Julius Road
2018-19	Mornington Shire Council	Ballaleah Road
2018-19	Napranum Aboriginal Shire Council	Stones Crossing Access Road
2018-19	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Punsand Bay Road
2018-19	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Pajinka Road
2018-19	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Ferry Road

<b>Year</b>	<b>Funding Recipient</b>	<b>Project / Asset</b>
2018-19	Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council	Pormpuraaw Road
2018-19	Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council	Banfield Drive
2018-19	Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council	Wallaby Point Road
2018-19	Richmond Shire Council	Coalbrook Road (Hampstead) (A5)
2018-19	Richmond Shire Council	Walkers Park Road (B4)
2018-19	Richmond Shire Council	Maxwelton - Kynuna Road (A4)
2018-19	Richmond Shire Council	Villadale Road (B2)
2018-19	Townsville City Council	Mill Road
2018-19	Townsville City Council	Swensen Street
2018-19	Townsville City Council	Bougainville Street
2018-19	Townsville City Council	Mountview Drive
2018-19	Townsville City Council	Pace Road
2018-19	Townsville City Council	Coast Road
2018-19	Townsville City Council	Heath Road (north)
2018-19	Townsville City Council	Woodlands Road
2018-19	Townsville City Council	Forestry Road
2018-19	Townsville City Council	Purono Parkway
2018-19	Townsville City Council	Ponderosa Road
2018-19	Townsville City Council	Central Creek Road
2018-19	Townsville City Council	Apjohn Street
2018-19	Townsville City Council	Echlin Street
2018-19	Torres Shire Council	Waiben Esplanade Seawall
2018-19	Whitsunday Regional Council	Rutherford_Road-34070
2018-19	Whitsunday Regional Council	Exmoor Road-36025
2018-19	Whitsunday Regional Council	Emu Plains Road-36005
2018-19	Winton Shire Council	Old Landsborough Highway
2018-19	Winton Shire Council	Olio-Fairview Road (West)
2018-19	Winton Shire Council	Cork Mail Road
2018-19	Winton Shire Council	Lark Quarry Access
2018-19	Winton Shire Council	Corfield Richmond Road
2018-19	Winton Shire Council	Diamantina River Road (Collingwood to Old Cork)
2018-19	Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council	Bloomfield Falls Road
2018-19	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council	Buddabadoo Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Aurukun Shire Council	Aurukun Access Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Balonne Shire Council	Cubbie Rd
2020-21 (Cat E)	Barcoo Shire Council	Budgerygar Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Bulloo Shire Council	Innamincka Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Bulloo Shire Council	Warry Gate Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council	Wooloogarang West Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Douglas Shire Council	Bamboo Creek Rd
2020-21 (Cat E)	Douglas Shire Council	Poletti Rd
2020-21 (Cat E)	Douglas Shire Council	Whyanbeel Rd
2020-21 (Cat E)	Goondiwindi Regional Council	Morennan Rd
2020-21 (Cat E)	Hinchinbrook Shire Council	Covells Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Hinchinbrook Shire Council	Gangemis Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Hinchinbrook Shire Council	Golloglys Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Hinchinbrook Shire Council	Quabbas Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Hinchinbrook Shire Council	Capellaris Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Hinchinbrook Shire Council	Hamleigh Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Hinchinbrook Shire Council	Orient Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council	Alligator Creek Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council	Cooktown-Mclvor River Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council	Pormpuraaw Road (Magnificent Creek - Mitchell River)
2020-21 (Cat E)	Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council	Portland Road (North)
2020-21 (Cat E)	Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council	Kuttini Street
2020-21 (Cat E)	Mount Isa City Council	Riversleigh Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council	Pormpuraaw Road

<b>Year</b>	<b>Funding Recipient</b>	<b>Project / Asset</b>
2020-21 (Cat E)	Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council	Bentley Street
2020-21 (Cat E)	Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council	Dee Street
2020-21 (Cat E)	Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council	Lower Weir Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council	Mossman Street
2020-21 (Cat E)	Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council	Two Street
2020-21 (Cat E)	Paroo Shire Council	Jobs Gate Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Quilpie Shire Council	Cooma Road - 56-5B-Eromanga - Combined
2020-21 (Cat E)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Condamine River Road_(Killarney)
2020-21 (Cat E)	Scenic Rim Regional Council	Alloah Rd
2020-21 (Cat E)	Scenic Rim Regional Council	Carinya Rd
2020-21 (Cat E)	Scenic Rim Regional Council	Geiger Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Townsville City Council	Dingo Park Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council	Buddabadoo Road
2020-21 (Cat E)	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council	Reservoir Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Balonne Shire Council	Mungindi levee
2021-22 (Cat D)	Balonne Shire Council	Whyenbah Rd
2021-22 (Cat D)	Balonne Shire Council	Jakelwar-Goodooga Rd North
2021-22 (Cat D)	Balonne Shire Council	Jakelwar-Goodooga Rd North
2021-22 (Cat D)	Banana Shire Council	Defence Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Banana Shire Council	Coolum Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Brisbane City Council	Hawera Ct Bridge
2021-22 (Cat D)	Brisbane City Council	Koorinal Dr Bridge
2021-22 (Cat D)	Central Highlands Regional Council	Mt Playfair Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Central Highlands Regional Council	Withersfield Willows Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Central Highlands Regional Council	Wyntoon Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Central Highlands Regional Council	Wyuna Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Carpentaria Shire Council	Dunbar - Kowanyama Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Maryborough - Hervey Bay Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Gold Coast - Springbrook Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Beechmont Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Moonie Highway
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Currumbin Creek - Tomewin Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Toowoomba - Cecil Plains Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Currumbin Creek Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Nerang - Murwillumbah Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Beaudesert - Nerang Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Tamborine - Oxenford Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Mount Sylvia Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Isis Highway
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Castlereagh Highway
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Burnett Highway
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Mount Lindesay Highway
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Lamington National Park Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Moonie Highway
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Murgon - Gayndah Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Dalby - Cecil Plains Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Leichhardt Highway
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Booyal - Dallarnil Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Barwon Highway
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Wide Bay Highway
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Burnett Highway
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Cunningham Arterial Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Bauple - Woolooga Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Running Creek Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Fraser Coast Regional Council	Teebar Hall Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Fraser Coast Regional Council	Gigoomgan Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Fraser Coast Regional Council	Adelaide Street

<b>Year</b>	<b>Funding Recipient</b>	<b>Project / Asset</b>
2021-22 (Cat D)	City of Gold Coast	Gold Coast Springbrook Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	City of Gold Coast	Smith Road, Bonogin Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Goondiwindi Regional Council	Kildonan Rd
2021-22 (Cat D)	Goondiwindi Regional Council	Kioma Rd
2021-22 (Cat D)	Goondiwindi Regional Council	Kondar Rd
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gladstone Regional Council	Baldaw Road Captain Creek
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gladstone Regional Council	Blackman Gap Road Colosseum
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gladstone Regional Council	Bootmaker Drive Roundhill
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gladstone Regional Council	Bunker Road Roundhill
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gladstone Regional Council	Cross Road Euleilah
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gladstone Regional Council	Daisy Dell Road Bororen
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gladstone Regional Council	Dillon Road Captain Creek
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gladstone Regional Council	John Clifford Way Lowmead
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gladstone Regional Council	Talaba Road Calliope
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gladstone Regional Council	Toowell Road Oconnell
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gladstone Regional Council	Taylor Lane Machine Creek
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gympie Regional Council	Maudsley Street
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gympie Regional Council	Moy Pocket Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gympie Regional Council	Cedar Pocket Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gympie Regional Council	Noosa Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gympie Regional Council	Rossmore Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gympie Regional Council	McLeish Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gympie Regional Council	Wilson's Pocket Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gympie Regional Council	Amamoor Creek Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gympie Regional Council	North Deep Creek Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gympie Regional Council	Kew Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Gympie Regional Council	Roebuck Street
2021-22 (Cat D)	Ipswich City Council	East Ipswich Catchment
2021-22 (Cat D)	Ipswich City Council	Bradfield Bridge
2021-22 (Cat D)	Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council	Pindi Street Subdivision
2021-22 (Cat D)	Logan City Council	Greenbank_ Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Logan City Council	New Beith Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Logan City Council	Haven Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Logan City Council	Murcot Street
2021-22 (Cat D)	Lockyer Valley Regional Council	Old Laidley Forest Hill Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Lockyer Valley Regional Council	Brightview Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Lockyer Valley Regional Council	Dallingers Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Lockyer Valley Regional Council	Flagstone Creek Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Lockyer Valley Regional Council	Ingoldsby Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Lockyer Valley Regional Council	Lefthand Branch Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Lockyer Valley Regional Council	McGarrigal Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Lockyer Valley Regional Council	Paynter Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Lockyer Valley Regional Council	Rockmount Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Lockyer Valley Regional Council	Sawpit Gully Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Lockyer Valley Regional Council	Stockyard Creek Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Lockyer Valley Regional Council	Thomas Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Lockyer Valley Regional Council	Upper Flagstone Creek Road_3246
2021-22 (Cat D)	Maranoa Regional Council	Maranoa Rd
2021-22 (Cat D)	Maranoa Regional Council	Roma Southern Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Moreton Bay Regional Council	Barklya Crescent to Bribie Gardens
2021-22 (Cat D)	Moreton Bay Regional Council	Marine outfall multi cell culvert system
2021-22 (Cat D)	Moreton Bay Regional Council	Youngs Crossing Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Moreton Bay Regional Council	Pringles Road - Kobble Creek
2021-22 (Cat D)	Moreton Bay Regional Council	Stratton Road - Multiple
2021-22 (Cat D)	Murweh Shire Council	Barngo Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	North Burnett Regional Council	Bon Accord Wetheron Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Noosa Shire Council	Schreibers Road

<b>Year</b>	<b>Funding Recipient</b>	<b>Project / Asset</b>
2021-22 (Cat D)	Noosa Shire Council	Middle Creek Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Dip Road (Windera)
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Flagstone Creek Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Williams Road (Benarkin North)
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Mercer Springgate Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Goldsworthy Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Hodges Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Kearneys Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Magee Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Manar Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Walkers Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Arthur Street East
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Mondure Crossing Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Nords Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Tim Dwyer Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Weeks Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Finnemores Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Greenview Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Hoggs Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Ironpot Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Jerrards Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Kings Bridge Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Lamperds Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Maidenwell Upper Yarraman Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Manumbar Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Nords Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Old Wondai Road (Southbound1)
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Parkers Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Pedersens Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Recreation Drive
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Smiths Road (Inverlaw)
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Trentham Lane
2021-22 (Cat D)	South Burnett Regional Council	Trouts Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Goldfields Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Talgai West Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Glen Niven Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Kital Road 2
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Connells Bridge Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Merivale Street
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Wheatvale Plains Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Azalea Street
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Charleys Gully Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Coopers Gully Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Fairbanks Lane
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Gillbard Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Halls Road (Yangan)
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Jensens Road (Sladevale)
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Kays Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Lode Creek Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Mikkelsens Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Pierces Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Pratten - Hendon Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Warner Street (Rosenthal Heights)
2021-22 (Cat D)	Southern Downs Regional Council	Yankee Gully Road
2021-22 (Cat D)	Somerset Regional Council	Patrick Estate Rd
2021-22 (Cat D)	Somerset Regional Council	Scrub Creek Rd
2021-22 (Cat D)	Scenic Rim Regional Council	Teviotville Rd

<b>Year</b>	<b>Funding Recipient</b>	<b>Project / Asset</b>
2021-22 (Cat D)	Scenic Rim Regional Council	Roadvale Rd
2021-22 (Cat D)	Scenic Rim Regional Council	Rosevale Rd
2021-22 (Cat D)	Scenic Rim Regional Council	Tarome Rd
2021-22 (Cat D)	Scenic Rim Regional Council	Allandale Rd
2021-22 (Cat D)	Scenic Rim Regional Council	Biddaddaba Creek Rd
2021-22 (Cat D)	Scenic Rim Regional Council	Brookland Rd
2021-22 (Cat D)	Scenic Rim Regional Council	Christmas Creek Rd
2021-22 (Cat D)	Scenic Rim Regional Council	Round Mountain Rd
2021-22 (Cat D)	Scenic Rim Regional Council	Croftby Rd
2021-22 (Cat D)	Scenic Rim Regional Council	Wild Pig Creek Rd
2021-22 (Cat D)	Toowoomba Regional Council	O'Connor Road (Coalbank)
2021-22 (Cat D)	Toowoomba Regional Council	Windermere Drive (Hodgson Vale)
2021-22 (Cat D)	Toowoomba Regional Council	Blaxland Road (Bowenville)
2021-22 (Cat D)	Toowoomba Regional Council	Brimblecombe Road (Oakey)
2021-22 (Cat D)	Toowoomba Regional Council	Jimna Springs Road (Southbrook)
2021-22 (Cat D)	Toowoomba Regional Council	Kearney Street (Kearneys Spring)
2021-22 (Cat D)	Toowoomba Regional Council	Lagoon Crescenteek Road (West Haldon)
2021-22 (Cat D)	Toowoomba Regional Council	Maria Crescenteek Road (Anduramba)
2021-22 (Cat D)	Toowoomba Regional Council	Umbiram Road (Wyreema)
2021-22 (Cat D)	Toowoomba Regional Council	Westbrook Wayreema Road (Westbrook)
2021-22 (Cat D)	Toowoomba Regional Council	WestCreek004
2021-22 (Cat D)	Western Downs Regional Council	Wilds Rd W342
2021-22 (Cat D)	Western Downs Regional Council	Sandalwood Av West W248
2021-22 (Cat D)	Western Downs Regional Council	Giligulgul Rd X033
2021-22 (Cat D)	Western Downs Regional Council	Springvale Rd W244
2021-22 (Cat D)	Western Downs Regional Council	Commodity Ct D013
2021-22 (Cat E)	Aurukun Shire Council	Aurukun Access Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Barcoo Shire Council	Connemara Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Blackall-Tambo Regional Council	Blackall Emmet Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Blackall-Tambo Regional Council	Coolatai Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Blackall-Tambo Regional Council	Evora Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Cloncurry Shire Council	Kajabbi Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Croydon Shire Council	Glenora Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Flinders Shire Council	Moondah Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Mareeba Shire Council	Bakers Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Mareeba Shire Council	Bellevue Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Mareeba Shire Council	Bolwarra Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Mareeba Shire Council	Fantin Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Mareeba Shire Council	Fossilbrook Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Mareeba Shire Council	Hurricane Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Mareeba Shire Council	Karma Waters Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Mareeba Shire Council	Kondaparinga Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Mareeba Shire Council	McBean Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Mareeba Shire Council	Mount Cardwell Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Mareeba Shire Council	Mount Misery Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Mareeba Shire Council	Mount Mulligan - Kondaparinga Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Mareeba Shire Council	Mount Mulligan Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Mareeba Shire Council	Nychum Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Mareeba Shire Council	OK Mine Road South
2021-22 (Cat E)	Mareeba Shire Council	Price Creek Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Mareeba Shire Council	Springfield Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Mareeba Shire Council	Sunnymount Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Mareeba Shire Council	Torwood Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Ferry Road

<b>Year</b>	<b>Funding Recipient</b>	<b>Project / Asset</b>
2021-22 (Cat E)	Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council	Farm Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council	Lower Weir Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council	Mount Bentley Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council	Sundowner Ridge Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council	Tip Bypass Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Paroo Shire Council	Humburn Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Paroo Shire Council	Mount Alfred Road
2021-22 (Cat E)	Quilpie Shire Council	Old Charleville Road - 16-3_4B-Quilpie – Combined
2021-22 (Cat E)	Richmond Shire Council	Richmond - Croydon Road (A1)
2021-22 (Cat E)	Torres Strait Island Regional Council	Dauan (Mt Cornwallis Island) - Reservoir Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Aurukun Shire Council	Aurukun Access Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Barcaldine Regional Council	Aramac-Jericho (West)
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Barcoo Shire Council	Yaraka Retreat Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Boulia Shire Council	Urandangi South Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Burdekin Shire Council	Butler Road (Ayr)
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Cloncurry Shire Council	Granada Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Cloncurry Shire Council	Granada Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Cook Shire Council	Cameron Creek Road R035-00
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Carpentaria Shire Council	Normanton - Burketown Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council	Wooloogarang West Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Burke Development Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Gregory Downs Camooweal Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Longreach Regional Council	Additional Area Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Longreach Regional Council	Arrilalah Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Longreach Regional Council	Bogewong Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Longreach Regional Council	Bude Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Longreach Regional Council	Campsie Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Longreach Regional Council	Crossmoor Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Longreach Regional Council	Darr River Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Longreach Regional Council	Emmet Yaraka Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Longreach Regional Council	Glenloch Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Longreach Regional Council	Isisford Bimerah Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Longreach Regional Council	Kensington Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Longreach Regional Council	Mernoo Lane
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Longreach Regional Council	Ruthven Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Longreach Regional Council	Silsoe Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Longreach Regional Council	Stonehenge River Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Longreach Regional Council	Total Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Longreach Regional Council	Yanburra Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Anu Crescent
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Army Back Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Atambya Street
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Bond Street
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Brown Street
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Danalgub Street
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Jacob Street
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Kulla Kulla Close
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Langie Draha Street
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Little Fletcher Street
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Little Lui Street
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Lui Street
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Mimi Close
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Moses Close
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Mudu Street
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Nawia Street
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Poi Poi Street
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Sebasio Street

<b>Year</b>	<b>Funding Recipient</b>	<b>Project / Asset</b>
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Snake Gully Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Stephen Close
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Ware Street
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	Wasiu Street
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council	Pormpuraaw Road
2022-2023 (Cat D)	Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council	Butler Bay Road

## ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### No. 7

#### QUESTION:

With reference to the Disaster Ready Fund, will the QRA advise-

- a) For round one in 2023-24, the 50 projects approved by the Government and the breakdown of funding source for each project by Federal, State and Council contributions; and
- b) For round two in 2024-25, the list of projects and the value of each?

#### ANSWER:

a) The Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) is funded by the Australian Government with projects supported by equivalent recipient contributions, with the exception of Indigenous councils which did not require a co-contribution, or where there was evidence the project will deliver high impact for a disproportionately at-risk community or otherwise contribute to the public benefit where there is a strong demonstrated need.

On 7 June 2023, the Australian Government announced the successful projects funded nationally across Australia through the \$200 million first round of the DRF.

The list of successful projects is published on QRA's website and listed below.

Project	Recipient	Commonwealth Funding	Contribution
<b>Total: 50 Projects</b>		<b>\$84,261,838.31</b>	<b>\$68,590,623.00</b>
The Burdekin Delta Community Disaster Shelters	Bur-Del Co-Operative Advancement Society Limited	\$1,349,000.00	\$1,349,000.00
Flood Mitigation Backflow Device – Water level sensors	Brisbane City Council	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
Shoreline Erosion Management - Cowan Cowan, Mulgumpin (Moreton Island)	Brisbane City Council	\$224,000.00	\$224,000.00
Live Stream Flood Monitoring Cameras	Brisbane City Council	\$200,000.00	\$300,000.00
Backflow device automation in Brisbane's CBD	Brisbane City Council	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
Flood Study Program	Brisbane City Council	\$950,000.00	\$950,000.00
Building Resilience in the Agricultural South Burnett	Burnett Catchment Care Association	\$288,500.00	\$291,520.00

<b>Project</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Commonwealth Funding</b>	<b>Contribution</b>
Flood Warning Infrastructure Doomadgee West Road – Lagoon and Branch Creek	Burke Shire Council	\$90,919.69	\$95,394.00
Cherbourg Disaster Early Warning System	Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council	\$292,363.43	\$0.00
Bluff Township Flood Mitigation Channel Construction	Central Highlands Regional Council	\$397,701.71	\$400,000.00
Chinaman Creek Dam, Monitoring and Early Warning Systems Project	Cloncurry Shire Council	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
Curry Kids Early Learning Centre – Emergency Generator	Cloncurry Shire Council	\$49,449.00	\$49,450.00
Building Evacuation and Sheltering Capacity - Assessment of places of refuge	Cairns Regional Council	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
Power supply security at 3 essential services for community resilience	Croydon Shire Council	\$98,412.00	\$98,412.00
Household Resilience Program - Phase 3	Department of Energy and Public Works	\$20,000,000.00	\$20,000,000.00
Small Business Disaster Hub – Upgrade	Department of Youth Justice, Employment, Small Business and Training	\$110,000.00	\$110,000.00
State-wide Disaster Ready Imagery	Department of Resources	\$2,500,000.00	\$2,500,000.00
South East Queensland Flood Resilience Program	Energy Queensland Limited	\$8,970,000.00	\$8,970,000.00
Severe Wind Strata Study and Industry Engagement	City of Gold Coast	\$200,000.00	\$275,000.00
Upgrading existing stormwater outlets to gated outlets.	Goondiwindi Regional Council	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00
Design and Construct Round Hill Reservoir 2	Gladstone Regional Council	\$4,262,017.10	\$4,372,000.00
Private sector-driven managed retreat of at-risk settlements: An SEQ pilot	Griffith University	\$600,000.00	\$687,000.00
Reprofiling of Castorina Island, Lower Herbert River	Herbert River Improvement Trust	\$255,000.00	\$255,000.00
Flood warning infrastructure resilience upgrades	Isaac Regional Council	\$376,500.00	\$376,500.00
Laidley Disaster Ready Project (Flood) – Phase 1	Lockyer Valley Regional Council	\$2,070,092.00	\$2,070,093.00

<b>Project</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Commonwealth Funding</b>	<b>Contribution</b>
Detailed Design – Training Wall Levee	Mackay Regional Council	\$555,225.00	\$555,225.00
Dohles Rocks (Griffin) Coastal Hazards Defence Business Case Development	Moreton Bay Regional Council	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
Crockatt Park Seawall Renewal	Moreton Bay Regional Council	\$4,500,000.00	\$4,500,000.00
Flinders Parade Cliffs Protection	Moreton Bay Regional Council	\$750,000.00	\$750,000.00
Bray Park - Leone Street - Drainage Construction	Moreton Bay Regional Council	\$2,095,000.00	\$2,095,000.00
Solar Panels and Battery Storage for Disaster Resilience	Mount Isa City Council	\$851,435.00	\$851,435.00
Drainage Investigations Lee Ding Street Catchment	Napranum Aboriginal Shire Council	\$47,225.00	\$0.00
Northern Peninsula Area Place of Refuge (Priority 2)	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	\$1,381,000.00	\$506,000.00
Noosa Shire Council's Noosa Main Beach Sea Wall Detailed Design	Noosa Shire Council	\$275,000.00	\$275,000.00
Generator Installations – Noosaville Depot, Tewantin Administration Building	Noosa Shire Council	\$98,453.00	\$98,453.00
Pormpuraaw Aerodrome Upgrade	Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council	\$14,917,374.00	\$0.00
Palm Island Cyclone Shelter (multi-purpose – community hall)	Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council	\$240,000.00	\$0.00
Paroo Emergency Power	Paroo Shire Council	\$222,625.00	\$222,625.00
Regional Disaster Ready	Neighbourhood Centres Queensland	\$531,924.00	\$537,339.00
Landslide and dam stability risk reduction via multiscale site monitoring	Queensland University of Technology	\$212,701.71	\$318,060.00
Coastal Protection Works–Karragarra Esplanade Seawall–Karragarra Island	Redland City Council	\$173,455.00	\$173,455.00
Fitzroy River Barrage Raising Project Business Case Development	Rockhampton Regional Council	\$685,000.00	\$685,000.00
Evacuation Centre Emergency Generator	Rockhampton Regional Council	\$216,400.00	\$216,400.00
Advanced Communications Module on Disaster Dashboard	Rockhampton Regional Council	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00

<b>Project</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Commonwealth Funding</b>	<b>Contribution</b>
New Seawall – Mooloolaba Foreshore Revitalisation Project	Sunshine Coast Regional Council	\$7,950,000.00	\$8,151,000.00
Cool Urban Forests – Street Tree Planting Project	Sunshine Coast Regional Council	\$3,210,000.00	\$3,210,000.00
Toogoolawah (Dingyarra St) flood mitigation project	Somerset Regional Council	\$1,020,816.00	\$1,024,327.00
Setting an urban greening target for the Scenic Rim	Scenic Rim Regional Council	\$111,000.00	\$111,100.00
Detailed Design for the Reconstruction of Duck Creek Road	Scenic Rim Regional Council	\$127,249.67	\$130,835.00
Tide Valve and Gate Study	Townsville City Council	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00

b) I am advised the Commonwealth is currently assessing Queensland's project applications for DRF Round 2.

## **ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING**

### **QUESTION ON NOTICE**

#### **No. 8**

#### **QUESTION:**

With reference to the report dated 2nd December 2022 by the ABC on the alleged assault of a teenage girl at the Wacol facility. Given your predecessor advises two (2) reviews were associated to the alleged incident, will the Minister advise:

- a) Have all recommendations of the review conducted by an external body been fully implemented and, if so, what was the total cost;
- b) Has the review by the Professional Standards and Governance Command been completed and, if so, when was it provided to the Minister;
- c) Have all recommendations of the review by the Professional Standards and Governance Command been implemented and, if so, what was the total cost; and
- d) When will both reviews be made available to the public.

#### **ANSWER:**

The recommendations from the review conducted by an external body have been substantively implemented. I am advised by Queensland Corrective Services that all recommendations have been considered and addressed and where not implemented as recommended, alternate strategies have been implemented to address the identified issues.

Security upgrades included clearing of vegetation around the perimeter of the precinct to improve visibility, installing additional lighting and CCTV cameras to provide better coverage of the precinct and to assist in detection of unauthorised movements. A new 3-metre-high precinct boundary fence has been installed outside the existing chain wire fence, with CCTV cameras providing visibility along the perimeter line and additional signage to deter unauthorised entry.

Bollards and fencing have been installed to restrict vehicular access within certain areas of the precinct. A boom gate to control vehicle entry to the facility has also been installed with video monitored entry.

These upgrades have significantly enhanced the physical and surveillance security profile of the precinct with a total of approximately \$2 million invested.

I have been advised the review by the Professional Standards and Governance Command has been completed. Queensland Corrective Services advise that due to the operational nature of the report they did not provide a copy of the review to the Minister.

I am advised, all four (4) recommendations of the review by the Professional Standards and Governance Command have been implemented. There was no cost associated with implementing the recommendations.

These reports, by their nature, include sensitive operational information which has the potential to impact the safety and security of the precinct or reveal strategies employed by Queensland Corrective Services' officers in the management of offenders, should they be released publicly. For these reasons the reports will not be released publicly.

I can confirm that in response QCS has enhanced training for staff tailored to their roles, increased collaboration with Queensland Police Service and enhanced case management practices.

## ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### No. 9

#### QUESTION:

With reference to the increased funding provided in the SDS page 2, what additional allocation is provided to ensure detainees in corrective services, including those transferred from youth justice system, receive appropriate rehabilitation, training and life skills, to reduce recidivism?

#### ANSWER:

Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) enhances community safety through humane, modern, sustainable, and evidence-informed corrective services to maximise rehabilitation and reduce recidivism. Reducing recidivism is a key part of how QCS contributes to keeping Queenslanders safe.

Addressing recidivism is a complex issue. QCS' professional and dedicated staff work every day as role models and agents of change to ensure prisoners and offenders are less likely to reoffend.

Queensland's 2022-23 recidivism rate of 49.4% was a reduction from the 2021-22 rate of 52.0%.

QCS works to reduce recidivism through prisoner and offender centred assessment, interventions, End-to-End case management, psychological support, and re-entry services.

QCS provides a range of evidence-informed rehabilitation programs, services, education and training opportunities that aim to address offending behaviour and positively re-integrate offenders to the community.

Intervention programs are available to address sexual offending, violent offending, general offending, substance use and psychological wellbeing, complemented by a range of other desistance programs that are provided by external services with expertise in relevant areas.

Education and training options offered in correctional centres include literacy and numeracy programs, vocational education and training, secondary and tertiary education courses. Vocational education and training courses, and units of competencies align to state skill shortages that identify a pathway to employment, including a traineeship or an apprenticeship. Through education and training, prisoners can gain skills in a range of industries, for example welding, mining and hospitality. Valuable life skills can also be developed such as budgeting, cooking, cleaning, laundry and gardening.

Contracted re-entry services also provide both pre and post release support to individuals transitioning to the community.

QCS was allocated \$14.8 million over two (2) years in the 2024-25 budget to deliver domestic and family violence perpetrator programs that support rehabilitation and re-entry to the community.

The need for intervention to address domestic and family violence is high, with 4,539 of 10,878 prisoners (41.7%) in custody being subject to an imprisonment or remand warrant with a domestic violence offence indicator.

Currently the *Disrupting Family Violence Program* is delivered at Woodford, Wolston, Maryborough and Capricornia Correctional Centres. The additional \$14.8 million allocated to the department to deliver domestic and family violence perpetrator programs that support rehabilitation and re-entry to the community will enable increased delivery of domestic and family violence perpetrator programs with planning currently underway to expand on program delivery within QCS correctional centres.

Youth transferred into QCS custody are assessed on an individual basis to identify suitable programs and interventions within the adult system. Consideration is given to potential management including vulnerability, safety and behavioural concerns. Vocational and educational preferences of the youth are also considered in conjunction with best placement where able.

## **ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING**

### **QUESTION ON NOTICE**

#### **No. 10**

#### **QUESTION:**

With reference to Queensland Fire Department expenses on page 4 of the SDS, what funding increases have been made to address the predicted impact of climate change on the frequency and impact of fires and the needed increases in resources and facilities to mitigate, such as the Tinbeerwah rural fire station?

#### **ANSWER:**

With the influence of climate change, disasters such as bushfires are becoming more extreme and complex.

In 2024–25, this Government is providing more than \$1.09 billion for the Queensland Fire Department (QFD), including more than \$960 million in operating funding to support the delivery of essential emergency, safety, mitigation and response services to Queensland. QFD will also have a capital budget of \$138.40 million to fund fire and emergency services facilities, fleet program, and essential operational equipment and information systems across both of QFD's fire services.

With reference to the QFD SDS, the Government has recognised the importance of an increased investment to bolster resources and enhance facilities to respond to our communities during Queensland's fire and severe weather seasons.

One way this funding is being used to address the impact of climate change is through the Rural Fire Service Queensland's (RFSQ) Resource to Risk (R2R) program. The R2R program model will inform the RFSQ's resource asset and investment plans, using data, including emerging patterns in climate change, to deliver an appropriate service with a focus on where it is needed most.

Incorporating brigade, area, district and regional knowledge, the R2R model will apply a careful and considered process to the allocation of resources and infrastructure to RFSQ fire brigades, based on available data and statistics detailing the past, current and future service delivery needs and underpinned by evidence-based decision making.

The RFSQ 2024–25 budget of \$121.8 million will assist to fund the R2R program, as well as funding additional RFSQ staff, new appliances, facilities and equipment, which will benefit all Rural Fire Service Queensland Brigades across the state like the Tinbeerwah and District Rural Fire Brigade in the Noosa Electorate.

This 2024-25 budget allocation for the RFSQ is a 20% increase compared to 2023-24 and will support and enhance fire service delivery in our rural areas and enable QFD to position itself to meet the challenges that Queensland faces both now and into the future due to climate change and the increase in the regularity and intensity of natural events such as bushfire.

## ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### No. 11

#### QUESTION:

With reference to page 1 of the SDS, will the Minister please update the Committee on the new Queensland Fire Department and how this will enhance service delivery for Queenslanders?

#### ANSWER:

The establishment of a dedicated fire department will bring renewed focus to firefighting in Queensland, as the state continues to address the increasing challenges of population growth and climate change.

The renewed focus of the Queensland Fire Department (QFD) will result in more people and better equipment for those services.

In 2024–25, this Government is providing more than \$1.09 billion for QFD, including more than \$960 million in operating funding to support the delivery of essential emergency, safety, mitigation and response services to Queensland. QFD will also have a capital budget of \$138.40 million to fund fire and emergency services facilities, fleet program, and essential operational equipment and information systems.

This Government recognises the vital role played by QFD in creating safer communities through contemporary fire and emergency services.

Queensland Fire and Rescue (QFR) will continue to maintain a responsive service delivering state-of-the-art fire response, rescue, scientific and specialist capabilities to Queensland communities.

QFD is committed to ensuring that it equips QFR with fit-for-purpose vehicles and appliances. QFR has been allocated \$140.3 million for a five-year program from 2025–26 financial year to 2029–30. This funding expects to deliver approximately 202 new and or replacement appliances. The specifications for the type 2 and 3 QFR appliances are currently being developed with consideration to opportunities to enhance innovation on the appliances.

QFR has also been allocated \$5 million in funding to purchase priority fire safety equipment such as thermal imaging cameras and rapid intervention team kits to improve situational awareness and rescue capabilities for Queensland's firefighters.

Key enhancements for Rural Fire Service Queensland (RFSQ) service delivery include improved facilities and equipment, uplift of 114 full-time equivalent (FTE) staff, better equipment and technology, modern appliances and protections for volunteers.

Operational equipment delivered includes incident management kits, and ICT equipment for staff to be recruited for the 114 FTE uplift. As at 18 July 2024, RFSQ has completed initial recruitment of 37 of the total 114 additional positions committed by government. Recruitment of the remaining 77 additional frontline staff will continue in 2024–25.

By providing additional resources, rural fire brigades and locally based staff can actively participate in community education programs. These programs focus on educating residents about fire safety, evacuation plans, and preventive measures, ultimately contributing to risk reduction. RFSQ continues to actively engage with the community to promote bushfire preparedness. RFSQ has conducted over 120 community engagement activities, including targeted efforts in high-risk locations.

RFSQ's ongoing program to uplift its fleet and equipment statewide continues to enhance RFSQ service delivery. Over a three year period, it is proposed RFSQ will deliver 285 new and replacement trucks, with a budget of \$85 million dedicated to this fleet upgrade.

RFSQ operates over 700 medium attack fire appliances, which play a critical role in firefighting operations. In 2022, QFES committed \$3 million over three years to retrofit the first 205 RFSQ medium attack appliances with a low-pressure crew protection spray (deluge system). This system significantly enhances crew safety during burn-over situations by dispersing water and/or foam over the cab of the appliance. The retrofit program was successfully implemented across the state and completed ahead of schedule in November 2023.

Additionally, QFD has committed an additional \$2.8 million to retrofit a further 210 RFSQ medium appliances over the next two years. To minimise future retrofits, RFSQ appliance specifications have been updated with new safety features, including deluge systems, radiant heat shield curtains and roll-over protection to further increase crew safety.

These investments support the ability of RFSQ personnel to effectively combat fires. Enhanced safety measures reduce the risk of injury during firefighting operations, while more efficient appliances allow quicker response times; minimising damage and saving lives.

QFD plays a vital role in ensuring communities are well informed about bushfire safety, home fire safety and fire escape plans and smoke alarms to reduce loss of life and impacts on the community. With the renewed focus, QFD will invest \$3.55 million in 2024–25 in public safety advertising campaigns to address bushfire and home fire safety.

The Queensland-wide Bushfire Safety campaign, 'Respect it or Regret it', aims to build community capability and resilience, prevent loss of life and minimise damage from bushfires. The first phase in June and July 2024 helped Queenslanders identify and accept risk and encouraged them to prepare their household and property and complete a Bushfire Survival Plan. The second phase from August 2024 will urge residents to base their seasonal planning around bushfire weather conditions and the Fire Danger Ratings and if a fire starts, urges them to take action based on the warnings advice.

The Home Fire Safety 'Plan to Survive' campaign ran from March to June 2024 in the lead up to winter, a historically high-risk period with increased use of heating appliances. The campaign aimed to educate residents that having and practising a home fire escape plan and having interconnected photoelectric smoke alarms can help families survive.

QFD also produces an important smoke alarm search engine marketing campaign that runs year-round by linking Queenslanders searching on Google to accurate information about the legislative requirements. The campaign enables owner-occupiers, landlords, property managers and investors to take action to comply with the smoke alarm legislation as soon as possible, giving them a direct link to authoritative information about how to comply.

The free Safehome program is delivered by QFD operational firefighters to help Queensland residents understand fire safety hazards in and around their homes. Between 1 July 2023 and 30 June 2024, 326 Safehome visits were conducted. Residents who are serviced by RFSQ volunteers are offered a property advice visit which includes a Safehome kit and specific information around bushfire safety and preparing their property.

QFR firefighters work with Queensland teachers of year one students to deliver the Fire Ed program. The program aims to build basic fire safety awareness and works to establish trust with firefighters. From 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024, the Fire Ed program was delivered to approximately 45,500 year one students in 690 schools across Queensland.

Fight Fire Fascination is an educational initiative that works with individual young persons aged 3 to 17 who have been involved in at least one concerning fire incident. The program was reinstated by the Labor Government, after it was cut by the LNP in 2012, and is delivered by specially trained operational firefighters to teach respect for fire and develop fire safety skills. The program works in partnership with schools, mental health services, and community agencies to support young persons and their families. From 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024, firefighters worked with 79 young persons.

In addition, QFD continues to engage with communities at local events across the state to promote the home fire safety message and build relationships with local residents. QFD provided over 25,000 copies of the home fire escape planner tool to residents. A translated instructional version of this product is also available in 11 languages.

## ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 12

#### QUESTION:

With reference to page 5 of the SDS, will the Minister please update the Committee on the delivery of new and upgraded rural fire brigade facilities across Queensland?

#### ANSWER:

The Miles Government has committed \$13.6 million of the 2024-25 Queensland Fire Department capital program to continue the delivery of new or upgraded rural fire brigade stations, facilities and land acquisitions across the State. This includes \$11.6 million for new or upgraded rural fire brigade stations, \$1.5 million to upgrade rural fire services facilities, and \$0.5 million for rural land acquisitions.

This funding commitment will provide for new and upgraded infrastructure, including new stations for Abbot Point, Bamaga, Biggenden, Maryborough, Mount Alford, Moore Linville and Mount Ossa brigades. Bell Town, Biddaddaba, Delaneys Creek, Mulgowie, and Swan and Emu Creek brigades will also benefit through replacement stations to ensure contemporary facilities for volunteers.

Further information about the Queensland Fire Department capital program can be found in *Budget Paper No. 3 Capital Statement*.

## **ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING**

### **QUESTION ON NOTICE**

#### **No. 13**

#### **QUESTION:**

With reference to page 5 of the SDS, will the Minister please advise the Committee on the investment being made in appliances for Rural Fire Service Queensland and how this will benefit volunteers ahead of the upcoming bushfire season?

#### **ANSWER:**

Rural Fire Service Queensland (RFSQ) plays a crucial role in keeping Queensland communities safe and the government is committed to ensuring that RFSQ is well equipped with fit-for-purpose vehicles and appliances. This includes water tankers; light, medium and heavy attack appliances; command vehicles; support vehicles and utility off-road vehicles.

I am advised that RFSQ's current build program has delivered 40 appliances since 2022-23 with 77 appliances scheduled to be delivered in 2024-25 and 30 appliances to be carried over to 2025-26 due to supply chain challenges.

In 2023-24, it was announced that the Queensland Fire Department (QFD) would invest an additional \$85.35 million to deliver approximately 285 additional RFSQ appliances across three financial years. The tender process has already commenced with some build contracts awarded and the remainder expected to be awarded by the first quarter of 2024-25. Final build numbers and delivery schedules will be confirmed at that time.

In 2024-25, \$19.5 million has been allocated for new and replacement RFSQ appliances to further support the work of our volunteers in reducing the impacts of bushfires on their communities. I am advised that these appliances are designed with the latest safety features and technology ensuring effective firefighting capabilities and enhanced personnel safety.

Further, QFD has also committed an additional \$2.8 million in 2024-25 to retrofit a further 210 RFSQ medium attack appliances over the next two years. This investment follows the successful program completed in November 2023 which saw 205 RFSQ appliances retrofitted with a low-pressure crew protection spray (deluge system). This deluge system provides the crew with a significant increase in safety when faced with a burn over situation.

## **ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING**

### **QUESTION ON NOTICE**

#### **No. 14**

#### **QUESTION:**

With reference to page 1 of the SDS outlining the QFD strategic objectives, including safe and effective response to manage consequences of fires and other emergencies, can the Minister please provide information on the work being undertaken to ensure QFD is well prepared and maintains a deployable response capability?

#### **ANSWER:**

The Queensland Fire Department (QFD) is well prepared to deploy significant resources to meet emergencies which may face Queensland's communities.

The community benefits from QFD undertaking extensive training in various incident management roles and this training enhances incident management capability across the State. The training includes Rural Fire Service Queensland staff, volunteers and Queensland Fire and Rescue personnel, with level 3 Incident Controllers managing severe incidents and a diverse range of other incident management team roles.

QFD's ability to deploy rapidly is demonstrated by the regular provision of assistance to our international colleagues, including the recent deployment of QFD personnel to Canada. As a respected agency nationally, QFD meets international and interstate requests for assistance and these tested deployments mean that QFD can quickly call upon similar support from other jurisdictions if and when needed.

In addition to deployment readiness, QFD engages in preparedness activities internally and with its partners. These activities include hazard reduction burns, community engagement, community education and media campaigns. These efforts ensure readiness to respond to fires and support interoperability before the upcoming bushfire season. Ground personnel, supported by a significant air operations capability, have proven their significant value in recent bushfire seasons.

Queensland also has access to over 150 call-when-needed aircraft and National Aerial Firefighting Centre contracted aircraft capable of performing water-bombing, airborne coordination, or intelligence gathering functions in support of ground crews during bushfires and other emergency events. A total of 13 contracted services will be available for the 2024-25 bushfire season, beginning in September 2024. QFD Air Operations is currently planning pre-season briefings to assist with preparations for the season and response.

## ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### No. 15

#### QUESTION:

With reference to page 13 of the SDS, will the Minister please advise the committee how the Queensland Government has supported the many Queensland communities impacted by natural disasters in 2023–24, including bushfires, flooding, storms and cyclones?

#### ANSWER:

During the 2023-24 disaster season, Queenslanders have once again been impacted by tropical cyclones, multiple widespread flooding events and devastating bushfires. Communities across 66 of our 77 LGAs have been left with clean-up and recovery tasks from 13 separate natural disaster events that have struck since 1 July 2023.

The current estimate of the reconstruction bill funded under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) exceeds \$2.5 billion.

More than \$78.1 million in personal hardship grants have been paid to bushfire, cyclone, and flood-affected Queenslanders, benefiting approximately 377,500 people.

DRFA assistance to councils and agencies across all affected areas will reimburse them for costs incurred in counter disaster operations, such as sandbagging for floods and waterbombing for bushfires, and provide funding for the restoration of essential public assets like damaged roads, floodways and bridges.

As at 3 July 2024, 1,416 DRFA grants to primary producers, small businesses and not for profit agencies have been approved, valued at more than \$18.64 million. We have recently extended the period to apply for these grants until the end of 2024.

In addition, 33 low interest DRFA disaster assistance loans valued at more than \$3.5 million have been approved to assist small businesses, not for profit organisations and primary producers.

More than \$6.4 million in grants have been approved for 83 Tourism Operators, with more than \$2.3 million already paid.

11,266 initial damage assessments were carried out in disaster-affected communities in the immediate aftermath of the events with minor damage to 1,572 properties, moderate damage to 1,239, severe damage to 393 and 194 properties destroyed.

In April and May, QRA undertook the first Damage Assessment and Reconstruction Monitoring operation to monitor recovery progress of properties impacted by Tropical Cyclone Jasper, Tropical Cyclone Kirrily, and the SQ Christmas Storms.

Following these assessments, I'm pleased to confirm approximately 60 per cent of impacted properties are no longer damaged or have repairs underway.

In May, the latest round of exceptional circumstances DRFA packages was announced by the State and Commonwealth Governments. Combined with

previously announced programs, more than \$247 million has been jointly funded to support recovery.

This includes funding for clean-up efforts, mental health and community wellbeing, the environment, sport and recreation assets, tourism recovery, and to ensure farmers and small businesses get the helping hand they need.

QRA continues to work closely with the Commonwealth to develop further targeted funding packages to support the recovery and resilience of communities hardest hit.

The Queensland Government is committed to ensuring wherever and whenever disaster strikes, our communities receive the assistance they need to get back on their feet and look forward to a brighter tomorrow.

## **ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING**

### **QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**No. 16**

#### **QUESTION:**

With reference to page 15 of the SDS, will the Minister please advise the committee how much Betterment funding is currently underway, and has the QRA calculated the avoided costs associated with this program?

#### **ANSWER:**

Betterment funding allows councils and state agencies to improve roads, drainage, bridges and floodways to better withstand the impacts of natural disasters.

Since 2013, more than 750 Betterment projects across Queensland have been approved, with more than \$533 million allocated for Betterment programs in response to severe natural disasters.

From an investment of \$244 million in projects across LGAs that have been activated, some on multiple occasions in a given year, it is estimated that approximately \$988 million has been saved in avoided reconstruction costs.

## **ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING**

### **QUESTION ON NOTICE**

#### **No. 17**

#### **QUESTION:**

With reference to the objective of Queensland Corrective Services “to provide humane containment, supervision and rehabilitation of prisoners and offenders and prevent crime, making Queensland safer”, will the Minister outline what this government is doing to reduce recidivism?

#### **ANSWER:**

This Government announced the 2024-25 budget allocation for Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) is \$1.882 billion to enhance the safety of Queenslanders through modern, sustainable, and evidence-based corrective services that reduce recidivism.

In the 2024–25 Queensland Budget, the government is providing \$333.6M over 4 years for asset improvements to support the safe operation of correctional centres. The asset improvement program is an investment to the department’s \$5.3 billion building asset base focusing on the replacement of assets nearing end of life as well as expanding the infrastructure services capacity of the system to match the current and future demand requirements. This program incorporates critical infrastructure, life safety systems, capacity relief services, condition backlog, protective security framework compliance and secure prisoner transport.

This Government is also providing \$111.9M over 4 years to construct and operate additional prison capacity to sustainably manage a growing prisoner population. The additional funding supports the short- and medium-term impacts of Queensland’s growing prison population and includes ancillary infrastructure (such as program rooms and office space) for 119 additional low security beds coming online by October 2024 and an additional 64 beds at Palen Creek Correctional Centre to be delivered in 2026.

Further, this Government is providing \$14.8M over 2 years to deliver domestic and family violence perpetrator programs that support rehabilitation and re-entry to the community.

Addressing recidivism is complex in nature and is influenced by many variables. Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) has professional and dedicated staff working every day as role models and agents of change to ensure prisoners and offenders are less likely to reoffend.

Queensland’s 2022-23 recidivism rate of 49.4% was a reduction from the 2021-22 rate of 52.0%.

QCS works to reduce recidivism through prisoner and offender centred assessment, interventions, End-to-End case management, psychological support, and re-entry services.

This government also provides a range of programs, services, education, training, and employment opportunities to prisoners to encourage prosocial behaviour and reduce the likelihood of reoffending.

The ability to progress through the correctional system is also a key factor in successful rehabilitation. Prisoners generally start their sentence in secure units and work towards progression to residential units, and, where appropriate, to low security facilities before their release.

The progression model encourages and rewards good behaviour, consequently improving safety for officers and prisoners. If at any point the prisoner breaks the rules, they risk being returned to high security.

Providing prisoners with the opportunity to demonstrate positive behaviours and prove they can abide by the conditions in a low security setting, is a valuable stepping stone to successful rehabilitation and reintegration into the community.

For individuals under community supervision, QCS' Community Corrections officers expertly tailor their supervision and case management to the needs of each offender, to reduce the likelihood of reoffending.

## ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### No. 18

#### QUESTION:

Will the Minister please provide an update on how this government is managing the increase in prisoner population, as a consequence of being tough on crime?

#### ANSWER:

Queensland Corrective Services has continued to safely manage the demands of the increasing prison population and work collaboratively with other agencies to implement innovative responses to manage the ongoing demand on the criminal justice system.

This Government has implemented a number of short, medium, and long-term strategies to address capacity constraints including:

- The new 1,536-bed health and rehabilitation designed Lockyer Valley Correctional Centre (LVCC), due to commence commissioning by the end of 2024.
- An expanded Capricornia Correctional Centre, delivering 398 beds across 348 cells to ease the pressures of growing prisoner numbers.
- An additional 736 beds across 492 cells through the re-commissioning of Borallon Training and Correctional Centre.
- The conversion of the Southern Queensland Correctional Centre to a women's facility in 2018, providing immediate relief to the women's correctional system.
- The delivery of purpose-built bunk beds retrofitted to cells across Queensland to get prisoners off mattresses on the floor, meaning that by the end 2024-25, approximately 6,300 additional beds including more than 3,200 bunk beds will have been delivered since 2015.
- Planning for additional low security capacity to be constructed at Lotus Glen, Townsville and Numinbah correctional centres.

Additionally, some key initiatives progressed by Government to address demand on Queensland's custodial capacity, while also managing and mitigating issues and risks presented by high prisoner numbers, include:

- Implementation of recommendations from the 2016 Queensland Parole System Review centred around increasing rehabilitation opportunities for prisoners to address the underlying causes of offending behaviour and recidivism prior to release.
- Increased funding to support Parole Board Queensland operations and continue efficient consideration of parole matters.
- Expansion of re-entry services to aid the transition of prisoners back into the community to reduce their likelihood of reoffending and returning to custody.
- Commencement of activities to implement an Enhanced Community Corrections Pilot in Townsville to reduce the imprisonment of First Nations peoples.
- Establishment of a dedicated Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) Women's System Reform Program Management Office and a Women's Strategy Steering Committee to plan and execute the implementation of the Women's Safety and

Justice Taskforce reforms in response to *Hear her voice – Women and girls' experiences across the criminal justice system* (Report Two).

QCS, in collaboration with other Government agencies, will continue to develop options to address current and future capacity needs.

## ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING

### QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### No. 19

#### QUESTION:

Will the Minister please advise what is being done to ensure that the wellbeing of hardworking frontline corrections staff is looked after?

#### ANSWER:

This Government is committed to protecting the health, safety and wellbeing of all frontline staff. Queensland Corrective Services is committed to providing integrated programs and initiatives to support staff wellbeing with a continued focus on preventative and early intervention measures.

This includes the continued delivery of the Mental Health Training Matrix including the *Healthy Minds* mandatory training package for all frontline CCOs and Case Managers within Community Corrections. *Healthy Minds* is an internally developed training package that covers common and complex reactions to trauma, psychological first aid, self-care and resilience. Psychological first aid is an evidence-based early intervention strategy for trauma and vicarious trauma. As at 17 July 2024, 3,142 staff have completed this classroom-based training package and planning has commenced around a refresher training schedule. The Mental Health Training Matrix also involves online training packages via the Learning Management System, including those developed in partnership with industry leaders, that focus on suicide prevention, leadership capability, support pathways and stigma reduction.

Further, QCS implemented a centralised critical incident framework to complement the current trauma-informed, stepped-care approach to critical incident support. QCS commenced various early intervention program trials across the agency including integrated onsite support, wellbeing debriefs and proactive 'well-checks' for high-risk teams.

QCS have also implemented a statewide psychosocial risk management framework to thoroughly identify, assess, control and monitor psychosocial risks across all workgroups and continued partnership with our Employee Assistance Program provider, Converge International. This service offers employees a suite of holistically focused services, proactive engagement with operational sites and management teams and an increased focus on integration and preventative support and the provision of consultancy services to operational and corporate areas of QCS on matters such as managing exposure to trauma, environmental safety, operational training and issues of staff welfare.

In relation to physical wellbeing and in acknowledgement of the need for flexibility of access due to shiftwork, QCS continues to partner with Fitness Passport to help facilitate gym and health club access for staff across the state.

## **ESTIMATES PRE-HEARING**

### **QUESTION ON NOTICE**

#### **No. 20**

#### **QUESTION:**

Will the Minister please provide the Committee with an update on progress for the recruitment of more than 800 staff for the Lockyer Valley Correctional Centre?

#### **ANSWER:**

Queensland Corrective Services is currently recruiting to roles for the new Lockyer Valley Correctional Centre located near Gatton.

800+ custodial and non-custodial roles are required for the centre.

Custodial roles include Custodial Correctional Officers (CCOs), Correctional Supervisors, Dog Handlers and Trade Instructors. Non-custodial roles include Psychologists, Social Workers, Occupational Therapists, Education and Program Officers, and Administration Officers.

As at 22 July 2024, a total of 325 of the 800 LVCC positions have been filled. This includes, 230 CCOs and 95 non-custodial staff who will provide safety to the adults in custody, and security to the broader Queensland community.

In addition, 116 recruits are currently completing their training in Gatton and Toowoomba and will be appointed to LVCC upon graduation.

Advertising started 10 months ago, in October 2023. All roles are advertised on SmartJobs – the Queensland Government recruitment portal as well as other job platforms and industry noticeboards.

To attract officers to the centre, the department has undertaken its first major advertising campaign. The campaign, which was completed in June 2024, and has been successful in attracting 315,606 hits to its recruitment website, has enabled the department to fill its roles to date.

This major advertising campaign has been refreshed and advertising on social media, radio, in newspapers and on billboards is expected to be available by early August 2024. This is to ensure that the remaining roles are filled for commissioning and centre opening.