



Speech By  
**Hon. Craig Crawford**


**MEMBER FOR BARRON RIVER**

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Record of Proceedings, 19 September 2018

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Queensland Fire and Emergency Services, Resources**

 **Hon. CD CRAWFORD** (Barron River—ALP) (Minister for Fire and Emergency Services) (9.54 am): The Palaszczuk government's record \$702 million QFES budget for 2018-19 will deliver jobs and upgraded front-line services right across this fantastic state. As the Premier announced in her ministerial statement, we are delighted to announce today where the first round of 180 new urban and rural QFES appliances will be delivered under our record budget.

QFES has determined the destinations for the first 61 of the new fire and rescue appliances to be delivered this financial year across Queensland. This is based on operational priorities. We are talking about urban pumpers, aerial appliances and specialist appliances, many of these worth from half a million dollars to over a million dollars each, so that our front-line firefighters can continue to manage the structure fires, the hazardous materials incidents, the swiftwater rescues, and the grass and scrub fires that they deal with every day.

Fifteen appliances will be delivered into the Brisbane region this financial year. Twelve will go to the south-western region including Toowoomba from where we will be governing from the regions next week; 10 will go to the far northern region; nine will go to the north coast region; eight will go to the south eastern region; six will go to the central region; and one will go to the northern region.

The Palaszczuk government is committed to ensuring that QFES has the people, the infrastructure and the equipment to deliver enhanced services and support. Our budget includes \$44.3 million to deliver the 180 new urban and rural appliances. We still have 119 to go for the Rural Fire Service and we will be announcing the locations of those in the near future.

Our investment builds on the work already undertaken by this government to renew QFES's fleet. The 180 coming this year are on the back of more than 100 delivered in the last financial year. Over two financial years that is 280 new fire appliances for QFES across this wonderful state. The best thing is that they are completed locally through Queensland based companies.

We realise how vital it is that our front-line firefighters and volunteers have access to state-of-the-art equipment and infrastructure. Queensland's diverse mix of residents and tourists requires state-of-the-art equipment to ensure that our highly trained front-line personnel can continue to provide a world-class service to communities from the far north to down to the border. The new appliances will be an invaluable addition to the fire and rescue fleet, and I am sure the vehicles earmarked for our Rural Fire Service will be welcomed by our 36,000 volunteers, who have been busy lately battling bushfires and protecting our community.