

**Question on Notice No. 209, Tuesday, 27 April 2004**

**Mrs E Cunningham** asked the Minister for Emergency Services (Mr Cummins) -

With reference to the industry mix in the Gladstone Electorate which reflects a high risk profile and as an incident on most sites would require breathing apparatus – will he review crewing levels at the Gladstone Station to ensure a 1 + 3 turnout at all times to enable complying breathing apparatus use?

**Mr CUMMINS:**

I am proud of the great job our fire fighters, auxiliaries and rural brigades do across Queensland.

As well as our outstanding firefighters, here in Queensland, emergency services has over 7,800 full time and part time employees as well as over 88,000 volunteers who save Queenslanders lives every day. They do a great job.

The city of Gladstone and the surrounding industrial areas are serviced by a 24-hour, seven days per week permanently crewed station in Gladstone, as well as auxiliary firefighters at the Gladstone, Boyne Island and Calliope Fire Stations.

This Government has implemented various strategies, in consultation with the United Firefighters' Union (UFU), to establish and maintain a minimum crew of 1+3 and during 2003, the QFRS maintained crewing levels of 1+3 in approximately 98%-99% of all shifts, including the Gladstone Station.

All structural fires in Gladstone attract a minimum response of two fire appliances, as per standard mobilising procedure. I am advised that the second and any additional appliances can be crewed through the call back of Gladstone full-time staff or by auxiliary staff from the Gladstone, Boyne Island or Calliope Stations.