

**Question on Notice No. 799, Tuesday, 17 August 2004**

**Mr MULHERNIN** asked the Minister for Emergency Services (Mr Cummins) - With reference to the appointment of an additional fire fighter at Mackay who is a graduate of the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service (QFRS) academy – How is the QFRS ensuring our recruits are among the best trained in the world?

**Mr CUMMINS:**

I thank the Member for his Question and would like to congratulate him on his ongoing strong support for Emergency Services within his electorate.

The Queensland Fire and Rescue Service (QFRS) Academy (Whyte Island) is a purpose built and approved facility that allows firefighters at all levels throughout their career to receive the right combination of professional learning and development, and practical skills development.

The QFRS Recruit Program is well known to other Fire Services in Australia as the best currently offered. The Recruit Program allows successful graduates to complete training with a Nationally Accredited Certificate II and Certificate III in Public Safety (Firefighting and Emergency Operations) from the Public Safety Training Package. Following the completion of the Certificate III, candidates enrol into a Diploma of Fire and Rescue Operations for the next 2½ years.

Training is provided in Breathing Apparatus, Road Accident Rescue, Technical Rescue incorporating Vertical Rescue, Introduction to Trench and Confined Space, Hazardous Material Management at the Education Centre. The Live Fire Campus provides training facilities for development in Incident Scenarios, Compartment Firefighting and Petro-Chemical Firefighting.