

Question on Notice
No. 398
Asked on 28 March 2006

MRS MILLER asked the Minister for Emergency Services (MR PURCELL)

QUESTION:

How does the Queensland Fire Service, in particular the Bundamba Fire Station, assist the local community in fire prevention campaigns and other community events such as fetes and school events?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for her Question and would like to congratulate her on her ongoing strong support for the Emergency Services within her electorate. The Beattie Government is continuing to demonstrate its commitment to building safer and supportive communities in Queensland.

This commitment is clearly evident within the Bundamba electorate, which is serviced by a fire station and supported by three neighbouring fire stations at Ipswich, Camira and Karana Downs.

The Queensland Fire and Rescue Service is proactive in developing a broad range of fire prevention programs designed by staff to better serve their communities. Some of these programs involve building inspection and compliance programs, while others are specifically designed to promote community safety through education. The building inspection and compliance programs are designed to prevent fires and also to ensure that systems are in place to ensure that the risk to life is minimised if a fire does occur.

Fire Ed is a program where firefighters visit Grade One school students to educate the children regarding fire safety. The Senior Fire Ed program involves retired firefighters who deliver fire prevention advice to our senior citizens, often through visits to retirement villages. A retired firefighter delivers this program throughout the Bundamba electorate.

Community events such as fetes and school events in the Bundamba electorate are regularly supported by the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service Bundamba. Every event attended by the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service provides an opportunity for firefighters to heighten public awareness of fire prevention strategies. There is a broad list of fire prevention campaigns that include school visits to the fire station, visits to scouts, guides, and nursing homes. In addition Bundamba Fire crews are involved with the Department of Emergency Services Cadets Training. The Queensland Fire and Rescue Service also delivers Operation Safehome within the Bundamba electorate. The Queensland Fire and Rescue Service staff regularly offer home fire safety and fire prevention advice which includes promoting smoke alarms, installing smoke alarms and replacing smoke alarm batteries.

While not specifically about fire prevention, the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service also provides the Road Accident Awareness Program (RAAP) designed to specifically target grade 12 school students.

The Beattie Government is committed to building safer and more supportive communities in Queensland. The fire prevention campaigns delivered to the Bundamba electorate are typical of the excellent work being done by the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service around Queensland. This continuing commitment from my department will ensure the ongoing safety and well being of the community, not just in the Bundamba electorate but right across Queensland.