

Question on Notice
No. 372
Asked on Tuesday 21 May 2013

MRS CUNNINGHAM ASKED THE MINISTER FOR POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY (MR DEMPSEY)-

QUESTION:

"With reference to new projects being developed on Curtis Island- How will QFS provide services to this area and retain coverage for the mainland community?"

ANSWER:

As a consequence of the growth of large developments in remote locations across Queensland, Queensland Fire and Rescue Service (QFRS) has developed a process of engagement and collaborative management to minimise risk and maximise response capability to any emergency.

As the developments taking place on Curtis Island are only accessible by barge, ferry or helicopter, QFRS has been working in partnership with the developer, Bechtel Pty Ltd (BPL), to ensure emergency response procedures are in place.

While BPL is responsible for managing the risk of an emergency on Curtis Island, QFRS provides advice and support to ensure the safety of those working on the development. BPL has its own emergency response teams to minimise the risks of an emergency. The QFRS Training and Emergency Management Branch also provides training to BPL emergency response teams.

Arrangements have been developed between QFRS and BPL, to ensure if QFRS resources are required on the island in an emergency, vehicles and personnel are transported by either barge, ferry or helicopter.

If an emergency does require QFRS resources to be sent from Gladstone to Curtis Island for a response, then procedures are in place to ensure coverage for mainland incidents. In the Gladstone area, depending on the emergency incident, this would be a combination of the surrounding Auxiliary Fire and Rescue Stations providing coverage, the deployment of resources into Gladstone to stand by at the station or off duty personnel could be recalled to duty.