

**Question on Notice
No. 194
Asked on 19 March 2014**

MR COSTIGAN asked the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services (MR DEMPSEY)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister update the House on the replacement vessel for the Whitsunday Water Police?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Government committed to revitalising frontline policing by not only providing an additional 1,100 new police officers over four years but also the technology and equipment to do their job. To date, the Government has delivered over 700 additional officers who have been allocated throughout the State to areas of critical need.

Supporting the Government's, "Think Queensland, buy locally" initiative, the three 24 metre catamaran extended patrol vessels are being constructed by Aluminium Boats Australia at Murarrie for the Queensland Police Service. These vessels will be deployed to Cairns, Townsville and the Whitsunday Water Police bases.

Construction for these vessels is on schedule, with the first hull expected to be ready for sea trials in April 2014, the second in August 2014 and the third in December 2014.

Deployment of the new catamarans will be determined on an operational needs basis with plans to have the three vessels operational by the end of 2014.