

**Question on Notice
No. 40
Asked on 12 February 2014**

MR SHUTTLEWORTH asked the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services (MR DEMPSEY) -

QUESTION:

Will the Minister outline how the government's investments in police, fire and emergency services benefit the electorate of Ferny Grove?

ANSWER:

The Newman Government is committed to revitalising frontline services for families by enhancing emergency services across Queensland.

During the election, the Newman Government committed to funding and recruiting an additional 1,100 police officers (over and above attrition) over the first four years of government. Already, over 600 additional officers have been deployed across Queensland making streets and communities safer.

This investment has yielded positive results in the Ferny Grove Police Division, with reductions in crime in key areas during the current financial year. This equates to fewer cars being stolen, fewer houses and businesses being broken into, and a safer community in the Ferny Grove Electorate.

When comparing the period of 1 July 2012 to 31 January 2013 with 1 July 2013 to 31 January 2014, Unlawful Entry has reported a rate decrease of 16 per cent and Unlawful Use of a Motor Vehicle has reported a rate decrease of 33 per cent.

The Ferny Grove electorate is serviced by five Rural Fire Brigades which will benefit from the Newman Government's decision to fully fund essential firefighting equipment for Queensland's rural brigades. This investment includes fully funding brigade fire trucks. Under the former Labor Government, brigade volunteers were required to contribute up to \$20,000 for each new appliance.

The Queensland Fire and Emergency Services station at Arana Hills, provides a 24/7 emergency response capability for the Ferny Grove electorate. \$30,000 was spent in 2013-14 to upgrade training facilities at the station to enhance the level of operational preparedness of the crews. This station has partnered Samford Rural Brigade in developing emergency response strategies to residences outside the reticulated water area that are at significant risk of wildfire.