

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 1369

asked on Tuesday, 16 October 2018

MR A POWELL ASKED THE MINISTER FOR STATE DEVELOPMENT, MANUFACTURING, INFRASTRUCTURE AND PLANNING (HON C DICK)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide (reported separately by year) in relation to 'fly-in-fly-out' (FIFO) workers in Queensland

(a) the number of FIFO workers working within each Queensland local government (LGA) area from 2015 to 2018, (b) the number of FIFO workers working within each Queensland LGA reported separately from 2015 to 2018 as a percentage of the overall population within that LGA, (c) the number of enforcement actions taken against companies failing to comply with government regulations from 2016 to 2018 and (d) what government targets exist to managing the impact FIFO workforces have on regional communities?

ANSWER:

In response to the Member's question:

(a) The Queensland Government Statistician's Office collects data and publishes annual reports on the number of non-resident workers within each local government area (LGA) in the Bowen Basin, Gladstone region, and Surat Basin.

Data for these regions is available from before 2015 to 2017, except for the Gladstone region for which information was collected only until 2016, and can be found at <http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/>

The Queensland Government Statistician's Office has collected data for 2018 and is currently preparing these reports.

(b) The Australian Bureau of Statistics does not include the number of non-resident workers in its annual estimates of the total number of residents in an LGA.

(c) There was no legislation in Queensland regarding FIFO workers before the *Strong and Sustainable Resource Communities Act 2017* (the Act) commenced on 30 March 2018.

(d) The Act legislates the prohibition on 100 per cent FIFO arrangements on large resource projects. The Act also prevents companies from discriminating against locals in the future recruitment of workers.

Under the Act, future large resource projects are required to provide, as part of their social impact assessment, how their recruitment strategy will prioritise workers from local and regional communities first, then workers that will relocate and live in regional communities.