Question on Notice No. 524 Asked on 3 May 2018

MR COSTIGAN ASKED MINISTER FOR POLICE AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES (HON M RYAN)—

QUESTION:

With reference to police stations in the Whitsunday Electorate— Will the Minister commit to replacing the 50 year old Proserpine police station and upgrade the Seaforth police beat to an actual police station to ease the current burden on existing police resources at Farleigh, Marian and Calen police stations?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Police Service (QPS) has advised that the building in Proserpine provides adequate space, design and capacity to accommodate policing needs at Proserpine and it is well appointed.

The allocation of police resources is determined by the Police Commissioner following a detailed assessment of area growth, safety issues and any new or emerging issues. The Police Commissioner makes this decision, free of any political interference, which is as it should be. This also ensures a fair and equitable service is provided throughout the state.

With respect to future growth, I have been assured by the Police Commissioner that the Queensland Police Service will continue to monitor policing requirements now and into the future.

I am advised by QPS that any future expansion to the Proserpine police station will be considered in line with other state wide capital works of this nature.

The QPS has confirmed that the Seaforth Police Beat will be upgraded to a single officer police station to enhance the delivery of policing services to Seaforth and the local area.

In addition to officers stationed within the Proserpine Police Division, personnel from other district, regional and central support functions such as Criminal Investigation Branch, Child Protection Investigation Unit, Intelligence and Road Policing Command provide assistance as and when required.

The Palaszczuk Government has committed to an additional 535 police personnel by 2021-22, including 115 counter terrorism specialists for the implementation of the new Security and Counter Terrorism Command. This growth includes an increase of 50 police personnel, approved in the 2017-18 financial year.