

## **QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**No. 762**

**Asked on 13 June 2018**

**MR G BUTCHER** asked the Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries (HON M FURNER)—

### **QUESTION:**

Will the Minister outline the capacity of Gladstone Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol office with its new vessel?

### **ANSWER:**

I thank the Member for the question.

The Palaszczuk Government released the \$20 million Sustainable Fisheries Strategy in June 2017, paving the way for a world class fishery management system.

As part of this, twenty new compliance officers were appointed across Queensland last year, including four in Gladstone. The Gladstone Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol office was also reopened in October last year.

Gladstone officers took possession of a new \$295 000, 7.5 metre vessel in April this year which will enhance the patrol's on water compliance capacity in the region.

The vessel, which bears the name M. V Frost after a long serving patrol officer, is fourth generation with improvements in hull design for a smoother ride for crew and safer offshore sea boarding conditions.

The vessel has a fuel capacity of 400 litres; 100 litres greater than earlier builds for the intended area of operation. It is able to operate 55 kilometres from land, which means it can service the majority of the region's commercial, charter and recreational fishing fleets. It is also fitted with the latest safety equipment and state of the art marine electronics.

The vessel is a sister ship to many others located along the coast that have been in service for well over 15 years from the Gold Coast in the south and Cairns in the north.

Gladstone officers also have the benefit of having the 24 metre patrol vessel; the KI Ross available to them for assistance, if and when required.

Since reopening the office in October 2017, 775 inspections have been conducted, with a compliance rate of 96 per cent. A total of 37 offences have been detected, with fines of \$6 428 issued.