Question on Notice No. 353 Asked on 27 March 2019

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister provide the number of reported serious assaults against police officers in 2017-18 (reported separately by police district)?

ANSWER:

Queensland police work tirelessly to keep communities safe and any form of violence against any one of our 11,800-plus police officers will not be tolerated.

This government will continue to maintain tough penalties against any perpetrators of assaults on police and emergency workers. A person who commits the offence of serious assault of a police officer faces up to 14 years in prison.

To further protect police, this government has invested more than \$46 million in frontline skills training facilities, and training and protective equipment, including the weapon mounted light system, improved holsters and tactical first aid training. Further, we have provided frontline police across Queensland with body worn video cameras for their protection and to increase evidence-gathering capabilities.

The Queensland Police Service (QPS) has advised that the below table lists the number of reported serious assaults against police officers in Queensland in 2017-18 as at 10 April 2019.

| Police District | Number |
|------------------|--------|
| North Brisbane | 106 |
| South Brisbane | 79 |
| Capricornia | 33 |
| Mackay | 14 |
| Sunshine Coast | 49 |
| Wide Bay Burnett | 26 |
| Far North | 79 |
| Mount Isa | 33 |
| Townsville | 65 |
| Gold Coast | 38 |
| Logan | 35 |
| Darling Downs | 27 |
| Ipswich | 38 |
| Moreton | 40 |
| South West | 38 |

1. This data is preliminary and may be subject to change.

While overall these figures represent a significant decrease in the previous year's figures, this is not a fact to be celebrated as any assault on a police officer is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.