

Question on Notice
No. 786
Asked on 16 June 2021

MR P WEIR ASKED MINISTER FOR POLICE AND CORRECTIVE SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES (HON M RYAN)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise if there are any plans to increase the number of officers in the rural crime squad based at Drayton given the recent spate of vehicle and property theft in rural communities in the Darling Downs area?

ANSWER:

In relation to the current police resources available to the Darling Downs community, I am advised by the Queensland Police Service (QPS) that, as at 30 June 2021, the approved permanent police positions (including division, district and central functions) for the Darling Downs Police District is 448, which includes the rural crime squad (otherwise known as the Major and Organised Crime Squad Rural – MOCS Rural) at Drayton.

In addition, this government's record police budget supports the rollout of an additional 2,025 police personnel over five years from 1 July 2020. Of these, at least 150 extra police officers will be located in the Southern Police Region, which includes Drayton and the Darling Downs.

Ultimately, the allocation of police resources is determined by the Police Commissioner following a detailed assessment of area growth, community safety and any new or emerging issues. The Police Commissioner makes this decision free of any political interference to ensure a fair and equitable service is provided throughout the state.