

Question on Notice
No. 1131
Asked on 14 September 2023

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise (reported separately by QPS district) FTE sworn officer headcount (a) as at 30 June 2022 and (b) as at 30 June 2023?

ANSWER:

This Government has committed to the biggest boost to policing in Queensland in three decades. The record \$3 billion plus police budget supports the rollout of 2,025 police personnel, including 1,450 police officers, over five years.

The allocation of police resources is a matter for the Commissioner of Police based on operational policing demand and direct service delivery requirements to ensure a fair and equitable service is provided throughout the State. I am advised these requirements can change as new policing issues emerge.

I am advised by the Queensland Police Service (QPS) that where the headcount is below the number of approved permanent positions, the QPS is recruiting to fill those vacancies against the approved strength as a matter of priority and as quickly as possible.

I am also advised by the QPS that a total of 2,016 recruits graduated between 1 January 2020 and 31 August 2023 and that as at 30 September, there were more than 500 recruits at the two police academies and there were more than 1,400 applicants in the pipeline.

To support the recruitment efforts of the QPS, the Palaszczuk Government has funded an unprecedented, almost \$90 million police recruitment package, including:

- a training allowance for current and new recruits on top of the current recruit wage of \$183 per fortnight;
- waving all application and pre-selection test fees, saving potential recruits between \$718 and \$972;
- waving Police Academy accommodation costs, saving potential live-in recruits almost \$200 per week;
- up to \$20,000 towards the higher education debt of up to 400 successful police graduates who hold a tertiary degree (Bachelor or above) in areas including psychology, criminology, social work (or equivalent), counselling or other human service related field;
- up to \$20,000 towards the relocation costs of up to 500 interstate and up to 500 overseas applicants who are serving or recently served police officers;
- a new initiative where staff members of the QPS who are accepted into recruit training will remain on their previous pay scale while training, capped at constable 1.1 pay level; and

- the 'Try it On' campaign, a recruit advertising partnership with the Queensland Police Union.

In relation to the member's question, I am advised by the QPS as follows:

- a) As at 30 June 2022, the substantive headcount (including central functions) for North Brisbane District was 1,191, for South Brisbane District was 1,178, for Capricornia District was 604, for Mackay Whitsunday District was 376, for Moreton District was 747, for Sunshine Coast District was 549, for Wide Bay Burnett District was 514, for Far North District was 903, for Mt Isa District was 200, for Townsville District was 718, for Gold Coast District was 1,132, for Logan District was 828, for Darling Downs District was 594, for Ipswich District was 533, and for South West District was 213.
- b) As at 30 June 2023, the substantive headcount (including central functions) for North Brisbane District was 1,129, for South Brisbane District was 1,186, for Capricornia District was 620, for Mackay Whitsunday District was 362, for Moreton District was 697, for Sunshine Coast District was 564, for Wide Bay Burnett District was 515, for Far North District was 885, for Mt Isa District was 186, for Townsville District was 721, for Gold Coast District was 1,093, for Logan District was 819, for Darling Downs District was 564, for Ipswich District was 532, and for South West District was 203.