

Question on Notice

No. 1132

Asked on 14 September 2023

MR L MILLAR ASKED THE MINISTER FOR POLICE AND CORRECTIVE SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES (HON M RYAN) —

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise whether the Barcaldine Rural Fire Service area office is now fully staffed with three operational staff including an area director resident in Barcaldine?

ANSWER:

The Palaszczuk Government is delivering a significant uplift to the Rural Fire Service (RFS) as part of our total funding package of up to \$578 million over five years for emergency services reforms, including an additional 114 RFS positions.

This reform package has ensured this year's RFS budget is a record \$101 million which will support the frontline, as we work towards the establishment of the new Queensland Fire Department.

I am advised by Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) that there are currently two positions at the Barcaldine RFS Area Office:

- an Area Training and Support Officer who is based in Barcaldine; and
- an Administration Support Officer (currently on leave but a temporary officer providing short term role coverage).

In addition, QFES advises that the following recruitment processes are being undertaken to increase staffing at the Barcaldine RFS Area Office:

- a new Area Director role to be based in Barcaldine
- a new Bushfire Safety Officer role to be based in Barcaldine who is due to commence on 30 October 2023; and
- a new Brigade Training and Support Officer role to be based in Barcaldine.