

## Question on Notice

No. 1469

Asked on 16 November 2023

**MR A POWELL** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR POLICE AND CORRECTIVE SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES (HON M RYAN) —

QUESTION:

With reference to the recent fires over the past two months in the areas of Beerwah, Landsborough, Tara, Dalby, Wallangarra and central Queensland—

Will the Minister provide the number and type of firefighting aircraft that have been used to fight these fires?

ANSWER:

I am advised by Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) that since the start of the contracted aircraft period on 1 September 2023 (to 21 November 2023), there have been over 1,600 dispatches of aircraft, over 6,900 flying hours and more than 36 million litres of suppressant delivered in support of ground crews.

During the peak of activity in this bushfire season to date, there was at one time 46 aircraft engaged on standby, including the contracted fleet.

Further, during this peak period, I am advised that over 40 aircraft were airborne at one time to combat bushfires across Queensland.

I am advised by QFES that from 16 September 2023 to 18 November 2023, the below numbers of aircraft were activated for each incident, noting that this does not represent the number of times the aircraft were deployed to the incident, nor the number of drops that they undertook at each incident:

- 16 aircraft attended two bushfires in the Beerwah area between 17 September to 22 October 2023, consisting of seven fixed wing aircraft including the Large Air Tanker (LAT), LAT Lead Plane and nine rotary wing aircraft that performed bombing, observation and air attack supervision.
- Five aircraft attended the Landsborough bushfire between 28 to 29 October 2023, consisting of the LAT, LAT Lead Plane and three rotary wing aircraft that performed bombing and air attack supervision.
- 18 aircraft attended bushfires in and around Tara between 15 October to 1 November 2023, consisting of 11 fixed wing aircraft including the LAT, LAT Lead Plane and seven rotary wing aircraft that performed bombing, observation and air attack supervision.
- Seven aircraft attended bushfires around the Dalby area on 2 October 2023, consisting of two fixed wing aircraft and five rotary wing aircraft that performed bombing, observation and air attack supervision.
- 12 aircraft attended the bushfire at Wallangarra between 31 October to 7 November 2023, consisting of seven fixed wing aircraft including the LAT, LAT Lead Plane and five rotary wing aircraft that performed bombing, observation and air attack supervision.

- 17 aircraft attended the Carnarvon bushfire complex between 8 October to 18 November 2023 consisting of 10 fixed wing aircraft including the LAT, LAT Lead Plane and seven rotary wing aircraft that performed bombing, observation, linescanning and air attack supervision.
- 11 aircraft attended the Deepwater bushfire complex (which includes Baffle Creek) between 15 to 21 October 2023, consisting of five fixed wing aircraft including the LAT, LAT Lead Plane and six rotary wing aircraft that performed bombing, observation, linescanning and air attack supervision.
- 11 aircraft attended the Lowmead bushfire complex, which includes the areas of Miriam Vale, Lowmead and Colosseum between 30 September to 3 November 2023, consisting of four fixed wing aircraft including the LAT, LAT Lead Plane and seven rotary wing aircraft that performed bombing, observation and air attack supervision.