

Question on Notice

No. 1551

Asked on 29 November 2023

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister (a) confirm the policy on the use of machinery and private firefighting equipment by people who are not rural fire brigade members or operating under an authorising environment and (b) provide any reference or information that exists in the public domain on this matter?

ANSWER: [MINISTER FOR FIRE AND DISASTER RECOVERY AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES (HON N BOYD)]:

On 18 December 2023, I was appointed as Minister for Fire and Disaster Recovery and Minister for Corrective Services and as such, I am now the responsible Minister to answer this Question.

I am advised that Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) has a long-standing arrangement to compensate people for the use of heavy machinery, if:

- QFES has asked the landowner to hire their heavy machinery for firefighting purposes
- the machinery passes safety checks; and
- appropriate authorisation has been given by QFES personnel.

This is consistent with the recent one-page guide that was released which included information on private use authorising and reimbursement and not for work on own land.

Information on the usage and compensation of heavy machinery during bushfires is available on the QFES website <https://www.qfes.qld.gov.au/planning-and-compliance/bushfire-planning>.