

## **Question on Notice**

**No. 1623**

**Asked on 30 November 2023**

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise (a) how many lithium-ion battery fires there have been in Queensland since 2020 (reported separately by year and location— i.e. home, office, carpark etc.) and (b) how many such fires resulted in a fatality and/or serious injury?

**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 by Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) that a new code to capture incidents relating to Lithium-ion batteries, including dry cell and rechargeable, was only introduced in July 2021.

As such, in relation to the Member's question, I am advised by QFES as follows:

- (a) That for the 2021-22 financial year the number of incidents by area of fire origin was twenty for garage, car-ports, vehicle storage area; ten for sleeping room for under five persons; four for waste or rubbish area, container; six for lounge area; five for mobile property areas (insufficient information available to classify further); four for storage areas (insufficient information available to classify further); five for kitchen, cooking area; six for luggage compartment, load carrying-area; two for mobile property areas (not classified above); one on or near highway, roadway, street, public way, parking lot; three for passenger areas; three for office; five for laundry room, area; two for exterior balcony, open porch or verandah; two for storage areas (not classified above); one for electronic equipment room/area; two for engine area, running gear, wheel area, underbody, exhaust; one for functional area (insufficient information available to classify further); three for maintenance shop/area; two for product storage room or area, storage tanks, storage bin; one for court, terrace, patio; one for lavatory, locker room, cloakroom; one for supply storage room or area; one for exterior wall surface; one for lobby, entrance way; one for area of fire origin undetermined; one for printing or photographic room, area; one for sales, show-room area; one for switchgear area, transformer vault, switchboard; and one for functional area (insufficient information to classify).

For the 2022-23 financial year the number of incidents by area of fire origin was seventeen for garage, car-ports, vehicle storage area; eighteen for sleeping room for under five persons; eleven for waste or rubbish area, container; thirteen for lounge area; eight for mobile property areas (insufficient information available to classify further); seven for storage areas (insufficient information available to classify further);

six for kitchen, cooking area; five for luggage compartment, load carrying-area; five for mobile property areas (not classified above); five on or near highway, roadway, street, public way, parking lot; two for passenger areas; four for lawn, field, open area; three for office; one for laundry room, area; three for exterior balcony, open porch or verandah; two for storage areas (not classified above); three for electronic equipment room/area; two for engine area, running gear, wheel area, underbody, exhaust; one for functional area (insufficient information available to classify further); one for court, terrace, patio; two for sleeping area for five or more persons; one for process, manufacturing area; two for functional areas (not classified above); one for dining area, lunchroom, cafeteria; one for scrub or bush area, woods, forest; one for hallway, corridor, mall; one for fire-isolated escape route; and one for assembly, sales area (insufficient information available to classify further).

Data for the full 2023-24 financial year will be available after the end of the financial year.

- (b) QFES does not hold verified data in relation to serious injuries or fatalities which occur as a result of fires. As such, QFES cannot provide this data.