

Question on Notice
No. 829
Asked on 15 June 2023

MS A LEAHY ASKED THE MINISTER FOR POLICE AND CORRECTIVE SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES (HON M RYAN) —

QUESTION:

With reference to the disaster activations 2022-2023—

Will the Minister advise (a) the amount of funding required to provide essential supplies to the community of Doomadgee, (b) the frequency of the resupply during this activation and (c) the total number of days this resupply was required per activation?

ANSWER:

I am advised by Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) that the total funding provided for transport costs for the provision of essential supplies to Doomadgee was \$187,000.

Resupply is funded by QFES and reimbursed through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) process, when activated.

Resupplies for the North West Gulf Flooding event were conducted on the following days:

- 7 March 2023
- 8 March 2023
- 9 March 2023
- 10 March 2023
- 14 March 2023
- 15 March 2023
- 16 March 2023
- 24 March 2023
- 25 March 2023
- 26 March 2023
- 2 April 2023.

I am further advised that resupply operations are not intended to ensure retailers can continue to trade nor are they a substitute for individual and retailer preparation and preparedness. Resupply operations are considered to be a last resort.

QFES advises that resupply ensures isolated individuals and communities have essential goods for survival and are not economically disadvantaged by additional transport costs. In such circumstances, the Government will pay the additional transport costs to deliver essential items to isolated individuals and communities. QFES also advises that individuals and communities should not become reliant on resupply operations and are encouraged to become self-sufficient in all their needs in case they become isolated.

Resupply operations will normally be conducted using either fixed wing or rotary wing aircraft. Wherever possible, the normal retail/wholesale resupply system to retailers will continue to be used, with supplies being delivered via bulk orders from the normal wholesale outlets to the communities'

retail outlets. Wherever practicable, only one resupply operation will be undertaken for each affected area, however in operations where extended periods of isolation are experienced, additional resupply operations can be expected.

Consideration is given to bulk orders that are sufficient to last affected communities until normal road/rail services can be restored, dependent on retail storage available within the community and the duration of ongoing disruption. Retailers will be responsible for placing their orders with their normal wholesale suppliers once these orders have been approved.

A request for resupply of isolated communities is only escalated to State when the local council does not have the capacity to assist. Resupply of isolated properties or stranded persons is usually managed at the local/district level.