

Question on Notice
No. 935
Asked on 23 August 2023

MR J BLEIJIE ASKED MINISTER FOR POLICE AND CORRECTIVE SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES (HON M RYAN)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the level of FTE, actual front-line police officers (not approved police positions) located at the Kawana Waters Police Station for 2015 to 2023 (reported separately by year)?

ANSWER:

This Government has committed to the biggest boost to policing in Queensland in three decades. The record \$3 billion plus police budget supports the rollout of 2,025 police personnel, including 1,450 police officers, over five years.

As part of this record delivery, I am advised by the Queensland Police Service (QPS) that 150 growth positions have been allocated to the North Coast Region (NCR) (which includes the member's electorate).

I am informed by the QPS that these positions are already rolling out with growth positions being allocated to the new Caloundra South Police Division, scheduled to open in 2024.

This new facility and the associated additional growth positions will support the outstanding police work in the Kawana electorate and wider Sunshine Coast area.

The allocation of police resources is a matter for the Commissioner of Police based on operational policing demand and direct service delivery requirements to ensure a fair and equitable service is provided throughout the State. I am advised these requirements can change as new policing issues emerge.

I am advised by the QPS that as at 30 June 2015, the police substantive headcount at Kawana Waters Division was 31 (against an approved strength of 25 positions) and 33 (against an approved strength of 29 positions) as at 30 June 2016. The QPS advise that the police actual headcount at Kawana Waters Division was not available for 2015 and 2016 as it is different dataset to substantive headcount and is only available from 2017 onwards.

The QPS advise that the actual police headcount at Kawana Water Division as at 30 June 2017 was 31 (against an approved strength of 29 positions); as at 30 June 2018 was 33 (against an approved strength of 29 positions); as at 30 June 2019 was 31 (against an approved strength of 29 positions); as at 30 June 2020 was 28 (against an approved strength of 29 positions); as at 30 June 2021 was 28 (against an approved strength of 29 positions); as at 30 June 2022 was 27 (against an approved strength of 29 positions); and as at 30 June 2023 was 29 (against an approved strength of 29 positions).

As with many organisations, there will be from time to time vacancies or additional personnel at workplace locations. Where vacancies exist, the QPS seeks to fill those positions as quickly as possible. In addition, when retirements or other personnel movements are expected or planned, the QPS will at times locate additional personnel at these workplace locations to support the transition of those personnel. That may mean that a particular policing establishment may have more personnel than its approved strength on a specific date (for example, 30 June) for a period of time.

The member should also note that the details provided for Kawana Waters Police Station are divisional only and do not include the more than 500 other approved permanent positions allocated to district and central policing functions who work across the Sunshine Coast Police District.

In fact, I am advised by the QPS that (as at 30 June 2023) more than 40 other police officers performing district or central police functions are located at the Kawana Waters Police Station and are in addition to the divisional details set out above.