

Question on Notice
No. 966
Asked on 24 August 2023

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

QUESTION:

With reference to police officer numbers from 1 January 2020 to the date of this question—Will the Minister advise (a) the number of recruits sworn in and (b) the number of separations from the QPS?

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.

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 by the Queensland Police Service (QPS) that a total of 2,016 recruits graduated between 1 January 2020 and 31 August 2023 and that as at 31 August, there were more than 400 recruits at the two police academies and there were more than 1,300 applicants in the pipeline

I am further advised that, over the same time period, a total of 1,743 police officers separated from the QPS.

To support the recruitment efforts of the QPS, the Palaszczuk Government has funded an unprecedented, almost \$90 million police recruitment package, including:

- a training allowance for current and new recruits on top of the current recruit wage of \$183 per fortnight;
- waving all application and pre-selection test fees, saving potential recruits between \$718 and \$972;
- waving Police Academy accommodation costs, saving potential live-in recruits almost \$200 per week;
- up to \$20,000 towards the higher education debt of up to 400 successful police graduates who hold a tertiary degree (Bachelor or above) in areas including psychology, criminology, social work (or equivalent), counselling or other human service related field;
- up to \$20,000 towards the relocation costs of up to 500 interstate and up to 500 overseas applicants who are serving or recently served police officers;

- a new initiative where staff members of the QPS who are accepted into recruit training will remain on their previous pay scale while training, capped at constable 1.1 pay level; and
- the 'Try it On' campaign, a recruit advertising partnership with the Queensland Police Union.