

Question on Notice

No. 21

Asked on 13 February 2024

MR R STEVENS asked the Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities (HON M FURNER)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise (a) the number of shark nets deployed on the Gold Coast in 2015 and (b) the number deployed on the Gold Coast in 2023

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

The Shark Control Program on the Gold Coast plays an important role in protecting human life at our pristine beaches, which attract tourists from all over the world.

There have been no changes to the configuration of shark control equipment on the Gold Coast in recent years. In 2015 there were eleven nets operating, and in 2023 there were still eleven nets operating.

The Queensland Government always puts the safety of people first. We are committed to reviewing and adapting the Shark Control Program in line with emerging science and technology. However, we will not make changes, including the removal of shark nets, until alternatives are tested and proven effective for Queensland conditions.