

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 424**  
**Asked on 17 April 2024**

**MR M BOOTHMAN** ASKED MINISTER FOR POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY (HON M RYAN)—

**QUESTION:**

Will the Minister advise (a) how many deaths in custody have occurred in Queensland watchhouses in the past five years (reported separately by year and watchhouse) and (b) if all Queensland Watchhouses are compliant with the human rights audit report?

**ANSWER:**

I am advised by the Queensland Police Service (QPS), that the QPS takes the safety of all those in their custody seriously and does everything it can to ensure the wellbeing of those held in custody is paramount.

In relation to the Member's question, I am advised by the QPS that, sadly, five deaths in custody occurred in Queensland watchhouses in the past five years (2019 – 2023) reported separately as follows: one in the Brisbane City watchhouse in 2020; one in the Richlands watchhouse in 2021; one in the Kowanyama watchhouse in 2022; and two in the Beenleigh watchhouse in 2023.

I am advised that all of the matters above are currently the subject of coronial inquests and the Coroner is yet to deliver any findings.

From the information contained in the question, I am advised by the QPS that it is unclear as to which specific report the Member is referring to in the second part of this question. However, should the Member have any additional particulars or details, then I ask that the Member provide those details in a further Question on Notice.