

Question on Notice
No. 782
Asked on 12 June 2024

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the current police officer vacancies for the divisions of Broadbeach, Coolangatta, Coomera, Mudgeeraba, Nerang, Palm Beach, Robina, Runaway Bay, Southport and Surfers Paradise (reported separately by division in a tabulated format)?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Police Service (QPS) is currently undertaking the largest recruitment drive in its history to deliver 1,450 new police officers, in addition to the further 500 new police officers announced on 30 April 2024.

With the help of \$87.5M announced by the Queensland Government in April 2023 to fund marketing and offer a range of incentives and initiatives, the number of recruit applications has reached historic highs in 2024 and the foreseeable future for police recruiting is delivering upon plans. The QPS advise that as at 30 June 2024 there were 650 recruits employed by the QPS and over 2,300 in the recruit applicant pipeline.

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 and that is as it should be. This aligns with the outcome of the Fitzgerald Inquiry. I am advised these requirements can change as new policing issues emerge.

As with many organisations, there will be from time to time vacancies or additional personnel at workplace locations. Where vacancies exist, the QPS endeavours to fill those positions as a matter of priority. 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.

I am advised by the QPS that as at 30 June 2024, the relevant information for the Gold Coast District are detailed in the table below.

The Member should also note that there are **over 1,000 officers allocated** to divisional, district and central policing functions which support service delivery across the Gold Coast District. I am further advised that police stations have the ability when required to draw on resources from other geographically close police stations or districts should it be required to effectively provide policing services to the community. Police districts have the discretion and flexibility to move resources around as demand dictates to keep Queenslanders safe.

For the Member's benefit, I am advised by the QPS that, as at 30 June 2024, the total approved permanent positions for the below divisions is 556, with a total substantive headcount of 553 (being a **difference of only three**)

Division	Details
BROADBEACH DIVISION	1 with QPS endeavouring to fill this position as soon as possible.
COOLANGATTA DIVISION	3 with QPS endeavouring to fill these positions as soon as possible.
COOMERA DIVISION	8 with QPS endeavouring to fill these positions as soon as possible.
MUDGEERABA DIVISION	None – headcount 2 above approved strength.
NERANG DIVISION	None – headcount 4 above approved strength.
PALM BEACH DIVISION	None – headcount 3 above approved strength.
PIMPAMA DIVISION	None – headcount 3 above approved strength.
ROBINA DIVISION	None – headcount 4 above approved strength.
RUNAWAY BAY DIVISION	1 with QPS endeavouring to fill this position as soon as possible.
SOUTHPORT DIVISION	None – headcount 12 above approved strength.
SURFERS PARADISE DIVISION	18 with QPS endeavouring to fill these positions as soon as possible.