

Question on Notice

No. 187

Asked on Wednesday, 4 March 2026

MR T SMITH asked the Minister for Primary Industries (HON A PERRETT)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the LNP Government's commitment to hire 100 new biosecurity officers—

Will the Minister advise (a) how many new biosecurity officers have been hired since 31 October 2024, (b) the positions they have filled and (c) which regions those new officers have been placed in?

ANSWER:

The Crisafulli Government is working diligently to bolster Queensland's frontline with 100 additional officers of this term of government.

Phase one of recruitment is underway, which involves the engagement of an initial 50 officers to provide an uplift to Biosecurity Queensland's frontline capacity completed across the 2025-26 financial year.

As of 26 March 2026, 40 of the new regional officer positions have been filled. A further five regional officer positions are currently in active recruitment.

These 45 positions comprise of roles such as Regional Biosecurity Leads, Regional Biosecurity Support Officers, Biosecurity Officers, and Operational Veterinarians.

These positions have been placed in the Biluela, Rockhampton, Emerald, Gayndah, Cairns, Charters Towers, Townsville, Bowen, Mareeba, South Johnston, Boogan, Garbutt, Toowoomba, Charleville, Kingaroy, Gatton, Nambour, Dalby and Roma regions.

These additional officers are making a significant difference in their respective communities, particularly given the significant 20% reduction in Animal Welfare and Biosecurity Officers over the past decade.