

Question on Notice

No. 464

Asked on 23 April 2026

MR R KATTER ASKED THE MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND WATER AND MINISTER FOR FIRE, DISASTER RECOVERY AND VOLUNTEERS (HON A LEAHY)—

QUESTION:

With reference to Rural Fire Service volunteers—

Will the Minister advise (a) if the Minister is aware of the impact that fuel prices are having on the ability for Rural Fire Service volunteers to respond to emergencies and (b) what support is being offered to volunteers who are forced to not respond due to unaffordable fuel costs?

ANSWER:

This Government recognises the important and valuable role our Rural Fire Service Queensland (RFSQ) volunteers play in protecting communities across Queensland and is committed to supporting their vital work.

The Queensland Fire Department (QFD) continues to work closely with the Queensland Government and relevant authorities to monitor the situation regarding the fuel supply chain, including any potential impacts on RFSQ volunteers, to ensure ongoing emergency response capability.

I am advised that QFD is implementing business continuity arrangements which will ensure rural fire brigades can continue fulfilling their duties. In particular, RFSQ has identified a range of actions that can be implemented to support members, including changing meeting and training schedules in acknowledgment of current fuel costs and reducing the requirement for members to attend stations for non-operational activities.