

2018-19 Budget Estimates Volume of Additional Information

Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

August 2018

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Minutes of Estimates meetings

Minutes of Estimates Meetings
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MINUTES



Queensland Parliament - Committees
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee
Meeting 14, 56th Parliament – Estimates meeting No. 1
Room 5.04A, Level 5, Parliamentary Annexe
Thursday 14 June 2018

Members:

Mr Peter Russo MP	Member for Toohey (Chair)
Mr James Lister MP	Member for Southern Downs (Deputy Chair)
Mr Stephen Andrew MP	Member for Mirani
Mr Jim McDonald MP	Member for Lockyer
Mrs Melissa McMahon MP	Member for Macalister
Ms Corrine McMillan MP	Member for Mansfield

Apologies: Nil

Present:

Ms Renee Easten	Committee Secretary
Ms Mary Westcott	Assistant Committee Secretary

- 1 Welcome**
The Chair opened the private Estimates meeting at 8:50am.
- 2 Members' Estimates Manual**
The committee noted receipt of the Members' Estimates Manual.
- 3 Background information**
The committee noted receipt of departmental organisation charts; the administrative arrangements; and a copy of Schedule 7.
- 4 Questions on notice prior to hearing (Standing Order 182)**
The committee secretary briefed on the format of questions on notice prior to the hearing.
The committee advised re the requirements in Standing Order 182 for questions on notice prior to the hearing.
- 5 Key hearing procedures**
The committee noted receipt of a summary of key procedures at the Estimates hearing.
- 6 Appropriation Bill 2018**
 - 6.1 Appropriation Bill 2018**
The committee noted receipt of the Appropriation Bill 2018.

6.2 Draft inquiry timetable

Resolved: That the committee approves the draft inquiry timetable.

Moved: Mr Lister Seconded: Mrs McMahon

Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee Estimates 2018 - Timetable

Date and time	Details
Thursday 14 June 2018	Consider inquiry schedule
Wednesday 4 July 2018, 12:00pm (SO 182)	Committee members' questions on notice to be provided to the Committee Secretary
Thursday 5 July 2018 (SO 182(1) and (2))	Committee's questions on notice to be sent to the Ministers
Wednesday 25 July 2018, 10:00am (SO 182(3))	Ministers to provide to the committee answers to the pre-hearing questions on notice.
Thursday 26 July 2018, 8:30am – 9:00am	Pre-hearing meeting
Thursday 26 July 2018, 9:00am – 5:30pm	Public hearing
Monday 30 July 2018, 3:00pm (SO 183(3)(b))	Answers to questions taken on notice at the hearing to be provided to the committee
Friday 3 August 2018	Draft report provided to Chair
Monday 6 August 2018	Chair's draft report circulated to members
Thursday 9 August 2018, 10:00am	Committee meeting (via teleconference) to consider Chair's draft report
Friday 10 August 2018, 10:00am (SO 187(3))	Statements of reservation / dissenting reports to be provided to the Committee Secretary
Friday 17 August 2018 (date set by the House)	Report and volume of additional material to be tabled (SO 189)

6.3 Members seeking leave to ask questions at the hearing (SO 181(e))

Resolved: That non-committee members who make a written request to attend and ask questions at the committee's estimates hearing are given leave to do so, in accordance with Standing Order 181(e).

Moved: Mr Russo Seconded: Mr Lister

6.5 Ministerial opening statements

Resolved: That each Minister may make one brief opening statement of up to five minutes at the beginning of each portfolio's examination.

Moved: Mr McDonald Seconded: Mrs McMahon

6.6 Ancillary material

Resolved: That Ministers at the Estimates hearing on 26 July 2018 are permitted to use ancillary material that complies with the following:

- the material should not be of a size or nature which could create safety or security issues
- information depicted in the materials should also be presented in documentary or other acceptable form, and
- advance notice should be given of the nature of any ancillary material to be used.

Moved: Mr Andrew Seconded: Ms McMillan

7 Other business

Nil.

6.4 Draft hearing program

The committee considered the draft hearing program.

Discussion ensued.

Close Due to a lack of quorum, the meeting adjourned at 9.05am.

Certified correct on the

9th

day of

August

2018



Peter Russo MP
Chair

MINUTES



Queensland Parliament - Committees
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee
Meeting 16, 56th Parliament – Estimates meeting No. 2
Room 5.04, Level 5, Parliamentary Annexe
Friday 15 June 2018

Members:

Mr Peter Russo MP	Member for Toohey (Chair)
Mr James Lister MP	Member for Southern Downs (Deputy Chair)
Mr Stephen Andrew MP	Member for Mirani
Mr Jim McDonald MP	Member for Lockyer
Mrs Melissa McMahon MP	Member for Macalister
Ms Corrine McMillan MP	Member for Mansfield

Apologies: Nil

Present:

Ms Renee Easten	Committee Secretary
Ms Mary Westcott	Assistant Committee Secretary

1 Welcome

The Chair opened the private Estimates meeting at 9:04am.

2 Appropriation Bill 2018

2.1 Draft hearing program

The committee considered the draft hearing program.

Discussion ensued.

The committee agreed to reconvene during the lunch recess to further consider the hearing program.

Close The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:20am.

Certified correct on the *9th* day of *August* 2018

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Russo".

Peter Russo MP
Chair

MINUTES



Queensland Parliament - Committees
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee
Meeting 18, 56th Parliament – Estimates meeting No. 3
Committee Room 1, Level 6, Parliamentary Annexe
Friday 15 June 2018

Members:

Mr Peter Russo MP	Member for Toohey (Chair)
Mr James Lister MP	Member for Southern Downs (Deputy Chair)
Mr Stephen Andrew MP	Member for Mirani
Mr Jim McDonald MP	Member for Lockyer
Mrs Melissa McMahon MP	Member for Macalister
Ms Corrine McMillan MP	Member for Mansfield

Apologies: Nil

Present:

Ms Renee Easten	Committee Secretary
Ms Mary Westcott	Assistant Committee Secretary

1 Welcome

The Chair opened the private Estimates meeting at 1:23pm.

2 Appropriation Bill 2018

2.1 Draft hearing program

The committee considered the draft hearing program.

Discussion ensued.

The committee agreed to meet during the dinner break to finalise its consideration.

Close The Chair adjourned the meeting at 1:50pm.

Certified correct on the

9th

day of

August

2018

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P Russo".

Peter Russo MP
Chair

MINUTES



Queensland Parliament - Committees
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee
Meeting 19, 56th Parliament – Estimates meeting No. 4
Room 5.04, Level 5, Parliamentary Annexe
Friday 15 June 2018

Members:

Mr Peter Russo MP	Member for Toohey (Chair)
Mr James Lister MP	Member for Southern Downs (Deputy Chair)
Mr Stephen Andrew MP	Member for Mirani
Mrs Melissa McMahon MP	Member for Macalister
Ms Corrine McMillan MP	Member for Mansfield

Present:

Ms Renee Easten	Committee Secretary
Ms Mary Westcott	Assistant Committee Secretary

1 Welcome and apologies

The Chair opened the private Estimates meeting at 6:37pm. Mr McDonald was an apology.

2 Appropriation Bill 2018

2.1 Draft hearing program

The committee considered two draft hearing programs, one provided by the Chair ('the government members' proposed hearing schedule') and one by the Deputy-Chair ('the opposition members' proposed hearing schedule').

The Chair advised that he would move a motion that the committee adopts the government members' proposed hearing schedule.

Mr Lister left the meeting at 6:50pm.

The Chair reiterated his advice that he intended to move a motion that the committee adopt the government members' proposed hearing schedule.

Mr Andrew left the meeting at 6:50pm. Due to lack of quorum, the meeting was suspended.

Mr Andrew returned to the meeting and quorum was re-established.

The Chair left the meeting to seek advice from the Clerk. The meeting was suspended. The meeting resumed at 7:14pm, with quorum.

Motion: That the committee adopts the government members' proposed hearing schedule.

Moved: Mrs McMahon Seconded: Ms McMillan

Ayes: Mr Russo, Mrs McMahon, Ms McMillan

Noes: Mr Andrew

Not present: Mr Lister, Mr McDonald.

Motion carried.

Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

Estimates Hearing Schedule

Thursday 26 July 2018

Legislative Council Chamber, Parliament House

Responsibility	Minister and Agency	Time
Justice and Attorney-General	Attorney-General and Minister for Justice Department of Justice and Attorney-General Anti-Discrimination Commission Queensland Crime and Corruption Commission Electoral Commission of Queensland Legal Aid Queensland Office of the Information Commissioner Office of the Queensland Ombudsman Queensland Family and Child Commission The Public Trustee of Queensland	9:00am to 10:30am
Break – morning tea		10:30am to 10:45am
Justice and Attorney-General	Attorney-General and Minister for Justice Department of Justice and Attorney-General	10:45am to 12:45pm
Break - lunch		12.45pm to 1:30pm
Police Service	Minister for Police Queensland Police Service Public Safety Business Agency (QPS)	1:30pm to 3:30pm
Break – afternoon tea		3:30pm to 3:45pm
Corrective Services	Minister for Corrective Services Prostitution Licensing Authority Queensland Corrective Services	3:45pm to 5:15pm
Break – dinner		5:15pm to 6:00pm
Fire and Emergency Services	Minister for Fire and Emergency Services Public Safety Business Agency (QFES) Queensland Fire and Emergency Services Office of Inspector-General Emergency Management	6:00pm to 7:30pm

Close The meeting closed at 7:16pm.

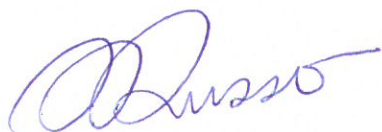
Certified correct on the

9th

day of

August

2018.



Peter Russo MP
Chair

MINUTES



Queensland Parliament - Committees

Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

Meeting 23, 56th Parliament – Estimates meeting No. 5

Room A.35, Parliament House

Thursday 26 July 2018

Members:	Mr Peter Russo MP	Member for Toohey (Chair)
	Mr James Lister MP	Member for Southern Downs (Deputy Chair)
	Mr Steve Andrew MP	Member for Mirani
	Mr Jim McDonald	Member for Lockyer
	Mrs Melissa McMahon MP	Member for Macalister
	Ms Corrine McMillan MP	Member for Mansfield

Present:	Ms Renee Easten	Committee Secretary
	Ms Kelli Longworth	Assistant Committee Secretary
	Ms Mary Westcott	Assistant Committee Secretary

1 Welcome and apologies

The Chair opened the private Estimates meeting at 8:35am.

2 Attendance of non-committee members

At its meeting on 14 June 2018, the committee resolved that non-committee members who make a written request to attend and ask questions at the committee's estimates hearing are given leave to do so, in accordance with Standing Order 181(e). The committee noted that written requests have been received from, and leave to appear granted to, the following members:

- Deb Frecklington MP, Member for Nanango
- Tim Mander MP, Member for Everton
- Jarrod Bleijie MP, Member for Kawana
- David Janetzki MP, Member for Toowoomba South
- Trevor Watts MP, Member for Toowoomba North
- Lachlan Millar MP, Member for Gregory
- Jon Krause MP, Member for Scenic Rim
- Michael Crandon MP, Member for Coomera
- Sandy Bolton MP, Member for Noosa
- Michael Berkman MP, Member for Maiwar

3 Answers to questions on notice prior to the hearing

The committee noted receipt of the answers to the questions on notice taken on notice by the Ministers prior to the hearing.

The committee noted receipt of correspondence from the Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services, Hon Mark Ryan MP, advising the committee of a typographical error in the prehearing questions on notice, no. 6.

Resolved: That the committee publishes the Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Service's revised answer to question on notice no.6.

Moved: Mrs McMahon Seconded: Mr McDonald

4 Members Estimates Manual

The committee noted receipt of the Members Estimates Manual.

5 Other business

Amended teleconference time

Resolved: That the committee moves its teleconference meeting on Thursday 9 August 2018 from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

Moved: Ms McMillan Seconded: Mr McDonald

Estimates hearing

The committee discussed conduct of the Estimates hearing.

Close

The meeting closed at 8:50am.

Certified correct on the

9th

day of

August

2018



Peter Russo MP
Chair

MINUTES



Queensland Parliament - Committees

Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

Meeting 24, 56th Parliament – Estimates meeting No. 6

Room 5.04, Parliamentary Annexe

Monday 30 July 2018

Members:

Mr Peter Russo MP	Member for Toohey (Chair)
Mr James Lister MP	Member for Southern Downs (Deputy Chair)
Mr Steve Andrew MP	Member for Mirani
Mr Jim McDonald	Member for Lockyer
Mrs Melissa McMahon MP	Member for Macalister
Ms Corrine McMillan MP	Member for Mansfield

Present:

Ms Renee Easten	Committee Secretary
Ms Mary Westcott	Assistant Committee Secretary

1 Welcome and apologies

The Chair opened the private Estimates meeting at 2:51pm.

2 Questions taken on notice at the hearing

Resolved: That the committee grants the Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services, Hon Mark Ryan MP, an extension until 12pm on Monday 6 August 2018 to provide answers for the questions taken on notice during the committee's estimates hearing regarding:

- the number of bail applications opposed by police for 57 patched OMCG members who are currently on bail
- in the last 12 months the number of juveniles who were charged with an offence while on bail.

Moved: Mr McDonald Seconded: Mrs McMahon

3 Other business

Nil.

Close The meeting closed at 2:56pm.

Certified correct on the

9th

day of

August

2018

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter Russo".

Peter Russo MP
Chair

MINUTES



Queensland Parliament - Committees

Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

Meeting 26, 56th Parliament – Estimates meeting No. 7

Teleconference and Room 5.04, Parliamentary Annexe

Thursday 9 August 2018

Members:	<u>Room 5.04</u> Mr Peter Russo MP <u>via teleconference</u> Mr James Lister MP Mr Jim McDonald Mrs Melissa McMahon MP Ms Corrine McMillan MP	Member for Toohey (Chair) Member for Southern Downs (Deputy Chair) Member for Lockyer Member for Macalister (from 2:05pm) Member for Mansfield
Apology:	Mr Steve Andrew MP	Member for Mirani
Present:	Ms Renee Easten Ms Mary Westcott Ms Bernice Watson	Committee Secretary Assistant Committee Secretary First Clerk Assistant Committees (2:16pm - 2:19pm)

1 Welcome

The Chair opened the private Estimates meeting at 2:01pm.

2 Minutes

Resolved: That the Minutes of the following meetings be confirmed as true and accurate records of the meetings:

- Estimates meeting No. 1 - 14 June 2018
- Estimates meeting No. 2 - 15 June 2018, 9:04am
- Estimates meeting No. 3 - 15 June 2018, 1:23pm
- Estimates meeting No. 4 - 15 June 2018, 6:37pm
- Estimates meeting No. 5 - 26 July 2018
- Estimates meeting No. 6 - 30 July 2018

Moved: Mr McDonald Seconded: Ms McMillan

3 Transcript

The committee noted the correspondence received 2 August 2018 from the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Hon Yvette D'Ath MP.

4 Questions taken on notice at the hearing

Resolved: That the committee authorises the publication of the answers to the questions on notice taken at the estimates hearing by the Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services and the Minister for Fire and Emergency Services.

Moved: Mr McDonald Seconded: Ms McMillan

5 Chair's draft report

Resolved: That the proposed expenditure, as detailed in the Appropriation Bill 2018 for the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee's areas of responsibility, be agreed to by the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Moved: Ms McMillan Seconded: Mr Russo

Ayes: 3 (Ms McMillan, Mr Russo, Mrs McMahan)

Noes: 0

Abstentions: 2 (Mr McDonald, Mr Lister)

Resolved: That the committee adopts the following pages of the Chair's draft report:

- pp i-ii Preliminaries Moved: Ms McMillan Seconded: Mrs McMahan

Ayes: 3 (Ms McMillan, Mr Russo, Mrs McMahan)

Noes: 0

Abstentions: 2 (Mr McDonald, Mr Lister)

- pp 1-2 Introduction Moved: Mrs McMahan Seconded: Ms McMillan

Ayes: 3 (Ms McMillan, Mr Russo, Mrs McMahan)

Noes: 0

Abstentions: 2 (Mr McDonald, Mr Lister)

- pp 4-13 Attorney-General Moved: Mr Russo Seconded: Ms McMillan

Ayes: 3 (Ms McMillan, Mr Russo, Mrs McMahan)

Noes: 0

Abstentions: 2 (Mr McDonald, Mr Lister)

- pp 14-21 Minister for Police Moved: Ms McMillan Seconded: Mrs McMahan

Ayes: 3 (Ms McMillan, Mr Russo, Mrs McMahan)

Noes: 0

Abstentions: 2 (Mr McDonald, Mr Lister)

- pp 22-26 Minister for Fire Moved: Mr Russo Seconded: Ms McMillan

Ayes: 3 (Ms McMillan, Mr Russo, Mrs McMahan)

Noes: 0

Abstentions: 2 (Mr McDonald, Mr Lister)

Resolved: That the committee:

- adopts the Chair's draft report titled 'Report No. 18, 56th Parliament, 2018-19 Budget Estimates' as a report of the committee

- authorises the committee secretariat to make grammatical, typographical and other minor amendments

- authorises the report be tabled in the Legislative Assembly.

Moved: Mr Lister Seconded: Mrs McMahan

Resolved: That the committee tables, with the report, a volume of additional information containing:

- minutes of meetings

- correspondence

- pre-hearing questions taken on notice and responses from Ministers

- questions taken on notice at the hearing and responses from Ministers

- documents tabled at the hearing.

Moved: Mr Lister Seconded: Mrs McMahan

6 Statements of reservation / dissenting reports

The committee agreed that any statements of reservation or dissenting reports must be provided to the committee secretary by 2:25pm on Friday 10 August 2018 in accordance with Standing Order 187(3).

7 Correspondence from the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice dated 26 July 2018

Resolved: That the committee writes to the Attorney-General thanking her for her correspondence and advising that on this occasion the committee has resolved not to take the matter further.

Moved: Mr McDonald Seconded: Mr Lister

8 Minutes of final estimates meeting

Resolved: That the committee empowers the Chair and Deputy Chair to authorise the finalisation of the minutes of the meeting.

Moved: Mr McDonald Seconded: Mrs McMahon

9 Other business

Nil.


Close The meeting closed at 2:25pm.

Certified correct on the **16th** day of **August** 2018



Peter Russo MP
Chair

Certified correct on the **16th** day of **August** 2018



James Lister MP
Deputy Chair

**Questions on notice and responses – *Attorney-General and
Minister for Justice***



Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 1:

In reference to page 83 of the SDS can the Attorney-General please advise what initiatives are being undertaken by the Electoral Commission Queensland to promote awareness of and participation in Queensland's electoral system?

Answer:

The Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ) undertakes a range of activities to promote awareness of and participation in Queensland's electoral system. Activities include –

- For the 2017 State General Election, ECQ ran an extensive advertising campaign with the theme, *Make it Count for Queensland*. The campaign sought to motivate people to vote, publicise key election dates and emphasise the reintroduction of full-preferential voting.
- To maximise reach, the campaign was run on traditional and digital media (i.e. radio and TV). The campaign featured more than 1,200 television advertisements and about 7,500 radio spots.
- ECQ also used social media by advertising on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Spotify, BuzzFeed and Snapchat. For example, Facebook advertisements alone reached more than 1.3 million people. Many of these popular and innovative platforms were used to engage young electors, as this demographic often records comparatively low participation rates.
- For the 2017 State General Election, ECQ developed a Voter Information Card which was mailed to more than 3.1 million enrolled electors (excluding Special Postal Voters as they automatically receive their ballot material in the mail). It advised recipients of the election date, polling booth locations and ways to contact ECQ.
- The Voter Information Card also featured a personalised barcode that is scanned to facilitate faster mark-off from the electronic electoral roll which enhances the voter experience by reducing processing times and minimising queues.
- A post-event survey showed 94% of respondents found the card improved ECQ's services to electors.



Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

- To make voting accessible to Queensland's increasingly multicultural community, ECQ produced a Multilingual Guide to Voting for the State election. It was printed in 27 languages including Chinese, Hindi, Italian, Somali and gave a step-by-step guide to casting a ballot using the full preferential system. It also explained that voting is confidential in Queensland.
- The guide can be accessed via this link: <https://www.ecq.qld.gov.au/voters-and-voting/voting-system/full-preferential-voting>.
- ECQ also trialled Drive-thru voting to provide another accessible voting option for individuals with a disability or mobility issue, seniors and their carers. The initiative gave these electors the opportunity to cast a secret ballot from within a vehicle and attracted positive media attention from across Queensland and interstate. Between the two sites (Tewantin TAFE and the Cleveland Baptist Church) 4,501 votes were taken.
- Prior to the election, ECQ also liaised with Vision Australia and Guide Dogs Queensland to promote Telephone Voting. This service is available to people with an impairment or low level of literacy, special postal voters and distance voters. It allows them to cast their vote in secret using a dedicated phone line. A post-election survey revealed that electors considered Telephone Voting had given them back their independence and their voice.



Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 2:

In reference to page 54 of the SDS can the Attorney-General advise on the role of Legal Aid Queensland in providing quality legal services to financially disadvantaged Queenslanders?

Answer:

Legal Aid Queensland provides quality and cost effective front line legal services to financially disadvantaged Queenslanders. Their services include community legal education, legal information and advice, duty lawyer services, court and tribunal representation, and dispute resolution.

Legal Aid Queensland received \$3.302 million in funding in 2017-18 to provide domestic and family violence duty lawyer services. Between October 2015 and March 2018, Legal Aid Queensland's domestic and family violence duty lawyers helped 37,488 clients.

Funding of \$1.588 million for the 2017-2020 financial years has also been provided to establish a State-wide sexual assault counselling privilege legal assistance service. Legal Aid Queensland will provide the new service, called Counselling Notes Protect, in partnership with the Women's Legal Service.

To support the establishment of the Queensland Drug and Alcohol Court, funding of \$2.688 million for the 2017-2021 financial years has been provided to Legal Aid Queensland to provide lawyers to represent eligible participants.

Targeted additional funding in 2017-18 also enabled Legal Aid Queensland to improve the range of legal assistance available for child protection matters including child protection duty lawyers, increased grants of aid for court representation including separate representatives, and the establishment of an early intervention program for referrals of vulnerable parents at risk of becoming involved in the child protection system.

During 2017-18 there was growth in demand for Legal Aid Queensland's criminal law services. For example, Legal Aid Queensland has forecast that it will have delivered over 106,000 State criminal law duty lawyer sessions for the 2017-18 financial year, this being more than 5,100 sessions, or 5% higher than the 2016-17 actual total of 100,873.

Legal Aid Queensland provides a range of civil law services. In 2017-18 the Queensland Government provided \$0.153 million of recurrent funding to support the continuation of the Farm and Rural Legal Service. This important service provides free specialist legal assistance,



Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

including attending farm debt mediations, to primary producers and rural small business operators in rural and remote areas of Queensland.

Legal Aid Queensland works in close partnership with private law lawyers to ensure the reliable delivery of legal aid services across Queensland. Additional funding from the Queensland Government enabled Legal Aid Queensland to implement a CPI increase of 1.5% to fees paid to private lawyers from 1 February 2018. The 2018 follows an earlier similar increase in 2017.

Under the National Partnership Agreement for Legal Assistance Services 2015-16 to 2019-20, the Commonwealth funding provided to Legal Aid Queensland to deliver primarily services related to family and Commonwealth civil law areas such as consumer law.

The introduction of the current National Partnership Agreement saw Legal Aid Queensland's funding reduce by \$1.5 million in 2015-16 compared to the funding level in the final year of the previous National Partnership Agreement.

Legal Aid Queensland took a phased approach to dealing with the \$1.5 million Commonwealth funding cut.

This approach involved limiting the length of family dispute resolution conferences, limiting the number of funded expert reports, and tightening the criteria for grants of aid for family law litigation.

As a result of the cut, Legal Aid Queensland now provides fewer grants of aid for dispute resolution and litigation in family law matters than it did before the current National Partnership Agreement commenced.



Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 3:

In reference to page 73 of the SDS can the Attorney-General advise of what initiatives and programs are being undertaken by the Queensland Family and Child Commission to support safer communities and protect vulnerable Queensland children?

Answer:

The Queensland Family and Child Commission (QFCC) continues to promote the safety, wellbeing and best interests of all children and young people. This is achieved through providing oversight of the child protection and family support system and associated reform initiatives; educating parents, families, communities and professionals about how they can keep children and young people safe and the services available to strengthen and support Queensland families and; working alongside our partners to strengthen the capacity and capability across the system.

Through its *Growing Up in Queensland* initiative, the QFCC is gathering the views, thoughts and opinions of more than 5000 children and young people on the opportunities and challenges they face and what they need from government, business and community leaders. This evidence will be used to advocate for system improvements across all portfolios and inform and provide direction for the QFCC's key priorities.

The QFCC's *Out of the Dark* project continues to educate children, families and professionals about how to recognise internet child sexual abuse, prevent any risk or harm and respond to the risk, if it occurs. The approach includes the provision of educational resources for children and their families and online reporting tools.

The QFCC provided three reports to Government in 2017-18 to improve systems which protect vulnerable children and young people. The QFCC will continue to oversee recommendations from these reviews to make sure the child protection system as a whole is strengthened, information sharing is improved across government and non-government agencies, and operational processes and safeguards for children are strengthened.

The QFCC is also completing its Year 3 systemic evaluation of the Child Protection Reform Program. This will identify factors that have facilitated or impeded implementation and early indicators of progress towards outcomes of the reform program.

The QFCC continues to provide community education initiatives to promote and advocate the responsibility of families and communities to protect and care for children and young people and encourage 'help seeking' and uptake of early intervention support services.



Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

The QFCC will continue to partner with the child protection and family support sector to implement the Strengthening our Sector strategy and action plans, developed collaboratively with the sector. This will strengthen the capacity and capability of the sector, enabling it to deliver better outcomes for Queensland's most vulnerable children and families.

To help address the disproportionate representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children across all aspects of the child protection and youth justice systems, the QFCC continues to make sure the interests of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people and families are adequately and appropriately represented.

The QFCC has recently commenced an initiative to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community leaders, families and service providers to define and conceptualise family and community responsibility for protecting children, and to understand children's aspirations. This will provide an evidence base to inform the QFCC's ongoing community education and advocacy.

The QFCC has partnered across Government and the community under *Our Way: A generational strategy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families 2017-37* and *Changing Tracks 2017-19* which aims to eliminate the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in out-of-home care. The QFCC is leading and implementing two allocated actions and partnering with other agencies to support four other priority actions.

The QFCC translates research knowledge into accessible information for policy makers and practitioners to assist them in helping vulnerable Queensland children and families. It also brings together influential government and non-government stakeholders to hear key researchers present and explore place-based solutions to issues inspired by the latest research to assist them in helping vulnerable Queensland children and families.

The QFCC plays a part in informing, influencing and supporting the Government's national agenda commitments to strengthen safeguards for children and young people. The QFCC is engaging with agencies to implement recommendations of the *Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse*.

In 2017-18 the QFCC supported the domestic and family violence prevention agenda through submissions to the Queensland and Commonwealth Parliaments to promote the safety and wellbeing of children and advocate for everyone's right to be protected from exploitation, violence and abuse. We contributed to the *National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2020* through the provision of expert advice to support the development of the *Fourth Action Plan 2018-20*. The QFCC contributed to Queensland's work to combat cyberbullying in line with national strategies, Inquiries and the Council of Australian Governments. The QFCC also provided expert advice through submissions, roundtables and reports to assist with the implementation of the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

In 2017-18, the QFCC provided one submission and 11 information papers to improve understanding of risk factors and support new policies and practices to reduce serious child injury and death.



Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 4:

In reference to page 5 of the SDS can the Attorney-General provide an overview of the transformational change occurring with the Queensland Blue Card system and how Queensland's system compares with other jurisdictions?

Answer:

Queensland was one of the first jurisdictions to introduce a working with children check scheme and has been enhancing protections for children in regulated service environments since 2001.

The blue card system mitigates past, present and future risks to children through:

- screening people working with children and deeming people ineligible to work with children based on their known police or disciplinary information;
- monitoring all blue card holders and applicants on a daily basis for changes in their Queensland police information; and
- requiring child-related organisations to implement policies and procedures to manage risks to children.

On 7 September 2017, the Palaszczuk Government released the Queensland Family and Child Commission (QFCC) report, *Keeping Queensland's children more than safe: Review of the blue card system* (the Review Report) and indicated its broad support for the intent of all 81 recommendations.

The recommendations in the Review Report are wide ranging and framed around four key areas: (1) overarching reforms; (2) streamlining the blue card system; (3) strengthening the blue card system; and (4) improving support and maintaining public confidence. In making these recommendations, the QFCC also considered the recommendations made in the Working with Children Check Report by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (Royal Commission).

The QFCC review found that Queensland's blue card system is one of the strongest working with children check systems in Australia, Queenslanders have embraced it and it is an important part of our culture. However, while the blue card system is a strong foundation for creating safe environments for children, there is scope to strengthen and streamline this very effective base to keep pace with changing community expectations and emerging risks.



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As at 30 June 2018 there were approximately 720,000 blue card holders and applicants and over 32,000 organisations actively engaged with the blue card system. In 2017-18, more than 360,000 applications and linking forms were processed. It is a high-volume environment with significant community engagement. Changes to the system need to be implemented carefully to ensure that current safeguards to children are not lessened.

It is important that we get the staging of these reforms right and that we are engaging with the many stakeholders interacting by the system in Queensland. A reference group has been formed to oversee the implementation of the blue card reforms. The group meets on a quarterly basis and is comprised of government and non-government stakeholders and represents a cross-section of the sectors and industries which are impacted by the blue card system. Work has commenced on many of the recommendations and a detailed implementation plan is being developed in consultation with stakeholders. When complete, this will provide a roadmap for implementing the recommendations made by the QFCC.

Implementation of the recommendations will need to occur through a phased approach across a number of years, prioritising the need to streamline the blue card system before its scope is expanded. This will include automating the application process and developing online services to better support organisations manage their blue card obligations. This will provide a solid foundation upon which other key recommendations from the Report can be built.

Work has commenced on 24 recommendations including:

- moving towards a 'No Card, No Start' approach to ensure that all people working with children have been screened before they start;
- improving the identity check process;
- building cultural capability within the system to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples;
- assessing options to streamline the application process;
- introducing photographs on blue cards;
- enabling people to directly apply for a blue card to be job ready; and
- developing an organisation portal to assist employers to manage their blue card system obligations more effectively and efficiently.

The Department has undertaken discovery sessions with 21 organisations to identify their requirements for the organisational portal.

Departmental officers have also commenced work on improving interjurisdictional information sharing and implementing relevant recommendations of the Royal Commission through participation in a cross-jurisdictional working group.



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Outside of the Review Report, the Department of Justice and Attorney-General is also progressing the implementation of recommendations made by the QFCC as part of the *Recommendation 28 Supplementary Review: A report on information sharing to enhance the safety of children in regulated home-based services* (Supplementary Review). As part of this work, a centralised register is currently being developed which will enable key blue card information about people providing foster/kinship care, family day care and stand-alone care or adults residing in homes where this care is provided, to be shared between relevant regulatory agencies including the Queensland Police Service, Department of Education, Office of the Public Guardian and the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women.



Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 5:

In reference to page 6 of the SDS can the Attorney-General advise how the Palaszczuk Government is re-establishing the various diversionary courts and programs?

Answer:

Murri Court, Queensland Drug and Alcohol Court, Court Link and QICR

In 2015-16, the Palaszczuk Government committed \$8.692 million over four years to reinstate specialist courts.

Since 2016, Murri Courts have been established in 14 locations across the state: Cairns, Cherbourg, Caboolture, Townsville, Mt Isa, Mackay, Maroochydore, Rockhampton, Brisbane, Wynnum, Cleveland, Richlands, Toowoomba and St George. Murri Court is a bail based program that offers a culturally appropriate court process that respects and acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

On 13 June 2017, the *Queensland Drug and Specialist Courts Review: Final Report* was tabled in Parliament. The report outlined an evidence based approach to establishing a drug court in Queensland and an overarching framework for specialist courts and court programs.

In 2017-18, a further \$22.7 million over four years was allocated to re-establish the Queensland Drug and Alcohol Court and to provide court referral and support services. Of this, \$19.3 million was used for the Queensland Drug and Alcohol Court and \$3.4 million for a court referral and support service, Court Link.

Following the passing of the *Penalties and Sentences (Drug and Alcohol Treatment Orders) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2017* in October 2017, the Queensland Drug and Alcohol Court commenced in Brisbane on 29 January 2018.

The Queensland Drug and Alcohol Court delivers an intensive and targeted response for adult offenders at a high risk of reoffending with severe drug and/or alcohol use directly associated with their offending. It involves an integrated approach by the judiciary, law enforcement, corrections, legal and health practitioners to ensure that all drug court participants receive the necessary supervision, treatment and interventions to address their drug and alcohol use and offending.



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Following the 2015-16 budget, the successor to the Special Circumstances Court Diversion Program, Queensland Integrated Court Referrals (QICR) was established in five locations: Brisbane, Ipswich, Southport, Cairns and Mt Isa.

Consistent with the *Queensland Drug and Specialist Courts Review: Final Report* recommendations to build a range of interventions to address drug-related crime, a new court referral and support program, Court Link was established. Court Link assists defendants to address underlying causes of offending behaviour and provides individualised case management support and services to participants and supports the court.

Court Link commenced in Brisbane on 27 November 2017 and Cairns on 25 June 2018, replacing QICR in these locations.

In the 2018-19 budget, a further \$9.12 million over four years has been allocated for Murri Court and Court Link, ensuring Murri Court is recurrently funded in 14 locations and the expansion of Court Link to Southport, Mt Isa and Ipswich. Court Link will replace QICR in Southport, Ipswich and Mt Isa by early 2019.

Restorative Justice Programs in Aurukun and Mornington Island

Restorative justice programs operate in two remote discrete communities - Mornington Island since 2008 and Aurukun since 2014. Both programs aim to reduce levels of violence in the community by establishing a locally-based and operated, culturally inclusive mediation and peace-keeping service to build local capacity to resolve disputes peacefully. Both programs are considered to be delivering significant benefits to their respective communities.

In 2015, the Mornington Island Restorative Justice Program was recognised as the national winner of the Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Award. A 2015 cost benefit analysis was conducted by the Commonwealth for the project. The analysis found that over 10 years the project would use approximately \$2 million in resources but produce economic benefits worth over \$19 million, resulting in a net benefit of over \$17 million. This means for every \$1 invested in the Mornington Island Restorative Justice Program, there is an \$11 return in economic benefit to the community.

However, the 2018-19 Queensland Budget allocated \$0.9 million for the continuation of the Aurukun Restorative Justice Program until 30 June 2019.

The Australian Government funds the Mornington Island Restorative Justice Program under the Indigenous Advancement Strategy. Previous funding of \$600,000 was provided over three years and ceased on 30 June 2018. The Australian Government has agreed to extend funding for a further six months until 31 December 2018.

I will be writing to Senator the Honourable Nigel Scullion, Minister for Indigenous Affairs to commence discussions regarding recurrent funding for both programs under the Australian Government's Indigenous Advancement Strategy.



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Specialist domestic and family violence courts

In 2017–18, the Palaszczuk Government invested \$69.5 million over four years, including \$20 million capital, for specialist domestic and family violence courts in Southport, Beenleigh, and Townsville with circuits to Mount Isa and Palm Island.

In October 2017, I launched Queensland's first permanent specialist domestic and family violence court – the Southport specialist domestic and family violence court. This court is a fully integrated civil and criminal domestic and family violence court, and our hub of innovation for the development of best practice in the delivery of domestic and family violence justice services.

Two new magistrates were appointed as specialist domestic and family violence magistrates in Southport in October 2017.

At Beenleigh, a fully integrated civil and criminal domestic and family violence court will operate in 2019-20 following completion of building works. Until then, additional funding has been allocated to provide enhancements to the registry and wraparound support services for the civil domestic and family violence callover list.

A new magistrate was appointed in October 2017 as a specialist domestic and family violence magistrate in Townsville, and commenced hearing the civil domestic and family violence callover list and circuiting to Mount Isa and Palm Island. In the 2018-19 Budget, the Palaszczuk Government has committed a further \$8.052 million over four years to extend the scope of the domestic and family violence court services in Townsville and the circuit locations of Mount Isa and Palm Island to include criminal matters.

Collaboration with all court stakeholders is continuing to fully develop the Townsville/Mount Isa/Palm Island court model. A consultant has been appointed to develop a culturally appropriate domestic and family violence court service in these communities.

The 2016-17 State Budget allocated \$672,000 over four years for magistrates' professional development on domestic and family violence issues.

The \$20 million in capital funding over two years has been allocated to refurbish the Townsville and Beenleigh courthouses to create new domestic and family violence courtrooms, comfortable safety areas for victims of domestic and family violence with secure access to the courtrooms, a specialist court registry, and sound proofed meeting rooms for parties to meet with their duty lawyers and support services.

Further support for people impacted by DFV

Other Courts' action in 2017-18 to support those impacted by DFV built upon the previously produced online, interactive DF1 *Application for a Domestic and Family Violence Protection Order* form with a similar electronic DF4 *Application to Vary a Domestic and Family Violence Protection Order* form, available from May 2018 via the Courts webpage. The form design incorporates



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feedback from users. It steps applicants intuitively through completing an application to amend DFV protection orders in plain English, with prompts and drop-down information boxes.

In June 2018, the Courts' team completed culturally sensitive communications material to help people in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community better understand DFV protection orders and reduce fear, uncertainty and anxiety about DFV processes. This material will be communicated to vulnerable Queenslanders in 2018, aligning with wider development of culturally appropriate responses to DFV for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



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ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 6:

In reference to page 5 of the SDS can the Attorney-General advise of any initiatives and programs being undertaken by the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages to better enable Queenslanders to access their services?

Answer:

The past decade has seen Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages (RBDM) completely transform from an archaic, paper based organisation to be a leader in the delivery of high quality, contemporary government services. The RBDM Revitalisation Program, which was completed on 30 June 2015, included digitising six million life event registrations (held previously only in paper form).

With digital services now well embedded, RBDM remains focused on advancing and extending their services and has this year invested in a range of initiatives, technologies and relationships required to improve both the accessibility and timeliness of the services they provide to Queenslanders.

2017–18 saw RBDM register the 5 millionth Queenslanders, drive Queensland's implementation of the Commonwealth's marriage equality amendments and commence the significant body of work required to ensure births, deaths and marriages legislation remains relevant to Queensland families into the future. 2018 has also seen a focus on online and local service delivery options.

From an online perspective, RBDM is committed to providing online services and enhancing those services. As a result there has been a major refresh of RBDM's online family history service and the commencement of an online marriage portal.

RBDM's online Family History Service continues to be one of the most visited Queensland Government websites. Enhancements launched on Queensland Day, 6 June 2018, make searching faster and more flexible. While users were previously required to search for a particular event and exact name, they can now search by name alone and are provided with a ranked list of all potential matches across all life event types (much like google search results).

As part of this launch, RBDM also extended the range of documents available to family historians via the online portal to include almost 700,000 source document images (e.g. the actual form completed and submitted to RBDM by parents registering a birth).



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In the first month of operation, family historians purchased and downloaded 191 source documents.

The limited release of RBDM's online marriage portal has enabled Marriage Celebrants and Ministers of Religion to lodge, track and reference the documents of Queensland couples seeking to marry.

Celebrants participating in the trial have been extremely positive as the service minimises the requirement for them to manually complete paperwork and enables them to reference previous marriages they have completed. Additionally, the online marriage portal:

- uses pre-populated data, look up lists and business rules to improve data accuracy and integrity;
- allows marriage forms to be scanned, uploaded and stored;
- enables certificate ordering using the Queensland Government's payment gateway; and
- sends automated email/SMS notifications to celebrants if their submissions require review or further information.

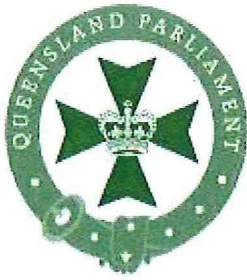
In terms of local delivery options, January - February 2018 saw RBDM partner with the Justices of the Peace Branch to streamline and speed up applications for certificate orders during the busiest period of the year by enabling JPs in the Community Program volunteers to check identity documents of customers at a number of Shopping Centres throughout the state.

With the help of the JP Branch, Westfield North Lakes, Westfield Garden City, Robina Town Centre and Orion Springfield Program sites were selected for the pilot. RBDM supplied each site with a tablet and created a verification portal for JPs to advise RBDM of a successful ID presentation.

In total, 80 JP volunteers across four shopping centres assisted 174 customers to verify their identity to finalise their applications for life event certificates. In total, 130 birth, 52 marriage, two death and three civil partnership certificate applications were processed through the pilot.

The Pilot will be extended in 2018–19.

Finally, RBDM has been providing support to regional and rural communities including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, by visiting these communities and through partnering with community based organisations such as Pathfinders and the Institute of Urban Indigenous Health to improve access to life event certificates and build awareness about birth registration.



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ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 7:

In reference to page 5 of the SDS can the Attorney-General please provide an update regarding the progressive developments, including any legislative changes, to support LGBTI Queenslanders?

Answer:

The Palaszczuk Government is strongly committed to ensuring our laws support the rights and dignity of sex and gender diverse Queenslanders. The Government has implemented significant law reforms which will have a positive impact on the lives of LGBTI Queenslanders.

In March 2017 the Palaszczuk Government announced that for the first time in Queensland the LGBTI Legal Service would be allocated funding to deliver state-wide legal services to the LGBTI community.

In September 2017, the Government amended the Civil Partnerships Regulation 2012 (CP Regulation) to prescribe certain same-sex marriages in overseas jurisdictions as civil partnerships. These amendments gave these overseas same-sex marriages, for the first time, a form of legal recognition in Queensland.

Also in September 2017, the Palaszczuk Government announced funding of \$7,000 for Queensland LGBTI Legal Service to help enhance community awareness around unlawful vilification during the marriage survey.

When the Federal Government passed its marriage equality laws in early December 2017 and had them commencing less than a week later, the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages (RBDM) acted quickly to ensure that on commencement of these changes on 9 December 2017, registry processes reflected the changes, relevant forms were updated and information was available about what to do for a same sex marriage.

At 1 July 2018, there had been 594 same sex marriages registered in Queensland.

In March 2018, following the introduction of marriage equality, the CP Regulation was amended again to reflect that overseas same sex marriages, that were recognised as civil partnerships following the September 2017 CP regulation amendments, are now recognised as marriages in Australia.



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Also in March 2018, as part of the review of the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 2003* (BDMR Act), a discussion paper examining how Queensland life events registration services can improve legal recognition of LGBTI Queenslanders and their families was released.

The discussion paper sought feedback on:

- recording a person's sex on birth, adoption and death registers, namely, whether there should be any categories in addition to male or female;
- the requirements for recording the reassignment of a person's sex; and
- the way same-sex parents may be recorded on registers.

Submissions on the discussion paper closed on 19 April 2018. A significant number of responses to the discussion paper capturing a range of views were received. The Government is currently considering the responses to the Discussion Paper.

Following the introduction of marriage equality, the Palaszczuk Government also acted quickly to ensure that Queenslanders who have undergone sexual reassignment surgery no longer have to divorce their partner to have their sex legally recognised.

On 18 June 2018 the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Amendment Act 2018* (BDMR Amendment Act) removed the restriction under section 22 of the BDMR Act preventing a married person applying to legally change their sex on the birth or adopted children register.

At the same time the *Births Deaths and Marriages Registration Regulation 2015* was amended to remove the requirement for a person to provide evidence that they are not married before the reassignment of their sex could be noted on the birth or adopted children register. As I stated in my second reading speech on the Bill, the amendments were "necessary to remove a form of unjust and painful discrimination facing members of Queensland's transgender community".

The *Criminal Law (Historical Homosexual Convictions Expungement) Act 2017* (the Expungement Act) commenced on 30 June 2018. The Expungement Act establishes a scheme to provide for the expungement of convictions and charges for particular historical homosexual offences.

Applications can be made under the scheme for the expungement of eligible offences that were charged or convicted before the de-criminalisation of consensual adult homosexual activity in Queensland on 19 January 1991.

A successful applicant will as far as possible be treated in law as if the conviction had never been imposed. Records relating to a successfully expunged conviction or charge will be annotated by Government agency criminal record holders to show that the record relates to an expunged conviction or charge.

Importantly, a successful applicant will not be obliged to disclose the expunged conviction or charge pursuant to any requirements under any other Act and may claim, under oath, that the expunged conviction or charge never occurred.

This scheme is an important step in righting past wrongs.



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ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 8:

In reference to page 30 of the SDS and page 4 of Budget Paper 4 can the Attorney-General advise of any community initiatives and educational programs being undertaken by the Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council to increase community understanding about sentencing processes in Queensland?

Answer:

The Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council has developed a range of initiatives to help increase community understanding about how sentencing works. It has:

- developed *Judge for Yourself*, an online program that allows people to walk in the shoes of a judge or magistrate and 'sentence' three real offenders. The program is also offered free of charge as a face-to-face, interactive presentation to high schools, universities and community groups. From commencement on 18 May 2017 to 12 June 2018, the online program has been accessed by more than 10,000 online users. The Council has so far delivered 17 face-to-face presentations (including at various schools, Rotary Clubs and other community groups) with another six presentations currently booked;
- published the first *Queensland Sentencing Guide*, which explains how Queensland courts sentence adults found guilty of an offence. The Guide explains how sentencing laws are made, the role and jurisdiction of different criminal courts, sentencing considerations and penalty options. The guide is available as a free resource on the Council's website and includes a glossary to help simplify language commonly used in the sentencing process;
- published the *Sentencing Spotlight* series which documents statistical information on sentencing outcomes for specific offences. As at 12 June 2018, six *Sentencing Spotlight's* have been published to provide insight on sentencing processes and outcomes for a range of offences including breach of bail and trafficking in dangerous drugs;
- developed the *Sentencing Matters* podcast series where the Council talks to local, national and international experts about all aspects of sentencing, including sentencing reform, public opinion and sentencing, youth justice, and parole. As at 12 June 2018, there have been 11 episodes published to the Council's website on a range of issues including evidence-based sentencing, the Gold Coast Domestic and Family Violence Specialist Court, and keeping kids safe online;



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- offered the Sentencing Seminar series which feature a range of national and international presenters speaking on sentencing topics of interest to the community. There have been 6 public seminars presented as at 12 June 2018, all of which have been recorded and are available on the Council's website;
- developed and published a series of free teaching resources which include worksheets, posters, videos and presentations for school teachers to use with senior secondary school students, exploring different aspects of sentencing, which is a component of the legal studies curriculum; and
- consulted members of the community directly in relation to its current reference on the sentencing of criminal offences arising from the death of a child. The Council has held 10 focus groups across Queensland with members of the public, and has held two community summits in Logan and Townsville to seek public views on this important issue.

The Council's website also provides a wealth of information about sentencing, and its' resources are promoted via social media and through community consultation being undertaken for specific sentencing projects.



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ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 9:

In reference to page 4 of the SDS can the Attorney-General outline how Justices of the Peace and Commissioners for Declarations provide access to justice services for Queenslanders?

Answer:

Justices of the Peace (JPs) and Commissioners for Declarations (Cdecs) undertake an important role for Queenslanders by witnessing documents such as statutory declarations, affidavits, annexures, Enduring Powers of Attorney, Land Title documents, wills, and various court documents such as bail undertakings, complaints and summons that support the administration of justice.

Additionally, JPs and Cdecs serve many people in the community who require various documents to be certified and lodged with government agencies, universities, colleges, financial entities and the private sector.

JPs are regularly called upon to consider the issuing of significant documents such as police search warrants to ensure the grounds of the application have been justified. In so doing, JPs undertake a 'gatekeeping role' within the criminal justice system.

In accordance with sections 13 and 38A of the *Justices of the Peace and Commissioners for Declarations Act 1991* (the Act), the Registrar of the Justices of the Peace Branch (JPB), maintains the register of all appointed JPs and Cdecs, including their name and contact details and their date of appointment.

JPB provide online and telephone administrative support to JPs and Cdecs requiring 'on the spot' advice. The JPB website (www.qld.gov.au/jps) provides a wide range of resources to assist JPs and Cdecs to carry out their duties effectively with current and relevant information. The online resources include:

- Face to face workshops and seminar details;
- Webinars;
- Online seminars;
- Opportunities to be a JP/Cdec mentor/mentee; and



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- PDF copies of current and past JP Bulletins, Technical Bulletins and the JP and Cdec handbooks.

Many JPs and Cdec have made their name, phone number and suburb location details available for public access through the 'Search for an after-hours JP or Cdec' search engine located on the JPB website www.qld.gov.au/jps.

People seeking to locate a JP or Cdec may contact the friendly and professional staff of the JPB directly on 1300 301 147 (during office hours) or email jp@justice.qld.gov.au.

The Department of Justice and Attorney-General records indicate over 2,300 volunteer JPs and Cdec are providing more than 130,000 hours of witnessing services to the community each year through the ever expanding JPs in the Community Program (the Program).

JPB currently support teams of volunteers in 236 community sites located in shopping centres, courthouses, hospitals, libraries and other community locations across Queensland.

The three key objectives of the Program are to:

1. Increase access to witnessing services for the entire Queensland community;
2. Ensure consistent witnessing practices are being followed by JPs and Cdec in the community; and
3. Create transparency and equal access to services within the justice system.

Currently, there are 82,072 JPs and Cdec on the Justices of the Peace Register. There is a total of 42,879 JPs (JP, JP (Magistrates Court), JP (Cdec) and JP (Qualified)) and 39,193 Cdec.

Length of service of JPs and Cdec are:

- 0 to 25 years – 59,548
- 26 to 40 years – 19,499
- 41 to 50 years – 2,508
- 51 to 60 years – 457
- 61 to 70 years – 56, and
- 71 plus years – 4

I commend all JPs and Cdec for their service to the administration of justice in Queensland and particularly the contributions of the volunteers involved in the JPs in the Community Program.

Community members interested in becoming a Justice of the Peace or Commissioner for Declarations should see the 'How to become a JP' section at www.qld.gov.au/jps.



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ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 10:

In reference to page 11 and the Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation's responsibility for the Gambling Community Benefit Fund, can the Attorney-General advise how much money has been returned to Queensland communities through the Gambling Community Benefit Fund?

Answer:

I am pleased to be responsible for approving the distribution of grants from the Gambling Community Benefit Fund to various not-for-profit community groups throughout Queensland. The fund is Queensland's largest one-off grants program, with approximately \$55 million available for distribution each year. Eligible not-for-profit organisations can apply for funding up to \$35,000 to enhance their capacity to provide services, leisure activities and opportunities for Queensland communities.

The fund commenced in 1994 and since that time the Queensland Government has been supporting not-for-profit organisations by providing funds that are used to purchase equipment and infrastructure. Recently the Toowoomba BMX Club Inc received \$33,517 to resurface their race track to improve rider safety and to encourage more participation in the sport. Charleville Branch Little Athletics Centre Inc also received \$14,318 to purchase much needed sporting equipment to allow the club to continue to provide quality athletic skill and coordination development for children within the surrounding region.

I am excited to announce that 2019 will mark the 25th anniversary year and 100th funding round of the fund. Since inception, more than 54,000 grants totalling more than \$816 million have been awarded to hard working community organisations across Queensland. To commemorate this significant milestone, I have allocated \$1.25 million of grant funds to be made available to 11 applicants.

Ten organisations will receive up to \$100,000 each and one organisation will receive up to \$250,000 for larger scale initiatives that will significantly benefit Queensland communities through the Commemorative Grants.

These grants will have a significant impact and support those organisations which have previously been unable to fund initiatives greater than \$35,000. Expressions of Interest close 31 August 2018 and I encourage your constituents to refer to the Department of Justice and Attorney-General's website for further information at: www.justice.qld.gov.au/grants.



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ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 11:

With reference to page 11 of the SDS regarding Liquor, Gaming and Fair Trading, can the Attorney outline the budget for the Government's Tackling Alcohol-Fuelled Violence policy in 2018-19, broken down by specific initiative?

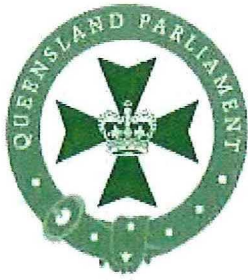
Answer:

The Palaszczuk Government is delivering on its commitment to keep Queenslanders safe through its Tackling Alcohol-fuelled Violence policy, with the objective of reducing the incidence of alcohol-related harm in and around Queensland's licensed venues. Funding has been allocated to the Department of Justice and Attorney-General in 2018-19 (source: Budget Measures 2018-19) for the following initiative:

- \$2.042 million to fund compliance staff to continue increased inspections of licensed venues during peak periods and to monitor the industry's progress on implementing and complying with the Tackling Alcohol Fuelled Violence policy.

In addition, grants are available from the Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation to assist local safe night precinct boards as follows:

- seed grant funding of \$750,000 (excluding GST) was originally made available to meet establishment and initial administrative costs of the local boards. A maximum of \$50,000 is available to each safe night precinct; and
- operational grant funding of \$8 million (excluding GST) was originally made available to local boards to implement Tackling Alcohol-Fuelled Violence initiatives. Examples of initiatives receiving grants include on-street security, taxi marshals, CCTV, radio networks and safety campaigns.



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ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 12:

With reference to page 11 of the SDS regarding Liquor, Gaming and Fair Trading, can the Attorney outline the budget for the Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation in 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 (reported separately by year) and the FTE allocation of inspectors for each of those years as well?

Answer:

The budget for the Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation for 2018-19 is \$30,289,900; for 2019-20 \$29,092,400; for 2020-21 \$29,887,100 and for 2021-22 \$30,547,300, excluding any department corporate services allocation.

The Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation has compliance officers in 13 locations across the State undertaking activities under liquor and gaming legislation administered by the Office. Compliance officer FTEs for 2018-19 are 113.4, 2019-20 are 101.4, 2020-21 are 101.4 and 2021-22 are 101.4.

The 113.4 FTEs for 2018-19 include 12 temporary FTEs engaged to assist in supporting Safe Night Precinct and Tackling Alcohol-Fuelled Violence (TAFV) initiatives. Temporary compliance officer funding, which has been in place since 2014-15, was due to expire on 30 June 2018, but was extended for 12 months pending the independent evaluation of the Government's TAFV policy.



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ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 13:

With reference to page 11 of the SDS regarding Liquor, Gaming and Fair Trading can the Attorney outline the number of complaints made in 2016-17 and 2017-18 (reported separately by year) about the Queensland funeral industry, the number of proactive inspections by OFT Inspectors (for each of those years) and the compliance plan for 2018-19?

Answer:

In the five years prior to 2016-17, the OFT received an average of eight complaints a year about the funeral industry. In 2016-17, the OFT received seven complaints and in 2017-18, with significant public attention focused on this industry the OFT received 25 complaints.

The complaints relate to a variety of matters including complaints about funeral insurance, allegations of excessive costs, the quality of services provided, issues concerning legal ownership of ashes, upkeep of cemeteries and complaints from traders against other traders. A significant number of complaints received relate to funeral insurance. The OFT does not have jurisdiction in relation to funeral insurance as these are considered financial products and fall within the responsibilities of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission. Where the complainants agree, the OFT refers these complaints to ASIC or to the Financial Ombudsman's service as appropriate.

The OFT's proactive compliance approach is cyclical. The core of the compliance program is a schedule of compliance operations during which OFT inspectors make announced or unannounced visits to traders to check they are complying with the law. Resources are targeted on identified risks and analysis of the marketplace. Industry sectors, licensees and traders most likely to cause harm, and consumers most at risk, receive the greatest focus. OFT's Annual Compliance Program is published on the agency's website.

During 2016-17 and 2017-18, OFT continued to receive and address complaints, monitor the types of matters being raised, and investigate issues where possible breaches of consumer laws may have occurred.



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The OFT remains alert to issues potentially impacting vulnerable consumers and as a result of the increase in complaints about funeral services industry traders in 2017-18, the 2018-19 OFT Annual Compliance Program includes an education and compliance monitoring activity targeting this industry's compliance with the Australian Consumer Law.

This operation will involve an end to end process with research and preparation of industry guidance material commencing in July 2018; educational activities commencing in November 2018; and compliance activities scheduled for January and February 2019.

Any funeral services industry provider found to be in breach of their Australian Consumer Law obligations over the compliance portion of the operation can expect to be the subject of enforcement action by the OFT.



Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 14:

With reference to page 18 of the SDS and the Departmental budget summary, can the Attorney outline the reasons for budget underspends in –

- a) Justice Services – \$6.26 million;
- b) Legal and Prosecution Services – \$9.309 million; and
- c) Youth Justice - \$17.713 million

(reported separately for each of these service areas)?

Answer:

- a) Justice Services – \$6.26 million

The reduction in expenditure for Justice Services is mainly due to:

- Short term savings in employee expenses, improved procurement and contract management practices and outcomes, efficiencies gained from continual business improvement strategies and improved workforce management and payroll processes.
- The Department of Justice and Attorney-General (DJAG) will utilise these short term savings towards continuing business and service delivery initiatives in 2018-19 and meet DJAG's contribution to whole-of-Government reprioritisation program. There will be no forced or voluntary redundancy programs in response to reprioritisation measures.
- Interdepartmental transfer of funding and resources to the Department of Transport and Main Roads for shared resourcing and responsibilities under Regional Services Outlet program.

- b) Legal and Prosecution Services – \$9.309 million

The reduction in expenditure for Legal and Prosecution Services is mainly due to:

- Re-alignment of the Strategic Policy Unit out of the Service Area "Legal and Prosecution Services" to Corporate Support, commencing with the 2017-18 Estimated Actual, in accord with a service review conducted with central agencies.
- Transfer of funding provided for the Criminal Statistics Body to Queensland Treasury.



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- Short term savings in employee expenses, improved procurement and contract management practices and outcomes, efficiencies gained from continual business improvement strategies and improved workforce management and payroll processes.
- DJAG will utilise these short term savings towards continuing business and service delivery initiatives in 2018-19 and meet DJAG's contribution to whole-of-Government reprioritisation program. There will be no forced or voluntary redundancy programs in response to reprioritisation measures.
- These reductions were partially offset by additional funding for Director of Child Protection Litigation to address workload pressures.

c) Youth Justice - \$17.713 million

The Youth Justice budget represents the period 1 July 2017 to 31 December 2017, the effective financial transfer date of this function to the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women. The expenditure is only for the six month period and is not reflective of the expenditure of the full financial year. I refer the committee to the appropriate Minister responsible for Youth Justice matters.



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ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 15:

With reference to page 21 of the SDS regarding the Departmental capital budget and to the \$118.284 million capital budget underspend, can the Attorney outline the details of specific capital projects that have had funding realignments and revised funding profiles (listed by specific project and itemised expenditure)?

Answer:

The variance between 2017-18 Budget and 2017-18 Estimated Actual is predominantly due to the Machinery-of-Government Changes for the transfer-out of Queensland Corrective Services (\$65.6 million) and Youth Justice (\$31.8 million).

Additionally, some capital budget allocations were deferred to 2018-19 and out-years for capital projects including the Rockhampton Courthouse (\$5.5 million), Beenleigh Courthouse (\$5.2 million), Townsville Courthouse (\$4.2 million) and Brisbane Magistrates Court (\$3 million) to allow for additional stakeholder consultation, incorporate learnings from the Southport Courthouse Domestic and Family Violence Refurbishment project and the development of detailed staging plans to ensure minimal disruption to service delivery during the construction phase of each project.

A further budget variation of \$2.6 million relates to the actual capital expenditure for 2016-17 being higher than the estimate in the 2017-18 Service Delivery Statement, resulting in a post-budget adjustment to the original 2017-18 capital budget.



Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 16:

With reference to page 63 of Budget Measures and the \$7.2 million 'No Card, No Start initiative', can the Attorney outline what this funding will provide with specific reference to the commencement date for the 'No Card, No Start' policy?

Answer:

On 7 September 2017, the Palaszczuk Government released the Queensland Family and Child Commission (QFCC) report, *Keeping Queensland's children more than safe: Review of the blue card system* (the Review Report) and indicated its broad support for the intent of all 81 recommendations.

The QFCC review found that Queensland's blue card system is one of the strongest working with children check systems in Australia. However, while the blue card system is a strong foundation for creating safe environments for children, there is scope to strengthen and streamline this very effective base to keep pace with changing community expectations and emerging risks.

The Review Report recommended that a 'No Card, No Start' approach be implemented to ensure that all people working with children in regulated environments have been screened prior to commencing work.

Currently, the Working with Children Act requires volunteers and people operating a business to hold a blue card before they can start working with children, however, it is possible for paid employees to commence child-related work while their application is being processed.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to increasing safeguards for children by moving towards a 'No Card, No Start' approach and has committed \$17 million over three years to support its implementation.

Transitioning to a 'No Card, No Start' approach will require significant legislative changes and technology enhancements. Rushing this process may create unintended consequences for the community and result in an unworkable system. It is critical that we consult with a broad range of stakeholders to get this right.

As at 30 June 2018, there are over 720,000 blue card holders and applicants and over 32,000 organisations actively engaged with the blue card system. In 2017-18, more than 360,000 applications and linking forms were processed by Blue Card Services. The blue card system is a high-volume processing environment with significant reach throughout the community.



Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

The current blue card application process is largely paper-based and requires automation to significantly reduce application processing timeframes and to properly support job-seekers and organisations while maintaining safeguards for children.

The 'No Card, No Start' streamlining package will include:

- an efficient online application form that is integrated with the blue card database;
- a strengthened identification check process for people applying for a blue card;
- ability to provide a photograph on the blue card; and
- an organisation portal which will assist organisations to more effectively manage their blue card obligations.

A strategy and action plan focused on increasing cultural capability within the blue card system and building upon existing strategies to better support and engage with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples will also be prioritised.

The streamlining initiatives will be accompanied by legislative amendments to assist employers and job-seekers by enabling people to become job-ready earlier through removing the up-front requirement for people to have an agreement to work before they can apply for a blue card.

It is anticipated that the streamlined application process and organisation portal will be available this term to allow sufficient timeframes for planning, stakeholder consultation, legislative amendments, procurement, database changes, technical development, testing, communication activities and public launch.



Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 17:

With reference to page 65 of Budget Measures and the \$14 million allocation for Recording and Transcription services, can the Attorney list the specific initiatives and funding allocations that this commitment relates to?

Answer:

In 2013, the former Government outsourced the recording and transcription of Queensland Courts and Tribunals. Auscript Pty Ltd (Auscript) is the provider of these services.

After Auscript was appointed, concerns continued to be raised about the quality and timeliness of the services and the cost to users of purchasing transcripts.

In April 2015, in my role as Attorney-General I wrote to the Auditor-General requesting the Queensland Audit Office (QAO) consider the issues raised. Subsequently the QAO determined to undertake a performance audit.

The resulting QAO Report of December 2015, *Provision of court recording and transcription services report 9: 2015-16*, made seven recommendations covering three primary areas: contractual compliance; performance measurement and reporting; and positioning the Department of Justice and Attorney-General (DJAG) for the end of the current contract.

The QAO Report identified:

- the rushed process had resulted in ongoing contract management issues;
- the likely impact on the courts and court users was not adequately considered and assessed;
- sufficient competitive tension in the tender process was limited by bypassing important procurement processes to meet tight timeframes set by the LNP Government;
- DJAG was unable to appreciate the high risk associated with transitioning to a single provider model, particularly in the absence of supporting analysis; and
- the contract lacks incentives and penalties; is not clear on responsibility of services; is not outcomes based and does not adequately reflect the user needs.

DJAG originally estimated that expenditure on the outsourced model would be between \$6 million and \$8 million which would result in a savings of between \$4 million and \$6 million. These anticipated savings of \$6 million were subsequently harvested from the DJAG's budget.

The QAO Report identified that the actual cost of the outsourcing arrangement in 2015-16 was estimated at \$9.4 million, and that in fact it was costing \$3 million more than anticipated. In addition, a loss of approximately \$1.2 million revenue from the sale of transcripts had occurred.



Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

These significant shortcomings, and failure to properly appreciate and cost the full impact of the outsourcing model has resulted in significant operational and financial burden to DJAG. This increasing impost impacts on DJAG's ability to undertake new initiatives and compromises the future delivery of critical services.

Prior to completion of the current contract, DJAG needs to analyse and cost viable alternative service delivery options. This work is to be informed by insights obtained through a market sounding exercise and consultation with stakeholders. A procurement strategy and plan and strong procurement and transition activities also need to be developed.

To avoid the mistakes of the past, DJAG determined that, due to the large body of work required to deliver these activities, one of the two year options in the contract should be exercised. This has occurred and the current contract with Auscript will end on 28 February 2021.

The allocation of the \$14.021 million temporary funding aligns with this new contract end date. This temporary funding, which comprises \$10.662 million, has been allocated over three years and will cover funding shortfalls due to higher than forecast contract costs; revenue shortfall and the cost of ordering and distributing criminal court transcripts by DJAG which was not originally intended under the contract.

It will also ensure that the dedicated project team, established in 2017 to prepare for the end of the contract with Auscript and address the QAO recommendations, is appropriately funded until 28 February 2021. The work of this team will enable DJAG to efficiently evaluate feasible service delivery models and develop a procurement strategy and transition plan to progress to the best value for money option at the end of the current contract. In the interest of keeping the QAO informed, the project team recently met with representatives from the QAO and provided a progress report on implementing the recommendations.



Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 18:

With reference to page 4 of the SDS and judicial appointments, can the Attorney outline how many appointments have been made since the protocol was adopted, that weren't recommended by the Judicial Appointments Advisory Panel, reported separately by Court?

Answer:

All judicial appointments within my portfolio are made with the view to attracting high calibre candidates to represent and serve the community. Towards that end, key principles are considered when recommending judicial appointments including:

- conducting merit based decisions – all appointments are based on a transparent, fair process designed to select the best candidate for each position; and
- encouraging a gender balance across the judicial system.

On 15 July 2016, the Palaszczuk Government introduced the *Protocol for Judicial Appointments in Queensland* (the Protocol). The Protocol outlines suggested criteria for appointment as a judicial officer to the Magistrates, District and Supreme Courts (including Court of Appeal), which was developed by the Australasian Institute of Judicial Administration (AIJA). All steps taken under this Protocol are to be taken in a manner that respects the interests and protects confidentiality of all applicants, and of all persons consulted during the appointment process.

The Protocol does not apply to the President and members of the Land Court, the Planning and Environment Court, President and Deputies of the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal and the Childrens Court which are subject to specific criteria for appointment under various other legislation.

Therefore in response to the question, the number of appointments that weren't recommended by the Judicial Appointments Advisory Panel since 15 July 2016 were:

- Planning and Environment Court – 5
- Land Court – 2
- Aboriginal Land Tribunal – 1
- Childrens Court – 13
- Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal – President – 2
- Mental Health Court – President – 1



Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 19:

With reference to page 130 of the SDS regarding planned digitisation projects, can the Attorney outline the planned digitisation projects for 2018/19, reported by specific project and including reference to the individual budget allocation?

Answer:

In 2017, the Public Trustee commenced an organisation-wide business transformation initiative to deliver organisational capability, process and technology changes aligned with the Public Trustee's strategic objectives and to support future business needs.

The proposed business transformation will enable the Public Trustee to deliver a number of its strategic objectives, notably:

- driving value for clients through tailored services to meet changing needs;
- implementing targeted service delivery models that increase client satisfaction and improve efficiency; and
- strengthening the Queensland community and Government's confidence and value in our services.

The business transformation program encompasses:

- replacement of the Public Trustee's core client information system. The system is in its third decade of use and considered inadequate as a foundation for future innovation and supporting clients' changing needs;
- establishment of information system platforms to facilitate an enhanced client experience (for example, website enhancements including portals which provide clients with access to view and manage their information online); and
- digitisation projects which will deliver organisational efficiencies and sustainable improvement in business processes.



Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

In 2018-19, these projects, with planned expenditure, are:

2018/19 Business Transformation Program	Individual Budget Allocation
Replacement of Core Client Information System	
Client Core (CRM and Case Management)	\$1.075 M
Enhanced Client Experience	
Portal Platform - Client Portal, Intranet Refresh, Website Enhancements	\$2.420 M
Service Integration Platform - ESB, Application Program Interfaces	\$1.415 M
Organisational Efficiencies and Sustainable Improvement	
Data Quality	\$0.590 M
PT Business Service Delivery Model	\$0.630 M
Office365, eForms, Mobility, Business Intelligence and Data Analytics	\$1.300 M
Records Digitalisation	\$2.070 M
Back Office Workflow automation (including inbound and outbound correspondence, and Mail Room Automation)	\$2.800 M
Sub Total	\$12.300 M
Other Digitisation Projects	\$1.000 M
Total Planned 2018/19 Capital Expenditure	\$13.300 M

These investments in 2018-19 form part of a total expected investment in digital transformation of approximately \$30 million over the next three years.

The business transformation program is expected to result in improved records management and systems integration, allowing standardisation and automation of processes, and enhanced workflow capabilities which will deliver significant opportunities for cost savings. In addition, there will be an increase in the number of channels available for client engagement - facilitating opportunities for client self-service.

The combination of efficiency gains, improved analytics and opportunities for self-service will drive improved client and staff interactions, and is anticipated to significantly enhance our clients' experience.



Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

ESTIMATES 2018 PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Question No. 20:

Can the Minister please advise:

- a. The full number of Prosecutors and brief checkers in respect of each of the Major Police Stations and courts which are district court venues across the state; and
- b. What has happened to the funding for the above positions which have not been filled for each for the last 10 years in respect to each of the above court venues?

Answer:

The administration of the issues raised in Estimates Question on Notice No. 20 above, fall within the responsibilities of the Honourable Mark Ryan MP, Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services. Accordingly, the question on notice should have been directed to Minister Ryan for response.

**Questions on notice and responses – *Minister for Police and
Minister for Corrective Services***

ESTIMATES 2018
PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
MINISTER FOR POLICE AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES
QUESTION 1

QUESTION:

1. With reference to page 19 of BP3, will the Minister please advise how the \$31.8 million to continue the replacement of rotary-wing aircraft will impact on response times for search and rescue, and disaster response operations?

ANSWER:

This investment in new aircraft will save lives.

It'll mean faster response times.

The two new AW 139 Helicopters have considerably more power than the current aircraft.

They can travel at 145 nautical miles per hour (knots) compared to 120 knots for the current helicopters.

An added benefit; the greater power provides enhanced safety for hospital landing zone operations.

They also have a much greater range.

These new helicopters can travel 150 nautical miles out to sea, a fifty percent increase on the range of the aircraft they replace.

They also have greatly enhanced search and rescue capabilities.

The aircraft will also be fitted with new Trakka lights which are far superior and will deliver much greater capability during search and rescue operations.

Finally both aircraft have modified internal cabin configurations providing a more flexible and efficient working environment.

This is money well spent.

Saving lives and improving capabilities on the frontline of search and rescue operations.

ESTIMATES 2018
PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
MINISTER FOR POLICE AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES

QUESTION 2

QUESTION:

With regards to page 3 of the SDS and Equipping our Workforce for the Future, will the Minister please outline initiatives the Queensland Police Service is undertaking to ensure its members have the capacity to respond to the diverse cultural needs of Queenslanders?

ANSWER:

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to keeping communities safe by enhancing the delivery of effective and integrated services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and multicultural communities across Queensland.

I am informed that the Queensland Police Service (QPS) cultural capability within communities commences at the recruit level, when all new members are required to complete a 'Diversity in Australian Society: Race Relations' online learning product, prior to induction. These modules complement the 'Multi-Cultural Awareness in Queensland' online learning product and are available for all members to complete at any time.

Additional specific programs and strategies have been introduced to attract and support people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds and people from culturally diverse backgrounds to a career in policing.

The QPS Academy, North Queensland Campus at Townsville offers an Indigenous Recruit Preparation Program (IRPP). This is a 10-week program that prepares Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants for the QPS Recruit Training Program. Thirty-six participants have undertaken the IRPP since September 2014, with nine in the last financial year. It is anticipated the next program will commence in October 2018.

The QPS Academy, Oxley Campus offers the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) program. This is a 10-week program that prepares participants from culturally or linguistically diverse backgrounds for entry into the Recruit Training Program. Participants originate from a diverse range of geographical backgrounds which have included Belgium, China, Columbia, Croatia, Germany, India, Morocco, Philippines, Serbia, South Africa, Ukraine, Taiwan and New Zealand. The program has run four times since 2016 with 76 participants progressing into recruit training and 56 graduating as Queensland Police officers. On 16 July 2018, the most recent cohort of 17 CALD students commenced the Recruit Training program as they progress towards becoming Queensland Police officers.

To further assist with cultural capability of members, community specific packages have been developed and are available for all officers going to remote communities, which include on-site mentoring.

The QPS advises it is committed to ensuring cultural capability is embedded into all workforce management practices and processes. The Cultural Engagement Unit provides advice and support to members in relation to cultural issues, and together with District

Cross Cultural Liaison Officers establish and maintain liaison with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, and other multi-cultural communities.

Furthermore, the Cultural Engagement Unit facilitates meetings of the Police Indigenous Reference Group and the Police Ethnic Advisory Group to ensure that QPS practices and policies are culturally appropriate.

I am advised that meetings similar to these occur throughout the State at local, district and regional levels, across multi-cultural communities responding to the needs of the local community. An example is the Muslim Reference Group meeting facilitated on the south side of Brisbane, which brings together police and community to discuss local issues; as does the Chinese Community Consultative Committee meeting held at Upper Mt Gravatt.

I am also aware of the Toowoomba Police participation in the Multi-Faith meetings that are facilitated by the community faith leaders; and police throughout the State attend or host functions throughout the month of Ramadan, Chinese New Year and many other culturally significant events to build stronger relationships and cultural capability of its members.

The QPS has Police Liaison Officers and Torres Strait Islander Support Officers that provide a direct link with communities and cultural capability awareness for QPS members.

Police Liaison Officers

Police Liaison Officers have been recruited from a range of backgrounds including Aboriginal; Torres Strait Islander; Indian; Chinese; Vietnamese; Korean; Japanese; Muslim and Sudanese with successful applicants undertaking a two-week induction course at the QPS Academy.

I am advised that the roles of Police Liaison Officers include:

- liaising with culturally specific communities to foster co-operation and understanding
- advising police officers on the cultural beliefs, needs and protocols of the community in which they work
- identifying potential crime or disorder problems in the community and advising and assisting in prevention strategies
- establishing and maintaining communication between the community and police
- improving community access to policing services and referring to other services where necessary.

Torres Strait Policing

I am informed that the Torres Strait Policing Model comprises sworn police officers stationed at Bamaga; Horn Island and Thursday Island, and are supplemented by Torres Strait Island Police Support Officers employed by the QPS in 15 remote communities on 14 outer islands.

Like the Police Liaison Officers, all Torres Strait Island Police Support Officers undertake a two-week induction course at the QPS Academy. Although Torres Strait Islander Police Support Officers do not have any police or local government powers, they act as an invaluable first responder to incidents within their community.

I am advised that as of 1 March 2018, there was a combined total of 170 Police Liaison Officers and Torres Strait Islander Police Support Officers.

‘Look to the Stars’ artwork project

One initiative that the QPS is undertaking is the ‘Look to the Stars’ artwork project.

The QPS will utilise ‘Look to the Stars’ to improve communication and engagement with all communities to build stronger, meaningful relationships based on mutual trust and respect.

Using the artwork to start conversations will allow the QPS to continue to engage and build stronger relationships with Indigenous communities to realise true reconciliation, built upon trust and respect whilst reflecting our core values as a modern policing service.

On 25 May 2018, the QPS launched the ‘Look to the Stars’ bespoke artwork, as part of Reconciliation Week ‘Don’t keep history a mystery’ activities.

This artwork was created by Indigenous and specialist staff who guided its creation and is a visual reminder of the QPS’s past, present, and future engagements with all Indigenous communities throughout Queensland.

The artwork has stories within stories and every element is critical to the overall story. It depicts a true reflection of the QPS’s relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

ESTIMATES 2018
PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
MINISTER FOR POLICE AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES

QUESTION 3

QUESTION:

Page 113 of BP3 includes \$3.9 million for mobile capability and the development of new applications for QPS QLITE devices. Will the Minister please outline how these investments will boost mobility and rapid response capability for police across Queensland?

ANSWER:

Queensland is a recognised world leader in police mobility.

Earlier this year, I had the pleasure of officially opening the Mobile Capability Centre. This ground breaking facility is dedicated to delivering a mobile solution custom built to meet the needs of the QPS and supported by a diverse team of IT specialists, industry partners and operational police.

The QPS currently has a fleet of 5,400 QLITE devices deployed across the state and is investing a total of \$18.1 million in 2018-19 in mobile technology.

QLITE devices provide enhanced officer safety as well as improved service delivery to the people of Queensland.

They enable frontline police officers to make smarter, safer decisions. Officers can now access critical information, assess risks, conduct searches and issues infringements in the field. Reducing paperwork and improving efficiency.

The QPS Mobile Capability Centre is developing a broad range of new capabilities to enhance the mobile response to Domestic and Family Violence, including the ability to register the service of domestic violence orders in real time. This will result in police having more accurate information on the status of respondents and provide better protection for victims.

First response officers will also be able to complete Drug Diversion from their devices in the field. This will save time in diverting first time minor drug offenders from the Court system.

Activities in early 2019 are expected to include a technical refresh of existing mobile capability and enhancements to enable more responsive engagement with the community.

As announced in the Budget, the Palaszczuk Government is fully committed to expanding mobile technology for our frontline police and will invest \$5.9 million for a further 1400 QLITE devices to be issued across the State over next 3 years. The rollout of additional devices will bring the total fleet of devices to 6800, resulting in enhanced policing services right across Queensland.

ESTIMATES 2018
PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
MINISTER FOR POLICE AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES
QUESTION 4

QUESTION:

I refer to Page 3 of the SDS and the Queensland Police Service objective to “stopping crime”. Will the Minister please update the Committee on the impact of the Palaszczuk Government’s serious and organised crime laws in disrupting and dismantling organised crime groups and keeping our communities safe?

ANSWER:

I am advised by the Queensland Police Service:

The *Serious and Organised Crime Legislation Amendment Bill 2016* was introduced following the Queensland Organised Crime Commission of Inquiry and establishment of the Taskforce on Organised Crime Legislation. This Bill was implemented as part of a new organised crime regime in Queensland to tackle serious and organised crime in all its forms. Our laws are the strongest, toughest and most comprehensive legislation in the nation.

The laws provide police the power to tackle criminal groups including outlaw motorcycle gangs, child exploitation networks, and fraud syndicates operating in Queensland. The laws target the type of behaviour that facilitates organised criminal activity by disrupting, preventing and deterring criminal syndicates from establishing, maintaining or expanding their criminal networks.

The Queensland Police Service (QPS) State Crime Command (SCC) has established a Serious and Organised Crime Legislation Steering Committee to oversee the QPS’s application of the legislation, to ensure a focus on disruption and dismantling of organised crime groups. SCC Organised Crime Gangs Group (OCGG) has a lead role in this committee, delivering leadership state-wide on implementing the legislation.

OCGG was established in May 2017 as a permanent unit in SCC. The Group includes Taskforce Maxima, Gangs Road Policing Unit, Gangs Intelligence, Protracted Investigations Team, Criminal Economy Unit and the Major and Organised Crime Squads focused on organised crime gangs, including Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs (OMCGs). The group provides for a broad investigative and intelligence capability to detect, deter, disrupt and dismantle organised criminal networks.

OCGG works closely with frontline police and government partner agencies to provide a broad approach to targeting those gangs that pose a risk to the Queensland community.

The group also works in partnership with Commonwealth agencies and interstate jurisdictions through the National Taskforce Morpheus arrangements. The OCGG Operations Commander is the current chair of Taskforce Morpheus.

This arrangement has resulted in joint national operations, Queensland detectives travelling interstate to police Queensland OMCGs, and a focus on protecting Queensland from international OMCG influences. Taskforce Maxima travels interstate to assist with the policing of OMCG national runs. Officers in QPS uniforms have stood side by side with

Tasmanian police as OMCG members from across Australia, including Queensland, arrived by ferry and at airports for the Rebels and Bandido national runs during 2017-18.

New anti-consorting laws commenced on 9 March 2017 to prevent recognised offenders from habitually consorting and maintaining criminal networks. The habitual consorting legislation provide powers to police to pursue groups of individual criminals based on their criminal conduct and the risk they pose to the community. The conviction-based scheme enables police to disrupt and prosecute individuals endeavouring to meet in groups to pursue organised criminal activities.

The consorting warnings have targeted criminal networks, overtly and pre-emptively warning people about their associations with recognised offenders and the consequences if they continue to do so. The use of the warnings has impacted on criminal networks.

I am advised as at 30 June 2018:

- 800 official consorting warnings have been issued across Queensland. The majority of these warnings were issued by OCGG targeting criminal gangs. This has resulted in disruption of criminal networks through deterring recognised offenders from consorting.
- eight people have been charged for the offence of habitually consorting under the *Criminal Code Act 1899*.

In June 2018, a joint operation resulted in four members of the Rebels OMCG in Mount Isa being charged with habitual consorting. This action has had significant impact on this club, with the chapter president disassociating and handing in his colours.

In May 2018, OCGG charged an alleged member of the Gold Coast based Villains street gang with consorting, in a continued focus on this criminal network on the Gold Coast. These actions have seen significant changes to the gang's conduct.

In July 2018, OCGG charged a Gold Coast Bandido with habitual consorting relating to his associations with recognised offenders within the Bandidos club.

I am advised since 9 March 2017, one habitually consorting charge has been successfully prosecuted. Six persons are on remand for habitually consorting, five being OMCG members.

The QPS intends to seek an organised crime control order in the courts for this individual to protect the Queensland community.

QPS has further advised that these numbers reflect that the official consorting warnings are effective.

New post-conviction control orders enable courts to set any conditions necessary to protect the public by preventing, disrupting and restricting offenders convicted of the new consorting offence.

The new 'colours' offence removes the ability of gang members to wear colours in a public place or in a vehicle in public. This reduces their ability to intimidate and threaten people in public spaces, such as cafes, shopping centres and at public events. It additionally undermines their ability to recruit and attract new members.

- As at 30 June 2018:
 - 16 people have been charged with 19 offences under the *Summary Offences Act 2005* Section 10C (1) Wearing or carrying a prohibited item in a public place
 - 10 people have been charged with 10 offences of being in or on a vehicle wearing a prohibited item under Section 10C (2) of the *Summary Offences Act 2005*.

On 14 June 2018, the Governor in Council approved an amendment to the *Liquor Regulation 2002* declaring the OMCG Satudarah an 'identified organisation'. As an identified organisation, Satudarah participants will now be prevented from wearing or carrying their colours in a public place in a way that can be seen. This declaration has seen the disruption and dismantling of an organised crime group, thereby making our community safer.

On 25 May 2018, OCGG exercised the new restricted premise search warrant powers under Section 150(1)(e) of the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Act* and searched a premise in North Brisbane for evidence of disorderly conduct. The Taskforce Maxima team seized liquor, music equipment, a pool table, Rebels OMCG paraphernalia and club colours being worn by members which have all been forfeited. This disruption tactic is focussed on denying the ability of clubs to establish new clubhouses to meet, recruit and undertake disorderly and criminal conduct. The action has dismantled this premise as a clubhouse.

Nine members of the Rebels OMCG were found at the premise and a Detective Superintendent from OCGG served them with public safety orders preventing them from entering or remaining at the premises for 48 hours. A public safety order is issued by a commissioned officer who is satisfied the presence of a person poses a serious risk to public safety and security.

The *Peace and Good Behaviour Act 1982* lists 28 previous OMCG clubhouses now as prescribed places. Prescribed places are taken to be restricted premises for two years under the new legislation. As a restricted premise, police have the power to enter, search and seize prohibited items.

SCC has established a committee to review the 28 existing prescribed places to consider any grounds for an application to the Magistrates Court for an extension beyond the initial two-year period.

New mandatory sentencing has been introduced, providing where a person commits a prescribed offence while being a participant in a criminal organisation, the court must impose a mandatory control order, impose a mandatory base sentence term of imprisonment and impose a mandatory cumulative 7-year term of imprisonment. This can only be reduced if an offender cooperates with law enforcement agencies in a proceeding about a major criminal offence.

As at 30 June 2018, 46 people have been charged with the circumstance of aggravation provided under new mandatory sentencing, the majority of these relating to criminal syndicates trafficking in dangerous drugs. Twenty-three of those people have been charged by OCGG targeting criminal syndicates.

OCGG's Criminal Economy Unit continues to target the wealth and assets of gang members and organised crime facilitators. In January 2018, the unit seized an \$80,000 Ferrari from an OMCG participant in connection with suspected proceeds of crime and

bankruptcy offences. In May 2018, the unit seized a luxury BMW from a Hells Angel OMCG president and worked with the Australian Taxation Office to levy a tax assessment in excess of \$700,000. Also in May 2018, the unit arrested an ex-president of the Rebels OMCG with fraud and money laundering offences totalling \$355,000 and seized \$127,000 in cash from a criminal syndicate.

In the three months from March to May 2018, OCGG has undertaken a number of operations including:

- Taskforce Maxima, Brisbane, charged 158 offenders on 516 charges and seized eight firearms, drugs to the value of \$780,000 and over \$180,000 in cash.
- Taskforce Maxima have undertaken operations across the State with recent operations in Cairns targeting the Rebels OMCG Cairns chapter.
- OCGG's Protracted Investigations Team charged 17 people on 61 offences arising from Operation Papa Boise, seizing 1.5 kilograms of Ice, \$135,000 cash, heroin and cocaine.
- The Logan-based Major and Organised Crime Squad closed Operation Sparrow in May 2018, charging 11 offenders on 46 charges and seizing \$350,000 in drugs and \$43,000 in cash. Another \$250,000 in assets have been restrained.
- OCGG's Road Policing Unit, Jimboomba police and Taskforce Maxima Gold Coast have applied continued policing focus to the Bandidos Beenleigh Chapter with recent targeted action in May 2018. Officers completed 51 street checks, 120 road side breath tests, issued four defective vehicle notices, charged one drug driver and arrested an offender on 4 warrants.

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QUESTION 5

QUESTION:

Page 3 of the SDS refers to the Queensland Police Service Our People Matter strategy and I ask: Will the Minister please update the Committee on the benefits of this strategy in looking after the interests of our hard-working police men and women?

ANSWER:

I am advised by the Queensland Police Service (QPS) that:

Our People Matter is the first organisational strategy in the 154-year history of the QPS dedicated to the health, safety and wellbeing of QPS employees and their families.

I am pleased to be the Minister for an organisation that is leading by example in this space. Never before has an Australian police jurisdiction embarked upon the journey to develop a strategy prioritising the needs of their people and families.

Even more notable is the strong partnership that exists between the QPS, Queensland Police Union of Employees, Queensland Police Commissioned Officers' Union and Together Queensland in driving the strategy.

I would like to commend the QPS on its firm commitment to resourcing the implementation of the strategy.

Converse to traditional approaches taken to organisational strategy development, the QPS consulted with their workforce and families in 2017 to identify their needs in relation to four priority areas – Healthy Bodies; Healthy Minds; Safe Workplaces and Fair and Positive Workplaces.

More than 20,000 suggestions were received which informed the direction of the strategy and the program of work to be delivered.

The strategy was formally launched on 27 February 2018 at the QPS Oxley Academy, which I had the privilege to attend.

More broadly, the strategy sets a direction and standard for the QPS Executive and workforce in creating working environments that improve support to police employees and their families.

Careful and considered implementation of the strategy is critical to its success and longevity, and the QPS has developed numerous resources and strategies to drive this process.

Firstly, a Workplace Champions Program has been established to oversee implementation of the strategy at a local level. The program is comprised of two volunteer roles within the Service – a Principal Workplace Champion and Workplace Champion.

Currently there are 43 Principal Workplace Champions supported by more than 350 Workplace Champions in all Regions and Commands. These individuals are seen to be

the local advocate for the strategy and main point of contact for strategy initiatives, activities and events.

Supporting the Workplace Champions Program will be Our People Matter Committees. The QPS is currently undergoing a process to transition their local Workplace Health & Safety Committees to Our People Matter Committees to encompass a broader range of people and wellbeing issues, in addition to workplace health and safety matters.

These committees will provide a local governance structure to ensure the strategy is embedded into day-to-day operations, as well as a consultative forum intended to effectively address matters which fall under the Our People Matter strategy.

A series of information sessions are currently being delivered to all Districts and Commands to support and guide the transition and set up of the new committees.

Further to this, I am proud to announce a range of whole-of-Service initiatives currently being delivered under the strategy based directly on employee and family ideas and suggestions. These include:

- free PCYC membership for all QPS employees
- extension of mental health support services to family members and retired employees
- launch of the new Flexible Working Agreement policy
- statewide health expos
- 'Life Beyond the Service' or pre-retirement seminars
- statewide seminars on prostate cancer.

Inclusion and diversity

The QPS has placed a significant focus on building an inclusive and diverse workplace in which all employees feel valued, included and welcome; where they are treated fairly, respectfully and with equal access to opportunities. In addition to the Our People Matter strategy, the QPS released the Inclusion and Diversity Plan for Action 2016 – 2018. This plan compliments the Queensland Public Sector Inclusion and Diversity Strategy 2015-2020 and contains nine priorities and 28 actions currently being delivered to enhance the culture of the QPS.

To ensure that the QPS remains focused on inclusion and diversity, considerable work is being undertaken to establish the Queensland Police Service Inclusion and Diversity Restorative Engagement and Cultural Reform Program. This program will undertake two distinct bodies of work; Cultural Reform and Restorative Engagement.

Cultural Reform activities will be focused on the establishment and continuation of Service wide actions and activities to bring about cultural change. To date, the QPS has implemented recruitment practices to enhance its diversity by establishing a multi-cultural recruitment team, formalising Cultural and Linguistic Diverse (CALD) and Indigenous preparation programs and specialist education frameworks. These programs have seen the QPS make considerable progress towards its 2020 diversity targets. Accompanying the work in recruiting, current members at all levels have had and will continue to have the

opportunity to enhance their understanding of inclusion through state-wide facilitated workshops, access to resources and tools specifically developed for members to utilise for personal development and Service-wide memberships to peak bodies focussed on inclusion and diversity. Investment has also been made in training programs, including the women's leadership pipeline by providing future leaders with the opportunity to attend training specifically designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of women leaders.

An aspirational recruitment target of 50% female recruit appointments was announced by QPS Commissioner Stewart on International Women's Day 2016. To assist in achieving this target, a recruitment marketing strategy entitled "That Could Be Me" was implemented in 2016, showcasing the 'stories' of successful female QPS police officers from diverse backgrounds and policing roles. In mid-2018, a new marketing strategy 'My Story' will be launched, this time not only to specifically attract female applicants, but also applicants from CALD and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds.

There are certainly very exciting times ahead for the QPS workforce through these workforce strategies and I look forward to providing future updates on these important initiatives.

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QUESTION 6

QUESTION:

Page 5 of the CS SDS refers to the financial value of work performed by prisoners and offenders. Will the Minister please outline the social benefits of this work to Queensland communities and the benefits to low security prisoners and offenders?

ANSWER:

The Palaszczuk Government recognises the importance of community service as an opportunity for low security prisoners and offenders to make reparation to the community harmed by their offending behaviour and to develop employment skills.

I am advised by Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) that there are two main community service programs:

- Community service (court ordered) – performed by offenders in the community under Community Service Orders, Graffiti Removal Orders, Community Service Orders issued under Alcohol Fuelled Violence legislation, Fine Option Orders, Intensive Correction Orders and Work and Development Orders; and
- Community service by low security prisoners – where work is performed by low custody prisoners, including prisoners participating in the work camp program.

I am further advised that QCS partners with many not-for-profit organisations, local councils and the State government to supervise offenders performing unpaid community work as part of a court order or as part of unpaid debt registered with the State Penalties Enforcement Registry.

I am informed that a number of Probation and Parole Offices have partnerships with animal welfare organisations, such as the RSPCA, where community service workers are given fabric donations to create toys for dogs that are either abandoned or in adoption facilities and in need of stimulation.

I am advised by QCS that in 2017-18, a total of 325,929 hours of community service was performed by offenders on community supervision, amounting to over \$8.58 million in unpaid work for communities around the state.

QCS advises that Work Camps provide regional communities with a valuable source of labour, as the projects and work carried out are unique to their location and community needs. Work carried out by prisoners includes maintaining fences, cemeteries, heritage sites, playgrounds and showgrounds, and other projects in regional communities.

I have been advised that, work camps can fill labour shortages in regional areas and prisoners undertake projects that the local council or non-profit organisations would otherwise be unable to complete.

Further, I am informed by QCS that in response to natural and other disasters, the Work Program also provides assistance to communities devastated by floods, storms or other natural disasters.

QCS has advised that, in 2017-18, prisoners in low custody facilities performed a total of 270,623 hours of community service equating to \$6.83 million worth of labour provided to support regional Queensland.

QCS advises that community service work performed by low-risk prisoners and offenders, as part of their reparation to the community, does not impact on employment opportunities for locals, due to strict eligibility criteria.

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QUESTION 7

QUESTION:

With regards to Page 5 of the CS SDS and prisoners in education, will the Minister please advise how Queensland's first 'earn or learn' prison, the Borallon Training and Correctional Centre, is delivering education, training and employment outcomes to stop the cycle of crime?

ANSWER:

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to keeping communities safe. That is why our Government opened Borallon Training and Correctional Centre (BTCC) as Queensland's first 'earn or learn' prison, focusing on education, training and employment outcomes to turn lives around and stop the cycle of crime.

Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) remains committed to the philosophy of BTCC and wants to see prisoners leave the centre better than when they came in, with brighter prospects for their future.

QCS advises me that more than half of BTCC's prison population are either employed, engaged in TAFE programs, or both.

Some of the employment opportunities offered at BTCC include:

- Australia Framing Solutions (AFS) - prisoners gain metal work skills. Three former prisoners have gained employment with AFS on release.
- The Barbed Design Studio - another great employment opportunity provides real-world experience in design work and employs up to 15 prisoners on the inside. This unique social enterprise has seen four released prisoners gain employment with the Studio on the outside.
- The Grid Entrepreneurial Hub - a joint initiative of WorkRestart, Ipswich Fire Station 101 and Ipswich City Council, supports prisoners interested in starting their own business on release and matching them with early growth stage entrepreneurs. This successful initiative has seen The Golden Bone Bakery, an Ipswich business, not only celebrate its recent first export for its healthy pet treats but it's helping to upskill prisoners by having its products made at the prison.

As at 30 June 2018, 192 prisoners were employed at BTCC and 42 prisoners were studying full-time through the University of Southern Queensland.

TAFE Queensland has an on-site campus with teachers and IT facilities to provide training.

During 2017-18, more than 500 prisoners were enrolled in more than 3,800 units of competency in horticulture, rural operations, fitness, engineering, welding, literacy and numeracy, kitchen operations, automotive, and construction.

Borallon also provides a range of rehabilitation programs and activities to address the underlying causes of offending, including mental health services, psychological interventions and programs to support them when they're ready to return to the community.

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QUESTION 8

QUESTION:

With regards to Page 3 of the CS SDS and the role of Corrective Services in community safety and crime prevention, will the Minister please outline initiatives that are being delivered to assist in the rehabilitation and reintegration of women prisoners in Queensland?

ANSWER:

The Palaszczuk Government remains committed to keeping communities safe. We acknowledge that successful re-integration and breaking the cycle of crime requires access to programs, training, education and employment options that provide opportunities to women prisoners to address their offending behaviour and turn their lives around.

I am advised by Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) that education, training and employment opportunities and programs are available to address offending behaviour and to enhance personal development, giving women every opportunity to turn their lives around.

The Supreme Court Bail Program is one such program that has made a significant difference to the lives of many women.

This program supports women on remand to apply for bail, which is important, given women on remand make up just under half the female prison population.

Women are denied bail for a number of reasons, but generally due to homelessness, drug addiction or mental health issues.

The Palaszczuk Government wants to ensure women have safe and secure accommodation, links to rehabilitation and access to transport services, so that they have every opportunity to be granted bail.

This program is delivered by Sisters Inside and I take this opportunity to thank them for their strong advocacy work on behalf of female prisoners. Their work has delivered real and tangible outcomes, allowing women to return to their communities and families while awaiting their court matters.

Another program that is having a positive impact is the MARA Women's Re-entry Services program, which is designed to give female prisoners a better chance of successfully re-integrating into the community on their release from prison.

I am informed that almost 1000 women received this support while in custody in the last financial year and we are seeing real and tangible results.

A recent example of its success, a 59-year-old Aboriginal woman reported that her MARA worker helped her find a home after she experienced long-term difficulties. This allowed her to reconnect with her family and care for her children. Subsequently, she secured a Department of Housing property, set up her home with essential items, such

as a fridge and washing machine, ultimately resulting in her children being returned to her care.

I would like to say that thanks to the dedication of the MARA team, this woman has since been living successfully in the community on parole for the past 12 months.

There are many other examples of QCS delivering wide-ranging and effective programs and services to women prisoners in Queensland. Included in this are intervention programs that are targeted to address offending behaviour and include Pathways: High Intensity Substance Abuse Program, Making Choices for Women: General Offending Program, Low Intensity Substance Abuse Intervention (LISI) and Short Substance Intervention (SSI). Additional programs delivered include Strong Not Tough Resilience Program, Domestic Violence Program and the Women's Leadership Program.

I am informed that culturally responsive and inclusive programs are also delivered for women prisoners and include the Indigenous Women's Leadership program facilitated by the Bindal Corporation, HOW (problem solving program) and the Low Intensity Substance Intervention Program.

Specialist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff are employed to meet the needs of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prisoners. Elders and various Indigenous community organisations visit the centre on a regular basis to ensure family and community ties are maintained.

Women prisoners can access numerous education, training and employment opportunities including literacy and numeracy, Years 9 and 10, tertiary studies and external education through various Registered Training Organisations. Though not an exhaustive list, vocational training across the state can include First Aid, Barista courses, Cert II in Hairdressing, Cert III in Fitness, Cert III in Applied Fashion Design and Technology, Cert II in Asset Maintenance (Cleaning Operations), Cert II in Hospitality (Kitchen Operations) and Cert II in Business.

Similarly, employment opportunities available across Queensland include cooking and kitchen operations, landscaping, cleaning, laundry operations, administrative and general labouring positions as well as prisoner qualified hairdressers operating the Just Styles Salon.

There are many opportunities available to women prisoners to turn their lives around and the Palaszczuk Government remains committed to investing in programs and services that will help women break the cycle of crime and support their successful reintegration in the community.

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QUESTION 9

QUESTION:

With regard to Page 98 of BP3 and the \$20.5 million investment to upgrade perimeter security across a number of Queensland correctional centres, will the Minister please update the Committee on work being undertaken to enhance safety and security and how this will enhance the safety and security of Queensland's correctional centres?

ANSWER:

The Palaszczuk Government remains committed to ensuring Queensland's correctional centres are the safe and secure.

There have been no escapes from high security facilities in Queensland in twenty years. This is a testament to Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) and their commitment to maintaining reliable and robust perimeter security systems to reduce the risk of escape and potential harm to the community.

In 2017-18, \$33.8 million was spent on Stage 2 of the Perimeter Security System Upgrade Project, ahead of the allocated budget of \$26.8 million.

I am advised by QCS that the project's primary focus is to upgrade electronic hardware and software systems to ensure perimeter detection systems remain reliable and resilient.

I am advised that the project remains within budget and on track for completion in 2019-20.

In 2018-19, the Palaszczuk Government has allocated \$20.5 million to continue the Stage 2 perimeter security roll-out at Townsville, Arthur Gorrie, Woodford, Wolston and Maryborough correctional centres.

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QUESTION 10

QUESTION:

Page 3 of the CS SDS refers to supervision and rehabilitation of prisoners. Will the Minister please provide details of programs in Queensland Correctional Centres that promote rehabilitation and community safety?

ANSWER:

The Palaszczuk Government remains committed to keeping communities safe. We have implemented the most comprehensive overhaul of Queensland's parole system, through the Sofronoff Review.

Our reforms are aimed at breaking the cycle of re-offending and making a real difference in people's lives through rehabilitation, to enable successful re-entry into the community.

A key responsibility of Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) is to address the underlying causes of crime to rehabilitate offenders and reduce their likelihood of re-offending.

I am advised by QCS that in 2017-18, as at 30 June 2018, 3,646 rehabilitation programs were achieved either in custody or in the community under the supervision of QCS.

I am further advised that in the same period, there were a total of 410 completions of sexual offending programs. Of these, 259 were completed in prison.

QCS has advised that in 2017-18, a total of 3,236 other programs were completed, 2,212 of which were substance abuse interventions. Of the other program completions, 2,703 were completed in prison.

QCS' current suite of programs and services target employability, education, family and parenting, anger, violence and domestic violence, substance abuse, psychological wellbeing, and sexual offending.

I am advised by QCS that, staff deliver intensive violent offender treatment and substance abuse treatment programs in custody. They also deliver a suite of six sexual offending programs, including:

- preparatory, medium intensity and high intensity sexual offender treatment programs
- an intensive Indigenous sex offender program at Lotus Glen Correctional Centre
- an intensive sexual offender treatment program that has been adapted for offenders with a cognitive impairment at Wolston Correctional Centre, and

- a maintenance program.

To extend the reach of intervention, I am advised that QCS funds a range of external providers to deliver rehabilitation activities including:

- education and employment programs
- chaplaincy and visitor transport services
- low intensity substance programs
- re-entry support services
- youthful offender programs
- specialised psychological services, and
- playgroup and parenting programs.

The Sofronoff Review made a number of recommendations to expand the provision of rehabilitation programs, create new intervention programs, and expand the opioid substitution treatment program in prisons.

QCS has an Offender Programs and Services Accreditation Panel ensures that all offender programs are evidence-based and meet nationally-accredited standards known to support desistance from offending.

The department works with community partners to deliver quality interventions and to break the cycle of reoffending.

For the majority of offenders, cost effective rehabilitation strategies that increase employability and support safe resettlement into the community produce the best outcomes for the community.

QCS provides education, training, and work opportunities in commercial industries and community service, substance abuse intervention, progression to low custody, and support to resettle in the community.

I am advised by QCS that Vocational education, training and work programs promote rehabilitation by up-skilling prisoners in preparation for their successful re-entry in the community.

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QUESTION 11

QUESTION:

With reference to QPS SDS page 4, will the Minister advise:

- a. What were the budgeted resources and FTE allocation for Taskforce Maxima in its final budget period? and
- b. What were the budgeted resources and FTE allocation for Organised Crime Gangs Group in its first budget period?

ANSWER:

The Palaszczuk Government is serious about tackling serious and organised crime. Taskforce Maxima was established to respond to the threat posed to the community by the organised crime activities of the Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs (OMCGs).

On 1 May 2017, the Organised Crime Gangs Group (OCGG) was established as a permanent unit, incorporating Taskforce Maxima, Gangs Road Policing Unit, Gangs Intelligence, Protracted Investigations Team, Criminal Economy Unit and the South-East Region Major and Organised Crime Squads. OCGG has a broad investigative focus, including OMCGs and organised criminal gangs as part of its charter.

OCGG works closely with frontline police to reduce the risk of harm posed to the community by criminal gangs. Nationally, OCGG is a member of Taskforce Morpheus, a multi-agency operation targeting the criminal activities of OMCGs.

I am advised by the Queensland Police Service that the budgeted resources for Taskforce Maxima in its final budget prior to its inclusion in OCGG was \$1.45M, excluding salary and salary on-costs.

The FTE allocation for Taskforce Maxima in its final budget of 2016-17 was 37, supported by an additional 65 seconded officers, (totalling 102 personnel).

The budgeted resources for OCGG (which includes Taskforce Maxima) in 2017-18 was \$1.89M, excluding salary and salary on-costs.

The FTE allocation for OCGG (which includes Taskforce Maxima) in its first budget of 2017-18 was 71 FTE, supported by an additional 65 seconded officers, (totalling 136).

The secondments to OCGG are drawn from various commands and regions.

The OCGG is also supported by the Intelligence and Covert Services Command (ICSC) which provides an additional 16 intelligence officers.

OCGG also works in close partnership with the Australian Federal Police and Australian Taxation Office in the joint National Anti-Gangs Squad collocated at Queensland Police Headquarters with resources provided by those agencies as required.

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QUESTION 12

QUESTION:

With reference to QPS SDS page 4, will the Minister advise for the 2016-17 and 2017-18 years in relation to the offence of consorting:

- a. How many warnings were given; and
- b. How many offenders were charged?

ANSWER:

I am advised by the QPS as part of ongoing efforts to identify and disrupt habitual OMCG consorting activities, that as at 30 June 2018, members of the State Crime Command issued 800 official consorting warnings across Queensland, with 230 issued during 2016-17 and 570 during 2017-18. 763 of these verified official warnings are current.

Of those who received an official warning, eight people were charged with habitual consorting, including three people in 2016-17 and five in 2017-18.

QPS has further advised that these numbers reflect that the official consorting warnings are effective.

The issue of consorting notices forms part of the Palaszczuk Government's nation leading serious and organised crime legislation which is the strongest, toughest, most comprehensive legislation in Australia.

The QPS advises that the government's laws are having the desired effect on disrupting and dismantling serious and organised criminal networks in Queensland.

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QUESTION 13

QUESTION:

With reference to QPS SDS page 4, and the intelligence provided by the Organised Crime Gangs Group:

- a. How many patched OMCG members are currently in Queensland;
- b. How many OMCG clubhouses are currently used in Queensland; and
- c. How many patched OMCG members are currently:
 - i. On bail; and
 - ii. On remand?

ANSWER:

The Palaszczuk Government is serious about tackling serious and organised crime.

We committed \$20 million over four years in 2016-17 to target serious and organised crime.

We also introduced the strongest, toughest, most comprehensive serious and organised crime legislation in the nation.

Our commitment is about keeping Queenslanders safe from all types of serious and organised crime, including outlaw motorcycle gangs.

On 1 May 2017, the Queensland Police Service (QPS) established the Organised Crime Gangs Group (OCGG) which undertakes assessment of the Outlaw Motor Cycle Gang (OMCG) memberships through the Criminal Assessment Team. This team identifies gang activity, the emergence of any potential new members and dissociations.

I am advised by the QPS that there are approximately 700 patched OMCG members in Queensland.

I am further advised by the QPS that, as defined in the Peace and Good Behaviour Act 1982, 28 premises have been previously identified as OMCG clubhouses, and that none of the 28 prescribed places are currently known to be operating as OMCG clubhouses.

Taskforce Maxima, which is part of the OCGG, works closely with the intelligence teams and regional police to identify premises with the potential to become clubhouses. The Palaszczuk Government's new Serious and Organised Crime legislation, introduced following the Queensland Organised Crime Commission of Inquiry, and the establishment of the Taskforce of Organised Crime Legislation, provide police with stronger powers to disrupt and dismantle premises with the potential to become a clubhouse.

Taskforce Maxima exercised these new search warrant powers at a premises in May 2018, searching a Lawnton premises with the potential of becoming a Rebel's clubhouse. Evidence of disorderly conduct, including alcohol, pool table, OMCG paraphernalia and

music equipment was seized and forfeited. The activities at this premises were disrupted and, as a result, the potential for this premises to become a clubhouse was dismantled.

Police have additionally tactically targeted two other premises where OMCG members, a number being recognised offenders, were believed to be gathering. This action has seen the disruption of OMCG activities at these premises.

I am advised by the QPS that there are 57 OMCG members in Queensland currently on bail with reporting conditions.

These OMCG members are on bail for various offences and subject to differing bail conditions including reporting to police stations at intervals and also curfew arrangements, as well as restricted access to encrypted devices and contact conditions.

Further, I am advised there are 10 OMCG members currently remanded in custody. These OMCG members are currently held in secure custody waiting for court appearances in relation to a variety of criminal offences.

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QUESTION 14

QUESTION:

With reference to QPS SDS page 4, and the LACSC pre-hearing Question on Notice number 13 from the 2017-18 estimates to then Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services and Minister for Corrective Services, will the Minister provide the matching data for public complaints to Policelink for the period 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018?

ANSWER:

As advised in the Question on Notice number 13 from the 2017-18 estimates hearing, the Queensland Police Service (QPS) advises that that online reporting allows Policelink to manage workloads by prioritising phone calls while still ensuring non-urgent online forms are processed in an agreed time frame. There has been an increasing take up of the non-urgent online forms, and an increasing range of online options. It is also a convenient and effective method for customers to make contact with police.

The data set provided in Question on Notice number 13 for the 2017-18 Estimates was for **11 months (1 July 2016 to 31 May 2017)**, whereas the below data is for the **full 12 month** period as requested.

I am informed by the QPS that the following table outlines the available online reports and the respective contact volumes for 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018. The 'Policelink online complaints' and the 'compliments and complaints' both provide an avenue for making complaints against QPS staff, but are found in different parts of the QPS website.

Public Form	Volumes
Alarm Notification	10,685
Compliments & complaints	1,150
Crime Tracker on line	7,676
Cyclist complaint form	373
Event Safe Registration	482
Fare Evasion	440
Fuel Drive-Off	20,229
Hoon on line	10,459
Lost Property	8,892
Motor vehicle Impoundment Early Release	2,416
Noise/Party Complaint	60,808
Party Safe Registration	4,721
Policelink online complaints	749
Property List	7,198
Register your ride	0
Replacement e-ticket	1,517
Report a Drug Dealer	2,419
Stock and Rural Suspicious Activity	43
Supplementary	10,780
Suspicious Activities	6,894
Tow notification form	8,826
Traffic Crash	4,358
Wilful Damage and Graffiti	2,824
Withdrawal of Complaint	7,480

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QUESTION 15

QUESTION:

With reference to QPS SDS page 4, will the Minister advise in relation to 2017-18:

- a. The number of offenders who were charged with multiple offences?
- b. Of those in a, how many of those matters had one or more charges dropped/discontinued before trial; and
- c. Of those in b. how many of those dropped/discontinued charges related to offences that were later re-investigated and a charge made against a different offender?

ANSWER:

I am advised by the Queensland Police Service that, during 2017-18, 65,669 people were charged with more than one charge, regardless of statute and charge/section.

With regard to any charges dropped and/or discontinued before trial, and of those charges, any that may have related to offences that were later re-investigated, and which may have related to a charge against another offender, I am advised that the collation of this information would require significant hours of manual checks, which the Queensland Police Service considers to be an unjustifiable use of police resources.

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QUESTION 16

QUESTION:

In relation to QPS SDS pages 4-5, will the Minister advise for each police region reported separately:

- a. The number of Property Security offences reported to QPS in 2017-18;
- b. The number of charges for Property Security offences issued within 30 days, 90 days, 180 days; and
- c. How many reported Property Security offences did not result in a charge being levied?

ANSWER:

I am advised by the Queensland Police Service (QPS) that as at 30 June 2018 the number of Property Security offences reported to QPS in 2017-18 for each police region was:

- Brisbane – 71,733 offences
- Central – 41,094 offences
- Northern – 33,748 offences
- South Eastern – 55,607 offences
- Southern – 42,461 offences.

I am further advised the number of Property Security offences reported to police and cleared within 30 days in 2017-18 for each police region was:

- Brisbane – 20,146 offences
- Central – 12,800 offences
- Northern – 10,150 offences
- South Eastern – 13,445 offences
- Southern – 13,744 offences.

The QPS has advised that the number of Property Security offences reported to police and cleared within 90 days in 2017-18 for each police region was:

- Brisbane – 24,731 offences
- Central – 15,728 offences
- Northern – 12,075 offences
- South Eastern – 17,241 offences
- Southern – 16,882 offences.

Further, I am advised the number of Property Security offences reported to police and cleared within 180 days in 2017-18 for each police region was:

- Brisbane – 27,056 offences
- Central – 16,666 offences
- Northern – 12,656 offences
- South Eastern – 18,361 offences
- Southern – 18,069 offences.

The QPS has advised that Property Security offences presented in the Service Delivery Statement is a count of reported offences and not charges. Not all offenders of reported Property Security offences are actioned by charge (arrested, notice to appear or summon), some are actioned by caution, community conferences and other actions.

I am advised that, to allow for comparability with the other questions asked, the number of Property Security offences reported to QPS in 2017-18 where investigations have either not been completed or are yet to be withdrawn for each police region is:

- Brisbane – 44,326 offences
- Central – 24,201 offences
- Northern – 20,959 offences
- South Eastern – 36,928 offences
- Southern – 24,076 offences.

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QUESTION 17

QUESTION:

With reference to page 3 of the QCS SDS, will the Minister advise for each QCS facility (reported separately) in relation to Detention Units (DU):

- a. How many DU cells are present at each facility;
- b. What was the occupancy rate of each DU (broken down by month) in 2017-18;
- c. What was the average duration for a prisoner held inside a DU in 2017-18; and
- d. What was the longest total time a prisoner was held inside a DU in 2017-18?

ANSWER:

I am advised by Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) that the following table represents the detention unit cells in each facility.

Secure Facility	Number of Detention Unit Cells
Arthur Gorrie CC	12
Borallon Training and CC	8
Brisbane CC	8
Brisbane Women's CC	6
Capricornia CC	10
Lotus Glen CC	12
Maryborough CC	8
Southern Queensland	12
Townsville Men's CC	10
Townsville Women's CC	6
Wolston CC	10
Woodford CC	16

QCS has advised that the below table reflects the occupancy rate of each detention unit.

2017-18 Detention Unit Occupancy Rate by Month												
	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
Secure Facility												
Arthur Gorrie CC	67%	83%	67%	50%	83%	75%	83%	75%	75%	75%	83%	92%
Borallon Training and CC	38%	75%	63%	63%	63%	75%	63%	75%	75%	63%	63%	63%
Brisbane CC	63%	75%	75%	88%	75%	63%	63%	63%	63%	63%	63%	75%
Brisbane Women's CC	100%	83%	100%	83%	100%	83%	100%	100%	100%	83%	100%	100%
Capricornia CC	30%	40%	60%	80%	60%	50%	50%	70%	60%	60%	40%	50%
Lotus Glen CC	58%	83%	75%	92%	83%	92%	92%	100%	92%	42%	67%	83%
Maryborough CC	75%	63%	75%	75%	63%	63%	75%	63%	75%	63%	75%	75%
Southern Queensland CC	83%	92%	100%	92%	83%	83%	92%	92%	92%	83%	67%	75%
Townsville Men's CC	80%	80%	100%	90%	90%	100%	90%	80%	90%	80%	80%	70%
Townsville Women's CC	83%	83%	83%	83%	100%	83%	83%	83%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Wolston CC	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	80%	90%	100%	90%	100%	90%
Woodford CC	75%	75%	94%	88%	88%	81%	75%	75%	75%	81%	81%	75%

QCS has advised that, 3,250 distinct prisoners spent one or more days in a detention unit during 2017-18.

Further, I am informed that, in 2017-18, the average number of days prisoners spent in a detention unit was 12 days, while the median number of days spent in a detention unit was five days. QCS has advised that the longest consecutive period of time a prisoner has spent in a detention unit was 319 days.

Note:

- *The average counts distinct individuals. An individual may have been held in a DU at more than one facility during the reference period, or may have had more than one non-consecutive period in the DU. Only days included within the financial year were included in the calculation.*
- *The median counts distinct individuals. An individual may have been held in a DU at more than one facility during the reference period, or may have had more than one non-consecutive period in the DU. Only days included within the financial year were included in the calculation. The median is calculated using the aggregate time each prisoner spent in the DU during the financial year.*

ESTIMATES 2018
PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
MINISTER FOR POLICE AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES
QUESTION 18

QUESTION:

With reference to page 3 of the QCS SDS, will the Minister advise:

- a. How many drug tests of prisoners were issued in 2017-18;
- b. How many prisoners tested positive for illicit drugs in 2017-18 (broken down by drug – please separate out Buprenorphine); and
- c. How many follow-up tests were conducted of prisoners who previously tested positive and of the follow-up tests, what were the results?

ANSWER:

I am advised by Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) that targeted drug testing is conducted to confirm suspected presence of substances in custodial centres and is based on the receipt of intelligence information or the obvious presence of physical and/or behavioural symptoms.

Further, QCS has advised that random urinalysis testing occurs on a weekly basis within high and low security corrective services facilities. Prisoners are selected for this type of drug testing on a random basis through the generation of a weekly listing using an endorsed selection process.

The Palaszczuk Government has zero tolerance for drugs in prison. Barrier controls, searches, engagement in drug education and intervention programs, intelligence information and regular targeted and random drug testing are among the strategies used to keep drugs out of prisons. Should a prisoner return a positive drug test or fail to provide a sample, swift action is taken.

QCS has advised that the below table reflects the number of targeted and random drug tests conducted during 2017-18, the number of positive confirmatory results and results by drug type.

2017-18 FINANCIAL YEAR

TARGET DRUG TESTING	
Total Number of Target Tests Conducted	5,515
Number of Positive Confirmatory Drug Test Results by Drug Type:	
Amphetamine	28
Buprenorphine	815
Benzodiazepine	113
Cocaine	3
Methamphetamine	40
Methadone	19
Morphine	73
Marijuana	57
Ecstasy	39
RANDOM DRUG TESTING	
Total Number of Random Tests Conducted	4,601
Number of Positive Confirmatory Drug Test Results by Drug Type:	
Amphetamine	6
Buprenorphine	221
Benzodiazepine	49
Cocaine	0
Methamphetamine	8
Methadone	15
Morphine	63
Marijuana	27
Ecstasy	0

Notes:

The above tables include data on prisoners who have provided a urine sample for the purpose of testing for illicit substances (including prescription medication not prescribed to the prisoner by Offender Health Services). The above data is a count of tests conducted. It is not a distinct prisoner count, as a prisoner may have provided more than one sample during the financial year.

The above data does not include samples which have been deemed invalid or requests where the prisoner has failed to provide a sample.

I am advised that QCS conducts increased targeted testing of prisoners who have previously provided a positive result and that these results, if positive, would be included in the reported data.

ESTIMATES 2018
PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
MINISTER FOR POLICE AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES
QUESTION 19

QUESTION:

With reference to page 3 of the QCS SDS, will the Minister advise for each correctional centre (broken down separately):

- a. What was the total number of prisoners held over 2017-18;
- b. How many training or industries/employment roles for prisoners were available in 2017-18; and
- c. How many prisoners did not partake in any technical or further training or employment opportunities offered by QCS?

ANSWER:

I am advised by Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) that, in 2017-18, the average daily prisoner number by correctional centre and work camp is presented in the table below.

CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	2017-18 Average Daily State
Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre	1171
Borallon Training and Correctional Centre	317
Brisbane Correctional Centre	716
Brisbane Women's Correctional Centre	419
Capricornia Correctional Centre	547
Lotus Glen Correctional Centre	817
Maryborough Correctional Centre	659
Southern Queensland Correctional Centre	378
Townsville Correctional Centre (Male)	675
Townsville Women's Correctional Centre	196
Wolston Correctional Centre	754
Woodford Correctional Centre	1312
Capricornia Low Custody Correctional Centre	67
Helana Jones Centre	18
Lotus Glen Low Custody Correctional Centre	121
Numinbah Correctional Centre	101
Palen Creek Correctional Centre	163
Townsville Female Low Custody Correctional Centre	30
Townsville Male Low Custody Correctional Centre	74

Blackall Work Camp	10
Boulia Work Camp	4
Bowen Work Camp	5
Charleville Work Camp	12
Clermont Work Camp	4
Dirranbandi Work Camp	5
Innisfail Work Camp	9
Julia Creek Work Camp	7
Mitchell Work Camp	12
Springsure Work Camp	4
St George Work Camp	6
Warwick Showgrounds Work Camp	4
Winton Work Camp	11

QCS has advised that, in 2017-18, 36.2% of all eligible prisoners participated in vocational training, literacy and numeracy, secondary studies or tertiary studies, which exceeds the 2018-19 SDS target of 32%.

Participation in education and training is voluntary. QCS has advised that, as the average time in custody is approximately seven months, many prisoners are provided with a range of short vocational courses that can be completed in that timeframe.

As part of the Sofronoff Review, QCS is exploring ways to enhance access to a wider range of rehabilitation activities, including education and training.

In 2017-18, 67% of eligible prisoners engaged in employment. This equates to an average of 4,207 prisoners employed during 2017-18.

QCS is working towards the expansion of prison industries in more correctional centres to seven days. This contrasts with a reduction in prison industries under the previous LNP government.

Extended operational hours allow QCS to engage more prisoners in meaningful employment.

I am advised by QCS that the below table reflects the number of prisoners participating in training, education and industry/employment roles across correctional centres from July 2017 to June 2018.

CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	Vocational Training	Education	Employment
Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre	408	319	345
Borallon Training and Correctional Centre	202	56	165
Brisbane Correctional Centre	261	1129	200
Brisbane Women's Correctional Centre	271	329	228
Capricornia Correctional Centre	308	398	228
Capricornia Correctional Centre (Farm)	0	20	85
Helana Jones Correctional Centre	0	12	0
Lotus Glen Correctional Centre	338	342	339
Lotus Glen Correctional Centre (Farm)	335	130	130
Maryborough Correctional Centre	355	949	308
Numinbah Correctional Centre (Female)	150	27	109
Palen Creek Correctional Centre	183	47	201
Southern Queensland Correctional Centre	252	118	248
Townsville Women's Correctional Centre	209	321	114
Townsville Women's Correctional Centre (Farm)	20	16	29
Townsville Men's Correctional Centre	318	502	404
Townsville Men's Correctional Centre (Farm)	96	86	72
Wolston Correctional Centre	210	288	411
Woodford Correctional Centre	636	881	591

QCS has advised that, in 2017-18, of those eligible prisoners, 217 did not participate in employment. I am further advised that this figure does not represent prisoners on remand.

Note: The vocational training and education data does not represent a distinct count of individuals. Individuals may participate in more than one education category. The employment data is a distinct count of individuals.

ESTIMATES 2018
PREHEARING QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
MINISTER FOR POLICE AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES

QUESTION 20

QUESTION:

What consequences is police prosecution understaffing having on the judicial system? Can the Minister advise what measures are being undertaken to encourage uniformed officers to become police prosecutors, and what efforts will be taken to retain them?

ANSWER:

Based on advice from the Queensland Police Service, I reject the basis of the first question.

I am advised by the Queensland Police Service (QPS) that the QPS has over 30 Police Prosecution Offices across the State and I have been assured they are adequately staffed, by civilian and police prosecutors, with an increase in prosecutor positions over the last twelve months to ensure service delivery to all courts State-wide.

The recent promotion and transfer of some prosecutors to other areas of the QPS has resulted in new prosecutors being recruited and this has ensured that a high standard of service to all courts has been maintained at all times.

The allocation of appropriate resources and staff for a Prosecution office is determined on the basis of ongoing assessment of many factors to ensure service to the courts is effectively managed and maintained. Factors considered include operational policing requirements, the number of matters lodged in the court; the number of Magistrates; court calendars; and travel time for Circuit Courts which require prosecutors, Magistrates and court staff to travel to sometimes remote locations. Requirements can change and therefore staffing may be re-assessed as new issues and trends arise.

The most recent Queensland Police Service Prosecutor Training Course commenced on 9 July 2018. The course has a cohort of 20 police officers from diverse policing experience backgrounds. By its design, the course facilitates the professional development of officers with regard to the framework, skills and knowledge needed to be a professional advocate.

From February 2017, the University of New England approved Advanced Standing towards a law degree for Queensland Police Service graduates of a Diploma of Policing (or equivalent) and a Graduate Certificate in Police Prosecution (or equivalent). As part of the offer, Queensland Police Prosecution Services have developed a set of criteria for their police prosecutors to meet the pre-requisite certificates, two of these criteria being that an individual must be a sworn police officer and must be currently attached to one of the Police Prosecution offices across the State.

Constables and Senior Constables appointed as Prosecutors within the Queensland Police Service and undertaking prosecution duties, may progress to the rank of Sergeant when they have 5 years continuous experience as a prosecutor as well as meeting specified training, performance and development requirements.

I am advised that the Queensland Police Service is committed to the professional development of police prosecutors which forms part of the attraction, retention and inclusion of a diverse group of police prosecutors. I am informed that a number of conferences have been attended by both sworn officers and unsworn staff members to enhance their opportunities to learn and develop as well as provide networking opportunities and identification of improved ways of doing business.

Questions on notice and responses – *Minister for Fire and
Emergency Services*

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 1

QUESTION: With reference to page 4 of the service delivery statement (SDS), specifically the key highlight, “enable the on boarding of the State Emergency Service (SES) to the existing Government Wireless Network in South East Queensland” - will the Minister outline:

- a) The funding being delivered; and
- b) The benefits for the SES?

ANSWER:

- a) The Queensland Government is contributing \$15 million over the next 11 years to bring SES onto the GWN digital radio network in South East Queensland.
- b) The SES will now have the ability to communicate between multiple agencies. Audio quality will be improved through the radios capacity to filter background noise and improve voice clarity.

SES will benefit from the improved coverage of the network which is increased by 28% for mobile radios and 132% for portables compared to the existing coverage provided by the coverage of non-networked repeaters.

The GWN will provide SES with end to end encryption which has delivered important personal safety improvements for police, firefighters and paramedics.

QFES will be able to begin to fully integrate SES communications and mobilisation into existing communication centres. This will allow the communication centres to provide better coordination and safety oversight for all SES volunteers using the GWN in the field.

This integration will aid interoperability for responses across QFES, QPS and QAS.

SES personnel will be able to initiate a duress button that will not only give them priority to speak but will transmit their location and present it on a map for quick identification of where they are.

This investment in SES will provide them with fit for purpose and robust water proof radios. SES will be provided with the same level of equipment that all Public Safety Agencies use.

The list of benefits is long and extensive, such as having access to the full managed service arrangements provided by the GWN contract. The SES will continue to find more operational benefits as the technology is fully integrated into daily operations.

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 2

QUESTION: With reference to page 4 of the SDS which highlights QFES partnerships with stakeholders. Will the Minister outline how QFES develops these partnerships to provide the best response to the community in the event of a natural disaster?

ANSWER:

Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) vision is “creating safe and resilient communities” through the protection of persons, property and the environment and the provision of effective prevention, preparedness, response and recovery (PPRR) activities across a range of fire and emergency events, including natural and human induced disasters.

As part of this vision, QFES has developed extensive partnerships that extend to community groups, business, non-government organisations and other government agencies at a state, national and international level to provide the best response to Queensland communities in the event of a natural disaster.

For example, QFES has established a whole-of-government agency network to support the State Disaster Coordination Centre (SDCC) during a disaster or emergency incident. This is achieved through the appointment of Agency Coordinators who meet throughout the year and act as a conduit into each government agency by providing advice on agency capability to perform relevant roles in response to a natural disaster or emergency. All state government and some non-government agencies participate in SDCC training and exercising throughout the year, while QFES works closely with the Queensland Police Service (QPS) in particular to ensure effective operations of the SDCC.

QFES also works closely with other agencies such as the Queensland Reconstruction Authority to perform a joint agency approach through the collection and sharing data through the SDCC on Damage Assessments. In addition, QFES has strong relationships and partnerships with national agencies and organisations such as Emergency Management Australia, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and the Australasian Fire and Emergency Services Authorities Council (AFAC), where a number of QFES representatives provide advice and assistance on specific work groups in line with the AFAC collaboration Framework.

Some of these work groups include:

- SES Operations Group
- Urban Search & Rescue Technical Group
- Predictive Services
- Emergency Warnings

QFES also has long standing and well-developed partnerships with local government across the state, providing assistance within the Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements with ongoing training and support. This also includes QFES providing representation and leading disaster management activities across the state as part of disaster management groups at local and district levels.

For example, QFES has embedded two fire officers into the Gold Coast City Council to assist with their ongoing bushfire mitigation program, while across the state QFES staff are engaged in area fire management groups to further develop partnerships with local communities and residents to mitigate the effects of bushfire in their local areas.

Additionally, QFES has Community Engagement Officers within every region to engage with stakeholders and partners. As an example of their work, QFES and QPS South Western Region officers have teamed up with Multicultural Development Australia to welcome displaced refugees from Iraq, Syria and other locations who are relocated into Toowoomba on a monthly basis. QFES and QPS take turns as hosts, coming together collectively to welcome new Australians into the community and demonstrating how the Police, Fire and Emergency Services are here for them, not to be afraid, and to call on the emergency services should they require assistance during a natural disaster or fire and rescue event.

QFES representation and ongoing relationships with its partners extends to international deployments where QFES Urban Search and Rescue Teams represent Australia through the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs when required for earthquakes and other natural disasters. QFES also has personnel identified as Inter Agency Resource Representatives and Inter Agency Representatives who can be coordinated for rapid deployment within the United States and Canada during their wildfire seasons which enhances relationships and allows for information sharing with international partners.

QFES is committed to ensuring it has strong partnerships with all its stakeholders and will continue to foster these relationships to ensure the safety of Queenslanders while enhancing its reputation as a world class Fire and Emergency Service organisation.

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 3

QUESTION:

With reference to page 5 of the SDS regarding volunteer satisfaction - what steps are Queensland Fire and Emergency Services taking to improve satisfaction amongst State Emergency Service and Rural Fire Service volunteers?

ANSWER:

Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) supports approximately 42,000 emergency service volunteers across the Rural Fire Service (RFS), State Emergency Service (SES), Technical Rescue, Scientific and Peer Support.

QFES has developed a Volunteerism Strategy, which is nearing finalisation. The Strategy will establish a framework to further embed volunteerism into the QFES culture, increase connection to community, increase capability, and guide the development of a future volunteer workforce able to adapt to organisational and societal changes.

One strategic priority of the QFES Volunteerism Strategy is 'Embrace'. This strategic priority and supporting guiding principles aims to ensure that volunteers are respected and recognised for their dedication, commitment and tireless efforts, whilst embracing their local knowledge, life skills and experience at the local level. The 'Embrace' priority also supports a framework where all interactions volunteers have with QFES enhance their volunteering experience and is mutually beneficial.

A significant consultation program has been undertaken by QFES to help inform the strategy including 29 workshops held across Queensland with almost 600 volunteers and staff participating.

QFES is currently incorporating a number of additional volunteer initiatives which will support the implementation phase of the Volunteerism Strategy. These Valuing Volunteer Initiatives include:

- an enhanced Emergency Services Volunteers Grants Program;
- a new category of SES volunteer providing more flexible membership and recorded in an Emergency Services Volunteer Register;
- the introduction of a State SES response unit and;
- the establishment of a Leadership Development Centre.

This Government is committed to improving the satisfaction of volunteers and these initiatives will ensure that we continue to value the outstanding contribution our volunteers make to our communities.

QFES also currently engages our volunteers through key initiatives such as:

- A biannual RFS Volunteer Summit which this year engaged 160 volunteers in two days of workshops and information sessions;
- SES Week where each year in October, SES volunteers are recognised for their invaluable commitment to the Queensland community through awards programs and public engagement opportunities; and
- Each May, National Volunteer Week events provide the opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the generous contribution of our emergency services volunteers.

QFES provides SES and RFS volunteers with personal protective uniforms and equipment, general equipment, training and support services.

RFS volunteers are supported through the fuel and vehicle maintenance funding initiative that commenced on 1 July 2016, with QFES providing up to \$3.8 million in support to RFS asset registered vehicles through fuel and maintenance funding. The fuel and vehicle maintenance funding initiative includes the provision of vehicle servicing, including annual safety inspections, repairs (other than insurance claims) and fuel requirements for RFS asset registered vehicles.

A principal partnership between SES and Insurance Australia Group (IAG) through NRMA Insurance provides sponsorship to SES, which is managed by QFES. This sponsorship provided 3,200 hydration backpacks for SES volunteers who have achieved the rank of Field Operator (or above). As at 31 May 2018, 2150 hydration backpacks have been issued. SES supporting partners are Energy Queensland (through their brands Energex and Ergon) and Powerlink Qld who, together provide a range of valuable equipment to help the volunteers assist the Community.

Energy Queensland (through Energex) is also a supporting partner for RFS, providing funding for the installation of solar power equipment for remote brigades.

In August 2016, QFES rolled out Microsoft Office 365 to QFES Volunteers. Office 365 saw all QFES volunteers provided a departmental email address and access to functionality such as; calendar, contacts, project and team document collaboration, file storage (1TB) and Skype. By providing access to these components, QFES Office 365 provides anywhere, anytime, any device connectivity for all QFES volunteers which will also deliver practical operational benefits allowing volunteers to better communicate and coordinate activities at a local level.

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 4

QUESTION: With reference to page 4 of the SDS, regarding smoke alarm requirements, will the government outline what strategies Queensland Fire and Emergency Services are undertaking to support the implementation of the new smoke alarm requirements?

ANSWER:

Queensland households will be the safest in the country under the new smoke alarm legislation.

The new legislation addresses the Coroner's recommendations following the tragic house fire at Slacks Creek, and requires dwellings to have interconnected photoelectric smoke alarms in all bedrooms, in hallways that connect bedrooms with the rest of the dwelling, and on every level.

The photoelectric smoke alarms must comply with Australian Standard 3786-2014 and be either hard-wired or powered by a 10-year battery.

The new laws commenced 1 January 2017 and have a 10-year staged implementation, with all owner-occupied homes due to comply from 1 January 2027.

Implementation activities are progressed through the established inter-departmental committee which is chaired by Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) and ensures a consolidated approach across government.

QFES also provides the community with a direct advice service where Queenslanders can contact QFES officers for further information on the new requirements along with general maintenance of current smoke alarms fitted in their dwellings. QFES has responded to over 2,095 direct advice requests since August 2016.

Smoke alarms are only part of the process to ensure people can safely escape from their burning home. A well-practiced escape plan is the other critical component of safe evacuation.

To enhance community awareness, QFES conducted the Queensland Great Escape home fire safety campaign in June 2018 aimed at engaging Queenslanders in not only developing an escape plan, but most importantly practicing it as well.

The campaign is being followed by an advertising campaign which commenced in July and will run until to December 2018. This campaign will focus on the new legislation, encompassing specific messages to introduce and build awareness of the need for change around smoke alarms.

In addition, QFES continues to deliver the Safehome program to Queenslanders. Safehome is a free fire safety initiative designed to assist all householders in recognising fire and safety hazards in and around the home. Firefighters conducting Safehome visits provide advice on the correct positioning of smoke alarms, escape plans and discuss other fire safety concerns that householders may have.

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 5

QUESTION:

With reference to page 3 of the SDS and Queensland Fire and Emergency Services vision, “creating safe and resilient communities” - would the Minister provide information about the roll-out of defibrillators for Rural Fire Service vehicles?

ANSWER:

As of July 2018, all new Rural Fire Service (RFS) vehicles will have Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) installed as part of a Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) capital funding program.

In 2018-19, the Accelerated Rural Fire Fleet Program is one of the biggest appliance builds ever undertaken by QFES and 119 vehicles will be replaced. All of these vehicles will be fitted with AEDs.

The device is a form of first aid which can provide lifesaving early treatment in the case of cardiac arrest. The AEDs are a vital piece of first aid equipment for brigades, who are often the first responders to incidents in rural and regional areas where medical assistance could be some distance away.

The AEDs will not only greatly enhance the safety of the public but QFES staff and volunteers as well.

Currently there are more than 120 RFS vehicles across the state already fitted with AEDs, which brigades have received through grants and sponsorship programs.

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 6

QUESTION: I note in the SDS that one of the reasons for variations between 2017-18 Budget and 2017-18 Estimated Actual is due to funding for the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games and I also note page 3 of the SDS where it states that one of the key outcomes for the Department is to be strategically capable and agile, would the Minister outline how this was applied during the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games.

ANSWER:

The Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018) was the culmination of nearly four years of planning by Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES). The QFES Commonwealth Games Office (CGO) commenced planning in 2015 and will leave a great legacy for responding to future events by QFES.

GC2018 showcased QFES as a capable, agile and diverse organisation which included over 800 personnel from across the organisation, working together, along with key government and partner agencies, to achieve the Games mission of a 'Safe and Friendly Games'. A total of 817 QFES personnel worked across 18 Games venues on the Gold Coast, Brisbane, Cairns and Townsville in addition to normal operations and enhanced response measures put in place by South Eastern Region.

A key consideration for QFES during planning, was how to meet its service delivery obligations for GC2018 and remain responsive and agile should unplanned event(s) occur in the lead up to and during the Games. The QFES CGO developed the QFES GC2018 Business Continuity Plan which included three distinct deployment models with resource numbers and level of service required.

In addition to Games planning, the QFES Specialist Response and Planning Directorate prepared a Capability and Capacity Plan to manage the emergence of multiple events occurring concurrently during the Games. Incorporating a scalable resource deployment model derived from a significant bushfire e.g. Rockhampton 2009 and cyclone/flooding e.g. Tropical Cyclone Debbie 2017 event occurring concurrently, the plan was shared at the national level with partner jurisdictions being informed of the pre-planning that had occurred.

In March 2018 the Ingham flooding event, TC Nora and TC Iris saw the initial stages of the plan being implemented with Interstate Liaison Officers deployed into the QFES State Operations Centre. Fortunately, further interstate resources were not required as QFES had the capacity to respond to the events, perform its normal operations and support the Games.

Post GC2018, ongoing capability benefits are being realised by QFES including:

- redeployment of specialist equipment procured (All-Terrain Vehicles, command and decontamination trailers, specialist radiation/biological and chemical equipment, Government Wireless Network cache);
- availability of personnel upskilled in planned event management and response solutions;
- adaption of innovative systems and solutions developed for the Games (Beacon Dashboard, QFES Deploy App) to the normal operations environment;
- establishment of the Planned Event Management System Portfolio in the QFES Doctrine, assisting QFES in providing consistent service delivery when responding to major and planned events in the future and aligning QFES to other agencies in major events planning; and
- a state-of-the-art, multi-agency emergency coordination facility, primarily built for GC2018, will remain as a permanent multi-agency facility to manage major events like the Gold Coast 600, smaller scale planned operations and critical incidents on the Gold Coast; and
- further development of the Capability and Capacity Plan for potential inclusion in QFES' Knowledge Hub, enhancing QFES' capability for better managing concurrent events and normal operations.

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 7

QUESTION: With reference to page 4 of the SDS, which outlines Queensland Fire and Emergency Services commitment to 'rescues across all hazards' - would the Minister outline how firefighters are trained to respond to swiftwater rescues?

ANSWER:

There are two main methods of carrying out a Swiftwater rescue; from the safety of the river bank, or by entering the water to affect the rescue.

Swiftwater Rescue Awareness training is available to all permanent, auxiliary and volunteer personnel to provide an initial overview of safe operations in a swiftwater environment.

Land based operations are provided through the Swiftwater Rescue Level 1 training package. This includes the reach and throw method of rescue and is provided to all full-time fire fighters and identified Auxiliary firefighters based on their location. Regular refresher training forms part of the core skills training program. These rescues are conducted with crews staying out of the water and throwing a rescue line to the victim, then utilising this line to bring the victim to a safe location. This training package has recently been re-written and will be provided to the remaining Auxiliary stations, and identified Rural Fire Service Brigades and State Emergency Service Groups, where the risk profile indicates a requirement.

In water operations are conducted by specifically trained Swiftwater Rescue Level 2 Technicians and Operators. This training involves a selection swim test before being accepted to undergo the specialist training. Training involves a two-week theory and practical course. The course is heavily focused on 'in water' operations to simulate the work environment that will be encountered. The training is conducted on the Tully River, and each Swiftwater Technician undergoes refresher training for in-water operations in the river environment every two years. Level 2 Swiftwater rescue staff are required to routinely enter the water to carry out a rescue. This involves swimming in hostile environments, the use of inflatable work platforms and the use of rope and rigging systems to carry out rescues. Additional training is provided to selected staff in locations that are required to operate Motorised Swiftwater Rescue Craft and Helicopter winch operations.

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 8

QUESTION:

Page 21 of the SDS states that the Office of the Inspector-General Emergency Management will facilitate knowledge sharing, skills development and collaboration across the disaster management sector. Can the Minister outline examples of how this collaboration is being achieved?

ANSWER:

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to this important facet of disaster management work.

Headlining an ongoing drive to foster knowledge-sharing, skills development and collaboration has been the establishment of the Disaster Management Officers' Network.

This peer-driven network was established four years ago with the express purpose of providing a network for disaster management practitioners from councils across Queensland to share resources, develop skills, innovate and collaborate.

Facilitated through the Office of the Inspector-General Emergency Management (IGEM), the network has grown rapidly to now comprise 91 members from 55 councils across Queensland.

Through regular teleconferences, an annual three-day forum and interaction and discussion via a secure online collaboration platform, the network has generated a comprehensive array of achievements and positive outcomes in its short history.

These range from the development of a collective Memorandum of Understanding between local government and the State Emergency Service, to coordination of television advertising between regional councils, which more efficiently and cost effectively messages and educates the public.

The group shares successful preparedness campaigns, warning siren operational procedures, evacuation plans, local disaster coordination centre floor plans, operational sub-plans and position descriptions. As a result, I am informed that we are seeing tangible and marked enhancements to procedures, products, approaches, communication, and capability across the system at local government level.

A sub-group of Disaster Management Officers has just been formed to develop an online information management repository to better and more

effectively capture, house and share these important examples of good practice across the network.

The Disaster Management Officers' Network won the Leadership Category at the 2017 Premier's Award for Excellence.

The Office of the IGEM is also supporting the drive towards collaborative disaster management excellence through other initiatives such as a program of capability reviews in disaster districts across the State, to ensure the best possible arrangements are in place to support and serve all Queenslanders.

To ensure important lessons, findings and examples of good practice remain front-of-mind in the ongoing enhancement of disaster management arrangements in Queensland, the Office of the IGEM is also currently working with stakeholders from across the sector to develop a comprehensive lessons management program.

Significant collaborative work is also being undertaken with the tertiary sector to ensure disaster management research and information is being developed, in the Queensland context, to better target the needs of practitioners and provide sharper evidence-based decision-making at the local level.

Under this Office of the IGEM-led Research Framework, more than 130 researchers have joined a database to identify and provide specialists skills and areas of interest to ensure targeted world-class disaster management research is developed.

In addition to the localised research work being undertaken, a raft of major overarching studies are currently being progressed to consider crucial and emerging disaster management issues, solutions and opportunities.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to ensuring that knowledge-sharing, skills development and collaboration among stakeholders from throughout the sector remains at the heart of this invaluable work.

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 9

QUESTION:

Page 21 of the SDS states that during 2018-19 the Office of the Inspector-General Emergency Management will lead the development and implementation of a system-wide lessons management program for Queensland. Can the Minister explain the purpose of the program and how it will help to keep Queensland communities safe?

ANSWER:

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to keeping Queensland communities safe.

The Office of the Inspector-General Emergency Management's (IGEM) 2017 review into the effectiveness of Queensland's disaster management system in response to Tropical Cyclone Debbie identified the need for a sustainable improvement program for the Queensland disaster management sector.

In response to the review's recommendations, the Government tasked the IGEM with implementing and maintaining a system-wide lessons management program.

Lessons management is the mechanism that enables learnings from events, exercises and good practice to be identified and embedded through action and change.

Development of the lessons management program commenced in February 2018 and will include a comprehensive implementation strategy to support the program.

The Office of the IGEM is working with stakeholders from across the sector, including Queensland Fire and Emergency Services and the Queensland Police Service, who already play a key role in supporting improvements to Queensland's disaster management system.

The lessons management program will drive continuous improvement across the sector by encouraging and supporting the sharing of lessons and good practice, and fostering a learning environment.

Robust monitoring and reporting will further ensure the best possible disaster management system and arrangements are in place to help Queenslanders prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters in the future.

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 10

QUESTION:

Page 21 of the SDS refers to the Office of the Inspector-General Emergency Management conducting an ongoing program of capability reviews of specific disaster districts in Queensland. Has a capability review been conducted in the last 12 months, and if so, what were the findings?

ANSWER:

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to ensuring the best possible disaster management arrangements are in place to keep Queenslanders safe.

The Office of the Inspector-General Emergency Management (IGEM) conducts capability reviews in disaster districts across the State to ensure that all Queenslanders are well served by our disaster management arrangements.

A capability review of the Townsville Disaster District was undertaken by the Office of the IGEM between July 2017 and February 2018.

The Office of the IGEM worked closely with the Burdekin, Charters Towers, Flinders, Hinchinbrook, Palm Island, Richmond and Townsville local disaster management groups, and the Townsville district disaster management group to assess their capability to meet future challenges.

The capability review assessed the individual and collective capability of these groups, across all aspects of the disaster management system, and against the Standard for Disaster Management in Queensland (the Standard).

The Office of the IGEM review report was publicly released in April 2018, and found:

- highly effective disaster management capability across the Townsville disaster district, including many examples of good practice
- arrangements that meet the requirements of the *Disaster Management Act 2003* and the Standard, and
- that the achievements of the Townsville district reflect the leadership, disaster management expertise and commitment of the seven local governments, their local disaster management groups and the district disaster management group.

A district capability enhancement strategy was included in the review report, based on the findings arising from the review.

To support this strategy, the Office of the IGEM and the Queensland Reconstruction Authority collaborated to facilitate a workshop in Townsville for the local and district disaster management groups.

The workshop focussed on leveraging the strong leadership demonstrated across the district and developing recovery and resilience capability into the future.

In February 2018, the capability of the Townsville disaster district and its local arrangements were tested by severe weather and flooding events. The strengths identified during the review were evident during operational activity and contributed to effective community outcomes for North Queensland.

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 11

QUESTION: In relation to page 4 of the SDS, under “2018-19 service area highlights” can the Minister outline:

- a) The total number of trained swift water rescuers in QFES;
- b) The number of swift water rescuers being trained outlining total for the following years – 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018; and
- c) Whether there are any current shortfalls in current swift water rescuers within certain regions?

ANSWER:

- a) The total number of staff trained to Swiftwater Rescue Level 2, for in-water operations is 391 as at 12 July 2018.
- b) The number of staff trained to this qualification per year is:

Year	Courses allocated	Successfully completed
2014	1 x 18 personnel (18)	18
2015	3 x 18 personnel (54)	33
2016	1 x 18 personnel (18)	16
2017	2 x 18 personnel (36)	32
2018	1 x 18 personnel (18)	17
Total	144	116

Data is as at 12 July 2018.

- c) The allocation of Swiftwater Rescue Level 2 personnel for each region is determined by need based on the operational risk profile of each region. QFES is able to rapidly deploy swiftwater rescue technicians and rescue craft around the state as they are required.

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 12

QUESTION: In relation to page 11 of the SDS, under “staffing” can the Minister outline the following in relation to the use of Auxiliary firefighters in Queensland between and including 2012 and 2018:

- a) The total number of Auxiliary fire fighters utilised by QFES;
- b) The total number of hours that Auxiliary fire fighters were used for each of these years; and
- c) The total number of Auxiliary fire stations in Queensland?

ANSWER:

a)

Year	Headcount
2012	2013
2013	2059
2014	2052
2015	2066
2016	2055
2017	2022
2018	2010

b)

Financial Year	Total Hours
2012-13	456,951
2013-14	455,263
2014-15	550,617
2015-16	548,177
2016-17	529,676
2017-18	518,607

Note: Totals rounded to the nearest hour

c)

Year	Composite	Auxiliary
2012	19	155
2013	17	156
2014	21	152
2015	21	152
2016	21	152
2017	21	152
2018	21	152

Note: A composite Station houses both Permanent and Auxiliary Firefighters

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 13

QUESTION: In relation to page 11 of the SDS, under “staffing” can the Minister please outline the following in relation to overtime paid to professional firefighters in Queensland 2012 to 2018:

- a) The overall total of number of overtime hours per year; and
- b) The associated overall costs of this overtime per year?

ANSWER:

- a) & b)

Financial Year	Sum Of Unit(hr)	Sum Of Amount(\$)
2011/12	276,404.61	\$15,873,462.64
2012/13	286,390.32	\$16,690,840.84
2013/14	284,349.52	\$17,075,107.83
2014/15	380,498.74	\$23,787,780.55
2015/16	315,950.65	\$20,093,219.02
2016/17	304,982.46	\$19,249,286.06
2017/18	284,185.83	\$19,109,678.82

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 14

QUESTION: In relation to page 11 of the SDS, under “staffing” can the Minister outline:

- a) The current number of female FTE firefighters;
- b) The number of female firefighter FTE recruits for each of the following years: 2016, 2017, 2018;
- c) The overall number of QFES commissioned officer (Inc. deputy, assistant) positions; and
- d) The number of females occupying QFES commissioned officer (Inc. deputy, assistant) positions?

ANSWER:

a)

Firefighting Reporting Function*	Females (FTE) as at 30 June 2018
Executive	1.00
Senior Officers	2.00
Station Officer	5.00
Firefighter	86.96
Rural Fire Officers	15.15
Auxiliary Firefighters	24.80
Firefighting FTE	134.91

*

QFES Reporting Functions		
Reporting Group	Workforce Profile	Description
Firefighting	Executive	Commissioner, Deputy & Assistant Commissioners employed under <i>Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990</i>
	Senior Officer	Urban Senior Officers (Chief Super, Super, DMO & Insp) employed under <i>Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990</i>
	Station Officer	Urban Station Officers & Building Approval Officers
	Firefighter	Urban Firefighters
	Rural	Rural operational staff
	Auxiliary	Auxiliary staff

b)

Years	Function Description	Female
2016	Firefighter	11
2017	Firefighter	6
2018	Firefighter	
Total		17

Notes – Details the number of female Firefighters in the recruit intakes for each year.

The first recruit course for 2018 is in August. The courses were not held earlier in 2018 because of the Commonwealth Games.

- c) QFES does not have commissioned officers, however do have Senior Executive comprised of Executive Directors, Assistant Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners and the Commissioner.
As at 30 June 2018, there are 18 Senior Executive positions, of these 18 positions, 15 are employed under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990*, and 3 are employed under the *Public Service Act 2008*.
- d) As at 30 June 2018, there are two females occupying Senior Executive positions, one is employed under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990* (the Commissioner) and the other one is employed under the *Public Service Act 2008*.

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 15

QUESTION: In reference to page 12 of the Service Delivery Statement (SDS) that deals with “budgeted financial statements” can the Minister outline the names and locations of the following that have ceased operations or that have had buildings closed since 2016:

- a) Rural Fire Brigades;
- b) Auxiliary Brigades; and
- c) SES units?

ANSWER:

Due to changes in service delivery requirements, a number of auxiliary and rural fire brigades (RFBs) have been amalgamated with other services, however, QFES service delivery has not ceased in any location.

a) Rural Fire Brigades

- Growing population in some areas and associated changes in community needs has seen some stations change from a rural fire service delivery to an auxiliary or permanent fire and rescue service delivery. In these cases, the equipment and volunteers from closing brigades are incorporated into other brigades.
- Since 2016, the former Gomaren RFB station has been repurposed from brigade use to area office storage. The Gomaren brigade service delivery area, equipment, and volunteers, have been incorporated into two other Rural Fire Brigades.
- Two RFBs have demolished buildings to rebuild improved facilities, they are the Little Mulgrave RFB and the Coowonga RFB.

b) Auxiliary Brigades

- Since 2016, there have been various redevelopments where former stations have been closed and replaced by new stations through the QFES capital works program. These developments have seen the closure of:
 - Former Gordonvale Fire and Rescue Station at 105 Norman Street, Gordonvale and reopened at Gillies Range Road, Gordonvale;
 - Former Smithfield Fire and Rescue Station at 1061 Captain Cook Highway, Smithfield and reopened at 2 Ainsley St, Smithfield;
 - Former Goombungee Fire and Rescue Station at 4 King Street, Goombungee and reopened at 4 Anvil Ct, Goombungee;

- Former Proserpine Fire and Rescue Station at 102 Main Street, Proserpine and reopened at 61 Hinschen St Proserpine;
- Former Alpha Fire and Rescue Station at 16 Byron Street, Alpha and reopened at 1 Burns St, Alpha QLD 4724; and
- Former Bundaberg Fire and Rescue Station at 17-19 Woongarra Street, Bundaberg and reopened at 57 Wylle Street, Thabeban.

c) SES Groups

- SES Group facilities across Queensland are owned by the respective local government authorities. The decision as to whether SES facilities are opened or closed is entirely one for the respective council. Where possible, opportunities for co-location of emergency services functions, including SES groups, are explored by QFES when planning new capital works programs.
- Since 2016, the SES division of QFES has recorded a total of 11 SES Groups which have been closed by the respective council. These groups include:
 - Begonia SES Group, Roma
 - Yelarbon SES Group, Toowoomba
 - Collinsville SES Group, Mackay
 - Eungella SES Group, Mackay
 - Farleigh SES Group, Mackay
 - Northern Beaches SES Group, Mackay
 - Walkerston SES Group, Mackay
 - Louisa Creek SES Group, Mackay
 - Finch Hatton SES Group, Mackay
 - Opalton SES Group, Longreach
 - Woorabinda SES Group, Rockhampton

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 16

QUESTION: In relation to page 12 of the SDS that deals with “budgeted financial statements” can the Minister outline the following:

- a) The total number of QFES buildings in Queensland with a breakdown into regional localities of these;
- b) The total number of unoccupied QFES buildings – with a breakdown between fire & SES outlining their former uses; and
- c) Underutilised buildings with a breakdown between fire & SES outlining their current occupants?

ANSWER:

The Public Safety Business Agency (PSBA) owns and maintains a significant state-wide property portfolio which it manages on behalf of Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES).

Regarding the State Emergency Service (SES), buildings across Queensland are owned by the respective local government authorities. Where possible, opportunities for co-location of emergency services functions, including SES groups, are explored by QFES when planning new capital works programs.

The PSBA have advised the following:

a) Total number of QFES Buildings

- Includes a total of 242 Fire and Rescue Stations which by region comprise of:
 - 25 Far Northern Region
 - 20 Northern Region
 - 38 Central Region
 - 46 North Coast Region
 - 40 South Western Region
 - 35 South Eastern Region
 - 38 Brisbane Region
- The Rural Fire Service (RFS) includes 481 brigades with stations, however some brigades have more than one facility, bringing the number of RFS sites to 541, comprising of:
 - 33 Brisbane Region
 - 107 Central Region
 - 42 Far Northern Region

- 156 North Coast Region
- 50 Northern Region
- 78 South Eastern Region
- 75 South Western Region

b) Total unoccupied QFES Buildings

- Over recent years, there have been various redevelopments and replacement fire stations delivered through the QFES capital works program. These developments have seen the closure of:
 - Former Gordonvale Station at 105 Norman Street, Gordonvale
 - Former Smithfield Station at 1061 Captain Cook Highway, Smithfield
 - Former Goombungee Station at 4 King Street, Goombungee
 - Former Wallumbilla Station at 34 May Street, Wallumbilla
 - Former Proserpine Station at 102 Main Street, Proserpine
 - Former Alpha Station at 16 Byron Street, Alpha
 - Former Bundaberg Station at 17-19 Woongarra Street, Bundaberg
- The future use of the above sites are currently under review by QFES and PSBA, with consideration for their potential repurposing or disposal.

c) Underutilised buildings

- Currently, all buildings occupied by QFES are utilised for operational purposes. An annual review process for the development of forward capital and minor works programs identifies facilities that no longer meet operational requirements and require upgrade or replacement. The current review has not identified any underutilised buildings, only those that no longer meet QFES needs.

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 17

QUESTION: With reference to page 11 of the SDS, under “staffing” can the Minister please outline the following HR figures in relation to QFES:

- a) The overall number of complaints (bullying/sexual harassment etc.) specifically breaking down figures between fire & SES;
- b) The number of overall actions taken in response to these complaints; and
- c) Total number of hours taken off work (both with pay and without) as a result of these bullying/harassment actions?

ANSWER:

- a) During the 2017/18 financial year, 266 complaints across the QFES workforce of approximately 45,000 paid employees and volunteers were made. These complaints encompass a broad range of allegations including but not limited to bullying and harassment. Sixty-four of those complaints related to the SES workforce.
- b) Complaints are dealt with by either taking management action (fact-finding, alternate dispute resolution, etc), an investigation, a combination of both (as one complaint may contain multiple allegations and multiple subject officers), or no action if the complaint is deemed baseless or erroneous. It is assumed in this instance that ‘actions’ means management action or investigation, or a combination of both. Of the 266 complaints about the QFES workforce, 259 were actioned. Of the 64 complaints about the SES workforce, 63 were actioned.
- c) Leave with or without pay is recorded as either recreation, sick or long service, there is no specific recording of leave taken in relation to complaints.

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 18

QUESTION: With reference to page 4 of the SDS under the “2018-19 service area highlights”, can the Minister outline the following in relation to funding the improvement to communications equipment for SES:

- a) How much has been spent to date digitising the radio network?;
- b) How much is allocated in 2018-19 for digitising the radio network?;
- c) In which regions will this radio network digitisation take place?; and
- d) How much is it estimated to cost to digitise all of the Queensland SES radio networks?

ANSWER:

- a) In relation to SES digital equipment, approximately \$400,000 has been spent replacing the existing High Frequency (HF) radios to new Digital HF equipment.
- b) \$3.250 million will be funded in 2018-19 to commence the transition of more than 70 SES groups to the use of digital radios on the GWN.
- c) The SES onboarding to the GWN will take place across the QFES South East Region, Brisbane Region, parts of South Western Region and parts of North Coast Region.
- d) In terms of estimating the cost of digitising all of the Queensland SES radio networks, the Public Safety Business Agency is working on behalf of QFES to develop a long-term public safety strategic communications strategy to attain a comprehensive communications platform suitable for Queensland's long-term requirements. The SES will be a primary user of a multi-agency network solution.

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 19

QUESTION:

With respect to new vegetation management laws and their impact on landholders' capacity to self-manage fire risks for properties, can the Minister advise if:

- a) The new vegetation management laws are expected to lead to an increased workload for emergency services? and
- b) If there are measures in place to cope with this potential increase?

ANSWER:

- a) The new vegetation management laws are not expected to lead to an increased work load for Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) paid staff and volunteers.

Hazard reduction burning is a well-established practice, enabled by the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990*. Consistent with the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990*, landholders are still able to undertake controlled burning for hazard reduction purposes, by obtaining a Permit to Light Fire from their local Fire Warden. The new vegetation management laws do not affect these provisions.

The new vegetation management laws will not hamper the ability of QFES to mitigate or respond to bushfires.

QFES will continue to work with landholders and local communities to conduct hazard reduction burning and other bushfire mitigation activities through the coordination of QFES' Area Fire Management Groups.

- b) Nil, as the new vegetation management laws are not expected to lead to an increased work load for QFES.

2018
Estimates Committee
Pre-Hearing Questions on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 20

QUESTION: Can the Minister advise:

- a) How it is determined - which regional and rural areas require 4x4 emergency service vehicles and how many?; and
- b) If there is any capacity to distribute or re-distribute 4x4 vehicles into the regional and rural areas where they will be most utilised?

ANSWER:

a) & b)

Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) manages its 4x4 fleet allocations within each QFES region, with it being based on operational needs and regional and rural conditions at any given time. Within each region, QFES can distribute or re-distribute appropriate appliances based on operational needs and regional and rural conditions at any given time.

Correspondence

	Correspondence
1.	Seeking leave for herself and Messrs Mander, Bleijie, Janetzki, Watts and Millar to ask questions at estimates committee hearing – Mrs Deb Frecklington MP, Member for Nanango
2.	Seeking leave to ask questions at estimates committee hearing – Ms Sandy Bolton MP, Member for Noosa
3.	Seeking leave to ask questions at estimates committee hearing – Mr Jon Krause MP, Member for Scenic Rim
4.	Seeking leave to ask questions at estimates committee hearing – Mr Michael Berkman MP, Member for Maiwar
5.	Seeking leave to ask questions at estimates committee hearing – Mr Michael Crandon MP, Member for Coomera



Deb Frecklington MP

Leader of the Opposition and Shadow Minister for Trade

22 June 2018

Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee
Attention: Mr Peter Russo MP, Chair

By email: lacsc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Russo

I'm writing in relation to the Committee's consideration of the 2018/19 portfolio budget estimates.

Pursuant to section 181(e) of the Standing Rules and Orders of the Legislative Assembly, I seek leave for the following Members to attend the public estimates hearings of the Committee, scheduled for Thursday, 26 July 2018:

- Deb Frecklington MP, Member for Nanango
- Tim Mander MP, Member for Everton
- Jarrod Bleijie MP, Member for Kawana
- David Janetzki MP, Member for Toowoomba South
- Trevor Watts MP, Member for Toowoomba North
- Lachlan Millar MP, Member for Gregory

Should you have any queries, please contact Peter Coulson of my office.

Yours sincerely

DEB FRECKLINGTON MP
Leader of the Opposition
Shadow Minister for Trade
Member for Nanango

CC: Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP, Mr James Lister MP

Sandy Bolton MP

Member for Noosa



28th June 2018

Peter Russo MP
Chair of the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

Dear Mr Russo,

I am writing in relation to the committee's consideration of the 2018/19 portfolio budget estimates. Pursuant to section 181(e) of the Standing Rules and Orders of the Legislative Assembly, I seek leave to attend and ask questions at the public estimates hearing of the committee, scheduled for 26th July 2018.

Yours faithfully

SANDY BOLTON MP
Member for Noosa





PO Box 656, Beaudesert, QLD 4285
scenicrim@parliament.qld.gov.au
07 5515 1100

JON KRAUSE MP

MEMBER FOR SCENIC RIM

91 Brisbane Street, Beaudesert

16 July 2018

Mr Peter Russo MP
Chair
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000
lacsc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Russo

Peter,

I'm writing in relation to the Committee's consideration of the 2018/19 portfolio budget estimates.

Pursuant to section 181(e) of the Standing Rules and Orders of the Legislative Assembly, I seek leave to appear and ask questions at the public estimates hearing of the Committee, scheduled for Thursday, 26 July 2018.

Should you have any queries, please contact my office.

Yours sincerely

Jon Krause

Jon Krause MP
Member for Scenic Rim

MICHAEL BERKMAN MP

Queensland Greens Member for Maiwar



18 July 2018

Mr Peter Russo MP
Member for Toohey
Chair of the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

By email: lacsc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Request for leave to appear and ask questions at 2018-19 budget estimates hearings

Dear Mr Russo,

Peter

I am writing in relation to the upcoming budget estimates hearing of the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee, scheduled for 26 July 2018.

I seek leave of the Committee under standing order 181(e) to attend and ask questions at this hearing.

Kind regards,

Michael Berkman MP

www.michaelberkman.com.au

1/49 Station Road, Indooroopilly • PO Box 423, Indooroopilly Centre QLD 4068

P: 07 3737 4100 • E: maiwar@parliament.qld.gov.au



Michael **CRANDON** MP

Member for **Coomera**

Thursday, 19 July 2018

Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee
Attention: Committee Secretary

Dear Secretary

I, Michael Crandon MP, Member for Coomera seek leave under Standing Order 181(e) to ask questions at the Estimates hearing of the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee on 26 July 2018.

Regards

Michael Crandon MP
Member for Coomera

**Answers to questions taken on notice at hearing –
*Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services
and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services***

ESTIMATES 2018
QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
MINISTER FOR POLICE AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES

QUESTION:

- (a) **Mr WATTS:** The question was: reports of rape and attempted rape are up by nine per cent.
- (b) **Mr WATTS:** Commissioner, comparing the first half of 2017 and the second half of 2017, armed robbery offences in Townsville increased by 126 per cent, with other significant increases in armed robbery in Far North, Logan and Mackay. Commissioner, of these robbery offences, how many were cleared within guidelines?

ANSWER:

- (a) I am advised that the rate between 1 July to 31 December 2017, increased by 4% when compared with 1 January to 30 June 2017.
- (b) The Service Delivery Statement for the Queensland Police Service includes target estimates for the percentage of personal safety offences cleared within 30 days of being reported to police. The target estimate included in the Service Delivery Statement for the broader category of robbery offences cleared in 30 days was 55-69% in 2017-18.

I am advised that the following table represents clearance rates within 30 days for the offences in question for the districts of Far North, Logan, Mackay and Townsville:

District	1 January 2017 to 30 June 2017			1 July 2017 to 31 December 2017			1 January 2018 to 30 June 2018		
	Number Reported	Number Cleared in 30 Days	Percent Cleared in 30 Days	Number Reported	Number Cleared in 30 Days	Percent Cleared in 30 Days	Number Reported	Number Cleared in 30 Days	Percent Cleared in 30 Days
Far North	11	6	55%	20	12	60%	19	15	79%
Logan	51	26	51%	97	58	60%	88	51	58%
Mackay	7	5	71%	11	8	73%	10	7	70%
Townsville	19	17	89%	43	28	65%	30	21	70%

Notes:

1. This data is preliminary and may be subject to change.
2. Clearance percentage is calculated using 'cleared in same period' divided by all offences reported in the period.

The percentages for the period from 1 January 2018 to 30 June 2018 compared to the period from 1 July 2017 to the 31 December 2017 reflect that the reported rate has reduced by 5% in the Far North, 9% in Logan, 9% in Mackay and 30% in Townsville.

ESTIMATES 2018
QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE
MINISTER FOR POLICE, FIRE AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES
QUESTION NO.

QUESTION:

Mr WATTS:

Commissioner, I refer to the document before you which states at page 13—
A further conclusion of the assessment was that of the juveniles being increasingly identified as committing offences on bail this often means that offenders have more opportunities to commit offences and are not concerned with the additional offence of breach of bail.

Commissioner, of juvenile offenders in the state, how many were charged with an offence while they were on bail in the past 12 months?

ANSWER:

I am advised by the Queensland Police Service (QPS) that the QPS does not hold all of the records for all juveniles on bail in Queensland. I am informed that records are also held by the Department of Justice and Attorney-General and the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women.

Further, I am informed by QPS that the provision of the number of juveniles recorded in QPRIME who were charged with an offence while on bail in the past twelve months, would require manual extraction and cross-checking, which is considered by QPS to be an unjustifiable use of police resources.

ESTIMATES 2018
QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE
MINISTER FOR POLICE, FIRE AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES
QUESTION NO.

QUESTION:

Mr WATTS: I certainly can. Commissioner, there are 57 patched bikies currently out on bail. For how many of those did the police oppose the bail application?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Police Service (QPS) has advised that as at 2 August 2018, the number of patched bikies currently out on bail has decreased to 38. Of these patched bikies currently before the Magistrates, District or Supreme Courts, 26 bail applications were opposed by the Queensland Police Service.

Further, I am informed that all bail applications are individually considered by the QPS, and that, when considering opposing bail, QPS takes into account the seriousness of the offence, prior bail history and importantly, whether a person is a threat to the community.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE HEARING 26 JULY 2018
QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
MINISTER FOR POLICE AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES

Portfolio for Queensland Corrective Services

Hansard 26 July 2018, page 65.

QUESTION:

Mr WATTS: Commissioner, the current rate of overpopulation in Queensland prisons is 131 per cent. On current planning with the forecasts you have just provided in your previous answer, what will be the forecast overpopulation in 2020?

ANSWER:

I am advised by the Queensland Corrective Services Commissioner that the medium growth projection of Queensland's prisoner population for December 2020 is 9,273 prisoners.

I am further advised that by December 2020, given the additional infrastructure announced, the estimated built cell capacity will increase to 7545 cells and 8881 beds.

As a result, Queensland Corrective Services estimates that the built cell utilisation rate in December 2020 will decrease to 123 per cent based on current announced infrastructure.

**2018
Estimates Hearing
Question on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 1**

MR L MILLAR ASKED THE MINISTER FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICE (HON C CRAWFORD)-

QUESTION:

We saw in the 2014 Allison review that there was a significant issue within the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services around its culture as a hostile and toxic workplace for women. Can the minister outline how many of the 259 actioned bullying and sexual harassment cases involved females?

ANSWER:

During the 2017/18 financial year 266 complaints about the QFES workforce (paid employees and volunteers) were made. These complaints encompass a broad range of allegations, including but not limited to - bullying and sexual harassment, unprofessional personal conduct, failure of duty, misuse authority, misuse of information, misappropriation or unauthorised use of resources.

Of the 266 complaints about the QFES workforce, 259 were actioned and dealt with.

Of the 266 complaints, 73 contained an allegation that could amount to bullying or sexual harassment. Of the 73 complaints that contained an allegation that could amount to bullying or sexual harassment, 38 of these complaints involved a female complainant.

**2018
Estimates Hearing
Question on Notice
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services
Question No. 2**

MR L MILLAR ASKED THE MINISTER FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICE (HON C CRAWFORD)-

QUESTION:

Page 3 of the SDS outlines the department's responsibility to respond in a timely manner and appropriately to emergencies. Can you outline the number of code 1 medical call-outs that resulted in fire and rescue crews either arriving before or in place of the more appropriate provider, the Queensland Ambulance Service?

ANSWER:

Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) is proud to work collaboratively with our partners at the Queensland Police Service (QPS) and the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) to ensure the community receives emergency services in their time of need.

QFES systems do not record code 1 medical call-outs, as this is QAS terminology.

Documents tabled at hearing – 26 July 2018

Documents tabled at the hearing – 26 July 2018	
1.	Correspondence from the Crime and Corruption Commission to Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP, dated 13 July 2018, tabled by Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP, Member for Kawana
2.	Correspondence from the Crime and Corruption Commission to Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP, dated 16 July 2018, tabled by Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP, Member for Kawana
3.	Correspondence from Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP to Mr Alan Macsporrán QC, Chairperson Crime and Corruption Commission, dated 15 May 2018, tabled by Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP, Member for Kawana
4.	Correspondence from the Office of the Information Commissioner to Mr Peter Coulson, dated 16 July 2018, tabled by Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP, Member for Kawana
5.	Twitter post from Josh Bavas, dated 26 July 2018, tabled by Hon Yvette D'Ath MP, Attorney-General and Minister for Justice
6.	Extract from <i>QPS Crime Drivers Report</i> , dated February 2018, tabled by Mr Trevor Watts MP, Member for Toowoomba North
7.	Extract from <i>QPS Crime Drivers Report</i> , dated February 2018, tabled by Mr Trevor Watts MP, Member for Toowoomba North
8.	Extract <i>Cairns Weekend Post</i> , dated 10-11 March 2018, tabled by Mr Lachlan Millar MP, Member for Gregory

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www.ccc.qld.gov.au

ABN 32 164 714 360



Crime and Corruption
Commission
QUEENSLAND

Tabled by: Mr J. Bleijie MP
At: 9.17am
Date: 26 July 2018
Signature: [Signature]

Our Reference: CO-18-0985 / 18/158275
Contact Officer: DBJones

13 July 2018

TO BE OPENED BY ADDRESSEE ONLY

Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP
Member for Kawana
Shadow Minister for Education and Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations
Manager of Opposition Business

By email: kawana@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Bleijie MP

**RE: ALLEGATIONS ARISING OUT OF THE APPOINTMENT OF
MARK ALGIE TO THE BOARD OF ENERGY QUEENSLAND**

Thank you for your letter to the Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC), dated 4 May 2018, in which you raised concerns about the conduct of Minister Mark Bailey MP in the appointment of Mr Mark Algie to the board of Energy Queensland Limited (EQL).

Specifically, we understand that you allege Minister Bailey unlawfully caused the appointment of Mr Algie to the board of EQL with the intent to give a dishonest benefit to the leadership of the Electrical Trades Union (ETU) in their dealings with EQL.

The CCC have now had an opportunity to consider this matter. To assist in our assessment of the allegation we have also conducted inquiries including obtaining a range of material from Queensland Treasury. Our purpose in requesting this material was to identify whether the circumstances of Mr Algie's appointment to the board of EQL raised any suspicion of corrupt conduct on the part of any people involved in his appointment.

As you are aware, under the *Crime and Corruption Act 2001* (the Act), the CCC's role is to ensure that complaints involving suspected 'corruption' are dealt with appropriately.

Before the CCC may take action in relation to a complaint of corruption, we must be satisfied that the information available to us raises a suspicion that corruption has occurred. Taking action in the absence of a suspicion would be an unjustifiable use of

[Signature]

the CCC's limited resources. The Act recognises that it is appropriate for us to take no further action on a complaint in those circumstances.

While the matter you have raised would, if proved, amount to corrupt conduct, the CCC considers, based on our review of the relevant material, that there is insufficient evidence to raise a suspicion that the elements of section 15 of the Act are satisfied. For these reasons, the CCC is unable to take any further action in relation to your concerns.

In the course of our review, however, the CCC has identified concerns about the lack of transparency and good governance in the process utilised when appointing people to the board of Government Owned Corporations (GOCs), including EQL.

The CCC has written to Mr Murphy, Under Treasurer at Queensland Treasury, recommending that the government implement more robust policies and procedures to improve transparency, equity and governance in relation to these appointments in the future. The CCC's recommendations include applying the same process equally for all candidates and conducting due diligence checks before recommendations for appointment are progressed to Cabinet.

The CCC is yet to assess the other concerns you have raised in your correspondence and we will advise you separately about your other concerns in due course.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Paul Alsbury', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Paul Alsbury
Senior Executive Officer, Corruption

GPO Box 3123
Brisbane QLD 4001

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515 St Pauls Terrace
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www.ccc.qld.gov.au

ABN 32 164 714 360

Tabled by: Mr J. Bleijie MP
At: 9.17 am
Date: 26 July 2018
Signature: [Signature]



Crime and Corruption
Commission

QUEENSLAND

Our Reference: CO-18-1076 / EF
Contact Officer: Elizabeth Foulger
eDRMS: 18/150520

16 July 2018

TO BE OPENED BY ADDRESSEE ONLY

Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP
Member for Kawana
Shadow Minister for Education and Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations
Manager of Opposition Business

By email: kawana@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Bleijie MP

**RE: CONCERNS ABOUT THE CONDUCT OF THE PREMIER
ANASTASIA PALASZCZUK**

Thank you for your letter to the Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC) dated 15 May 2018, in which you raised concerns about the actions of the Premier of Queensland, Ms Anastasia Palaszczuk MP.

We understand that on 2 May 2018 you overheard a conversation between Ms Jo-Ann Miller MP, and the Minister for Local Government, Mr Stirling Hinchliffe MP. You provide that the conversation concerned the ongoing investigation of the Ipswich City Council. Ms Miller was suggesting that she was owed an apology for complaints she had previously made about Mr Pisasale that had been disregarded by the Premier and the Government. She apparently referred to making complaints about Mr Pisasale's conduct to the Premier on multiple occasions.

This conversation caused you to become concerned that evidence relevant to the CCC's investigation of the Ipswich City Council, was being withheld by the Government. Further, that relevant evidence may be at risk of destruction.

The CCC notes that you could not identify an specific incidents and your complaint appears to be based on possibilities raised by the conversation your overheard.

As you are aware, under the *Crime and Corruption Act 2001* (the Act), the CCC's role is to ensure that complaints involving suspected 'corruption' on the part of Queensland's elected officials are dealt with appropriately.

Before the CCC may take action in relation to a complaint of corruption, we must be satisfied that the information available to us raises a suspicion that corruption has

occurred. Taking action in the absence of a suspicion would be an unjustifiable use of the CCC's limited resources.

The Act recognises that it is appropriate for us to take no further action on a complaint in those circumstances.

While the matters you have raised, as outlined above would, if proved, amount to corrupt conduct, the CCC considers you have not provided any evidence to raise a suspicion that the elements of section 15 of the Act are satisfied.

For those reasons the CCC is unable to take any further action in relation to your concerns.

Yours sincerely

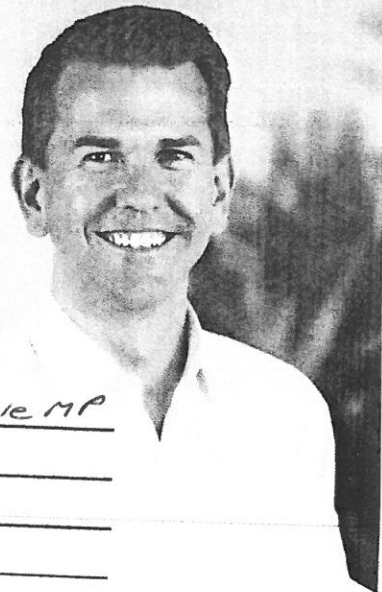
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'EF' or 'E. Foulger', written in a cursive style.

Elizabeth Foulger
Acting Director, Integrity Services

Jarrood BLEIJIE MP

Member for Kawana

Shadow Minister for Education and Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations
Manager of Opposition Business



15 May 2018

Alan Macsporrان QC
Chairman
Crime and Corruption Commission

By email: mailbox@ccc.qld.gov.au

Tabled by: Mr J. Bleijie MP

At: 9.17am

Date: 26 July 2018

Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

Dear Mr Macsporrان

I am writing about your ongoing investigation into allegations of corruption at the Ipswich City Council.

On Wednesday 2 May 2018, I was a witness to a conversation between Jo-Ann Miller MP, Member for Bundamba and Hon Stirling Hinchliffe MP, Minister for Local Government. Other Members and staff were also in the vicinity. The conversation was in relation to the ongoing investigation into Ipswich City Council. The conversation occurred in an anteroom behind the Legislative Assembly chamber at about 6:15pm.

Ms Miller raised with Mr Hinchliffe the proposition that she was entitled to an apology for her complaints about former Ipswich Mayor Paul Pisasale being disregarded by the Premier and the Palaszczuk Government.

During the conversation, Ms Miller said on multiple occasions that over a period of years complaints about Mr Pisasale's conduct, had been put to the Premier and to the Administrative Committee of the Labor Party.

I am concerned by what I heard. I am concerned firstly that evidence relevant to your ongoing investigation may be being withheld by the Labor Party. I am also concerned, in light of the cavalier nature of the dismissals by the Premier to Ms Miller's earlier complaints that the evidence may be at risk of destruction.

Further on the evening of 13 May 2018, Ms Miller advised me, in the presence of others, that the Premier would have you believe that Ms Miller only made complaints about Ipswich in opposition. Ms Miller advised me that this was not the case and she directly told the Premier about the alleged corruption in both opposition and government.

I ask that you please investigate these concerns as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Jarrood Bleijie MP

Member for Kawana

Shadow Minister for Education and Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations
Manager of Opposition Business

JPB:LG



Our Ref: 313828

16 July 2018

Mr Peter Coulson - Principal Advisor
Office of the Leader of the Opposition
PO Box 15057
CITY EAST QLD 4002

Tabled by: Mr J. Bleijie MP
At: 10.00am
Date: 26 July 2018
Signature: [Signature]

By email only: Peter.Coulson@opposition.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Coulson

**External review of decision under the *Right to Information Act 2009 (Qld)*
Applicant: Mrs Deb Frecklington MP, Leader of the Opposition**

I refer to previous correspondence in relation to this external review.

The purpose of this letter is to convey a preliminary view on the issues in this review.¹

At this stage, my view is that access to the information you seek may be refused. My reasons for this view are explained in this letter. However, after reading this letter you may have more information that you would like me to consider. If you provide further relevant information, I will take this into account before reaching a final decision.

As noted in the attachment to OIC's letter dated 11 April 2018, as an independent statutory body, OIC's role on external review is limited to merits review² of specific government decisions about access to, and amendment of, government-held information. As an independent body, we review access and amendment issues in a fair and unbiased way.

Background

You applied for access under the *Right to Information Act 2009 (Qld)* (**RTI Act**) to any completed investigation reports held by the Ethical Standards Unit created between 1 January 2014 and 30 November 2017 relating to any investigations of fraud or serious financial irregularity in the expenses of Cavendish Road State High School.

The Department identified 92 pages as falling with the scope of your access application and decided to refuse you access to all information on the grounds that its disclosure would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

Having reviewed the information in issue, I consider a preliminary issue arises as to whether the information comprises a 'completed investigation report' and therefore falls within the scope of your application. Although the report has been signed by the Senior Investigator, it has not been endorsed by either the Principal Investigator or the Director of the Ethical Standards Unit. It is therefore arguable that it is not a completed investigation report.

¹ A preliminary view may assist in resolving a matter or provide any party adversely affected an opportunity to put forward their views. A preliminary view is not a decision. If you provide additional information supporting your case, this will be considered and may influence the final outcome.

² Which is an administrative reconsideration of a case that can be described as 'stepping into the shoes' of the primary decision-maker, to determine the correct and preferable decision.

There are also parts of the information in issue that do not relate to matters of 'fraud or serious financial irregularity' and therefore do not fall within the scope of your application.

But in any event, it is my preliminary view that the report is exempt from disclosure under schedule 3, section 10(4) of the RTI Act.

Preliminary view

Schedule 3, section 10(4) of the RTI Act provides that information is exempt information if it consists of information obtained, used or prepared for an investigation by a prescribed crime body, or another agency, in the performance of the prescribed functions of the prescribed crime body. The Crime and Corruption Commission (**CCC**) is a prescribed crime body.

Based on information provided by the Department, it appears that, following an audit of Cavendish Road State High School's finances, the Queensland Audit Office raised matters of concern with the Department. On 21 July 2017, the Department referred the matters to the CCC. The CCC carried out an initial assessment and then referred the matters back to the Department for investigation, at which stage the Department's Ethical Standards Unit conducted an investigation and the report in issue was prepared.

Section 45 of the *Crime and Corruption Act 2001* (Qld) (**CCA**) provides that the CCC has primary responsibility for dealing with information involving possible corrupt conduct. Section 46(2) lists the possible actions that the CCC may take in dealing with a complaint about possible corrupt conduct, including referring it to be dealt with by a public official, subject to the CCC's monitoring role. Section 48 sets out the CCC's monitoring role and provides that the CCC may require the public official to provide stated information about the complaint in the way and at the times the CCC directs. It also provides that the CCC may assume responsibility for and complete an investigation by a public official at any time.

In my preliminary view, the report in issue consists of information 'obtained, used or prepared' for an investigation by the CCC, or another agency, 'in the performance of the prescribed functions of' the CCC. That is, a prescribed function of the CCC under the CCA is the investigation of possible corrupt conduct. In performing that prescribed function, the CCC elected to refer the matters to the Department for investigation under section 46(2)(b) of the CCA, but subject to the CCC's monitoring and audit role.

It is therefore my preliminary view that the information in issue is exempt information under schedule 3, section 10(4) of the RTI Act.

Next steps

If you accept OIC's preliminary view, or you do not wish to continue with the review, you do not need to do anything further.

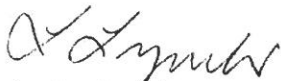
If you do not agree with OIC's preliminary view, please provide a submission supporting your case by **3 August 2018**. **Enclosed** is the OIC guide on providing submissions in an external review.

If I do not hear from you by **3 August 2018**, OIC will finalise the review under section 90(4) of the RTI Act and no formal decision will be issued.³

³ If this matter is resolved informally, that is, without a formal decision being issued, there will be no right of appeal under the RTI Act.

If you have any questions, please contact OIC by emailing administration@oic.qld.gov.au or telephoning Rachel Moss, Principal Review Officer on 07 3234 7373.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Louisa Lynch', written in a cursive style.

Louisa Lynch

Right to Information Commissioner

Encl External review – a guide for making a submission to OIC



Josh Bavas ✓
@JoshBavas

Follow

Oh boy. Jarrod Bleijie's cufflinks in Budget Estimates while questioning Crime and Corruption Commission chairman. [#qldpool](#)



1:36 PM - 25 Jul 2018

11 Retweets 14 Likes



11



11



14





Tabled by: Hon Yvette D'ATH MP

At: 10:48 am

Date: 26 JULY 2018

Signature: 

PROTECTED

Tabled by: Mr T. Latta MPAt: 2.23pmDate: 26 July 2018Signature: [Signature]

Robbery Offences

KEY DRIVERS - ROBBERY

✓	SOCIO ECONOMIC FACTORS	?	ORGANISED CRIME
✓	DRUG RELATED OFFENDING	✓	JUVENILE CRIME
?	MENTAL HEALTH		

In the comparative period, reported Robbery offences increased in rate by 17% ($n=840-982$). In this same period, both Armed Robbery and Unarmed Robbery increased in rate across Queensland 24% and 11% respectively. Nine districts experienced increases in Robbery offences, the largest changes being in Mackay, South Brisbane, Logan, Mount Isa and Townsville.

Townsville, Far North, Logan, and Mackay experienced the largest comparative period increases in the rate of Armed Robbery, with Townsville experiencing a significant rise at 126% ($n=19-43$).

Mount Isa*, Mackay*, South Brisbane and Sunshine Coast* experienced increased rates in Unarmed Robbery.

Sunshine Coast experienced the largest decrease in Armed Robbery (-65%) ($n=20-7$) with decreases also experience in the South West, Moreton, Ipswich, and the Darling Down (-50%) ($n=10-5$).

Darling Downs, South West, Wide Bar Burnett Ipswich and Moreton all experienced decreases in Armed Robbery.

Drivers

Juveniles

Juvenile offending has been noted as a significant issue in relation to robbery offences. An assessment undertaken by North Brisbane District of juvenile offenders⁴ noted the significance of juvenile offenders who were committing offences in company. Juvenile offenders are increasingly more connected through technology and social media applications making committing offences in company more achievable. More interestingly, those who target valuable items such as tablets and phones have been noted as disposing of the goods very soon after the robbery, indicating that these

⁴ North Brisbane District Unlawful Use, Enter and Robbery Offences - Juveniles, 8-JAN-2018

PROTECTED

Tabled by: Mr T. Watts MP

At: -2.29 PM

Date: 26 JULY 2018

PROTECTED

RTI/23695

Signature: [Signature]
Robberies are possibly driven by status, impressing peers and risk taking, rather than acquisition. Anecdotally, juvenile repeat offending is also hallmarked by an inherent lack of concern for the victim and of being caught.

On average, offenders travel 3,4 km to commit their crimes, and the chance of a neighbourhood to be chosen reduces with every km distance from the offender's home⁵. Where juvenile offenders were once, more likely to commit crimes local to their homes in traditional locations such as shopping centres and around transport infrastructure, there is a trend, also likely to be related to the connectedness of young people, that they are moving away from their home district and offending across a number of districts in a manner of different ways. South Brisbane district, Operation Assurance charged two juvenile offenders with 29 property offences, both of whom are known drug users and known to offend across multiple police districts⁶.

A further conclusion of the assessment was that of juveniles being increasingly identified as committing offences while on bail. Offenders, on bail have been seen to continue to commit offences while awaiting court dates. This often means that offenders have more opportunities to commit more offences and are not concerned with the additional offence of Breach of Bail.

Recidivism

South Brisbane District also notes robbery offenders are frequently recidivist with 96% of robbery offenders between 1-Sep-2017 and 31-Oct-2017 assessed as recidivist offenders with 43% having a previous robbery offence⁷. One of the most noted issues relating to any increases in Unarmed Robbery offences is that of Unarmed Robbery as a predictor of later Armed Robbery offending. Convicted armed robbers are often identified as having extensive prior criminal records⁸.

Alcohol

According to the National Alcohol and Drug Knowledgebase, 39% of all crime where an individual is detained by police was alcohol related. 28% of robbery/theft offences are related to alcohol, with the largest represented age group being 18-24 years of age, tending to decrease with age⁹. Raising the legal age for alcohol consumption could be used as a mechanism to reduce this type of offending.

Soft Targets

The majority of the population carry valuable item such as mobile phones, tablets, smart watches and credit cards, with Pay wave capability. Offenders no longer need to break into secure homes and carry out large household goods to obtain items of value - they can target individuals on any street and be almost guaranteed to get at least one valuable electronic item¹⁰. Juvenile offenders in

5- Beauregarda Eric L, Proulx Jean, D., Rossnec Kim A., Spatial patterns of sex offenders: Theoretical, empirical, and practical issues, Aggression and Violent Behavior 10 (2005) 579-603 in https://securipedia.eu/mediawiki/index.php/Security_issue:_Robbery#cite_note-3

6 SiFC - South Brisbane District INTSUM No 4 - 31 January 2018.

7 Unique Robbery Offenders - South Brisbane District, 11-Dec-2017

8 Willis, K. 2006. http://www.aic.gov.au/media_library/aic/foi/chubb_final_report.pdf

9 National Alcohol and Drug Knowledgebase. <http://nadk.flinders.edu.au/kb/alcohol/crime-violence/alcohol-related-crime/what-are-the-main-types-of-alcohol-related-crime-in-australia/>

10 According to the 2017 Sensis Social Media Report the average Australian owns three internet enabled devices and around 78% of all Queenslanders own a smartphone

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TODAY: NQ COWBOYS POSTER + MONDAY: BRONCOS

Cairns We're for you Weekend Post

MARCH 10-11, 2018 - CAIRNSPOST.COM.AU - \$2.40



SPECIAL EDITION: FAR NORTHERN DELUGE

ONE HELLUVA DRENCHING

FUN TIMES: A skydiver water skis behind a four-wheel-drive alongside a flooded cane paddock at Freshwater.
Picture: JUSTIN BRIDGEMAN



INSIDE: Francis Heles (left) reckons he had 30 seconds left to live before a tradie saved him from his flooded car. He tells his horrifying story as the region reels from thumping falls **PAGE 4**



Where it fell; what's ahead

PAGES 2-3



Pressure on hospital, SES

PAGES 5-7



Dams, crops and roads

PAGES 8-13



63

Open homes conducted last month



425

Number of buyers registered last month



4148

Number of active buyers in the database

Elite Agents...Elite Results

It makes sense to sell with an Elite agent.
We have Cairns covered from Palm Cove to Gordonvale.

Sales Office: 4053 8400
86 Woodward Street, Edge Hill

Rentals Office: 4053 8000
178 McManus Street, Whitfield



elitecairns.com.au



Tabled by: L Miller MR
At: LACSC Est heading
Time/date: 6:09pm 26/7/18
Signature: [Signature]