



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2022-2023

Mr James Milligan MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair),
Dr Marisa Paterson MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS

Asked by Andrew Braddock MLA on 1 September 2022: Georgeina Whelan, Commissioner ACT Emergency Services Agency took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 1 September 2022 [PAGE 1040-1041]]

In relation to:

MR BRADDOCK: Thank you. So we have recruited and trained 87, how many have we lost over that time?

Ms Whelan: I will have to take the question on notice. What I can say is that we are balancing out the attrition rate with the recruiting rate, what we are also looking to manage is you asked the question earlier, and I failed to answer it in relation to what are those firefighters that we have recruited, doing? So in addition to putting additional firefighters on to the frontline, I reference the mental health and wellbeing program commander, the skills maintenance program that we are running, the number of specialist appliances that we will be acquiring and introducing into service over the next five years, also have a series of project teams attached with that.

And that offers an opportunity for some project day work which will give firefighters relief from the frontline as well.

Mick Gentleman MLA, Minister for Police and Emergency Services: I am advised that the answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

The ACT Emergency Services Agency intends to recruit a total of 180 firefighters, to fill 99 new roles and 81 expected vacancies in current positions. This includes the additional staff required for the new Acton (city) and Molonglo stations, crewing of the new aerial pumper, and an increase to the relief ratio.

Since the ACTF&R Enterprise Agreement was signed in August 2020, 70 recruit firefighters have graduated from the intensive 21 week Recruit College process. Another 17 are scheduled to graduate in December 2022, and up to another 40 may be selected for training during 2023.

Over this same period (between 1 August 2020 and 31 August 2022) 34 firefighters have left ACTF&R.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023

Signature:



Date:

8/9/2022

By the Minister for Police and Emergency Services , Mick Gentleman MLA