



Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2023–24

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Thomas Emerson MLA

Addressed to: Tara Cheyne MLA, Minister for City and Government Services

In relation to: Park rangers on contracts

Hearing: **11/2/2025**

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Answer Due: **20/2/2025**

Tara Cheyne MLA, Minister for City and Government Services took on notice the following question(s):

MR EMERSON: You might be able to provide either a detailed or a rough breakdown of how many rangers are employed on fixed-term contracts compared with ongoing contracts.

Mr Rutledge: We roughly have 40 rangers in a range of classification that are full-time permanent rangers. Those numbers have fluctuated a little bit over the years. The only large intake of short-term contracts are for our bushfire seasonal workers, and they are put on a ten month contract. Every year we take a large intake. We train them all up, and then sometimes they return in future years or get another job in the Park.

MR EMERSON: So is there often movement between those categories? If you would find seasonal work, there are some people who become permanently employed? Is there a pathway for that?

Mr Rutledge: Yes, and that has become a very popular pathway. If I look at—in our fire management unit we have about 58 staff but when you look at our Park service as a whole, 150 of them have been fire management trained, so we see that really as an intake. They get good training. They get good conditions, and they enjoy working in the parks so they often move into our full-time ranger parks.

MR EMERSON: Roughly, how many are employed through those contracts each year?

Mr Rutledge: Probably about 30. I can get the number for you exactly but probably about 30 every year. The fire management unit has 58 staff, but as I say, it is a pathway into full time employment within the Park service.

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Tara Cheyne MLA, Minister for City and Government Services: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

As at 30 January 2025, there are 58 established ranger positions within Parks and Conservation Service (PCS). This incorporates officers within Ranger Grade 1-3; Ranger in Charge - Technical Officer 4 (T04); and Park Care Rangers - Technical Officer 3 (T03).

Of these 58 positions, 11 officers are engaged on a temporary basis, noting that 7 of the 11 positions are temporary contracts because the permanent incumbent is on leave, temporary transfer or higher duties.

In the PCS Fire Management Unit, there are 34 Bushfire Operations crew, of which 12 are employed on temporary 10 month contracts. These 10 month contracts are recruited to on an annual basis.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment, Planning, Transport and City Services

Signature:



By Tara Cheyne MLA, Minister for City and Government Services

Date:

18/2/25