

Question on Notice
No. 349
Asked on 25 March 2021

MR D LAST ASKED MINISTER FOR POLICE AND CORRECTIVE SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES (HON M RYAN)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the total cost of overtime payments within the Queensland Police Service per year since 2015-16?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Police Service recently received a Premier's Award for Excellence for its outstanding response to the global health pandemic.

I commend police throughout the state for the significant role they undertook to protect communities and prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus in Queensland. Whether they were conducting border patrols, on quarantine duty at hotels, checking domestic and international airports or working in remote communities, each and every one of them performed exceptional duties in extraordinary times and for that we owe them a great debt of gratitude.

Similarly, the police response to the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games required a massive security overlay in the biggest sporting event in Queensland's history.

Further, police work overtime at busy Safe Night Precincts to ensure community safety in popular and busy tourist destinations.

Importantly, police work around the clock to keep communities safe during natural disasters, such as bushfires, floods and cyclones. In these instances, police overtime is essential to ensure the safety of the community.

Accordingly, I am advised by the Queensland Police Service (QPS) that the total cost of overtime payments within the QPS per year since 2015-16 is:

	2016-17 \$'000	2017-18 \$'000	2018-19 \$'000	2019-20 \$'000
Overtime	72,629	87,724	88,659	88,273

Notes

1. Overtime payments listed above are mainly due to significant police operations, including: the 2018 Commonwealth Games; Safe Night Precincts; Alcohol Fuelled Violence policing strategies; COVID-19; and natural disasters (i.e., cyclones, floods, bushfires).