

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

**WRITTEN QUESTION**

Mrs. Finocchiaro to the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services:

**Fire Prevention and Response Management**

1. What is the current arrangement with training facilities, when was the last recruit squad trained and what is the next scheduled training for a new recruit squad?
2. How much is budgeted for new equipment for fire, rescue and emergency services in 2018-19?
3. What is the status of the re-negotiation of the Firefighter's Enterprise Bargaining Agreement, which had a nominal expiry date of 7 November 2017?
4. What is the average overtime per FTE for Fire Services?
5. In the 2017-18 budget there was \$185,000 budgeted for crown land fire reduction burns, that funding is not present in 2018-19, was this grant funding and why hasn't the Government taken steps to continue this grant funding?
6. Since being given preference in selection under the special measures plan, how many women have been selected as part of the recruitment process in the past year, how does that compare to the previous year?

## **ANSWERS:**

1. Recruit Squad 43 was the most recent to graduate. It graduated on 28 June 2018 with 24 members, making it the largest recruit squad ever. The course was conducted out of the Peter McAulay Centre. Additional training areas are available at Berrimah and Marrara Fire Stations, if required.

The Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Services (NTFRS) recruit Firefighters are based on an annual attrition rate of around 10-15 personnel. As the timings of these departures is generally unpredictable, a date for the next recruit squad is yet to be determined. But work is being done on a possible a four-year recruitment strategy.

2. In total \$3 766 000 has been allocated for new equipment for fire, rescue and emergency services in 2018-2019.
3. Negotiations are continuing.
4. Average overtime per FTE for the last six months of 2018-2019 is \$783 / FTE (Data from pays 13 to 26).
5. Funding for crown land fire reduction burns is managed by the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (DIPL).
6. In the 2017/2018 financial year, Recruit Squad 42 (August 2017) had two female recruits. Recruit squad 43 (February 2018) had of nine female recruits. This is the largest number ever recruited by NTFRS.

In the 2016/2017 financial year, Recruit Squad 41 (February 2017) had two female recruits.