

*A strong voice for our future*

**BRITTANY LAUGA MP**

B Urb Dev (Urb&Reg Plan)(Hons), C.dec

**MEMBER FOR KEPPEL  
AND ASSISTANT MINISTER  
FOR EDUCATION**



# MEDIA RELEASE

7 January 2020

## **Compensation set to flow for CQ volunteer firefighters and SES**

Central Queensland SES volunteers will also be eligible for compensation along with volunteer firefighters battling this extraordinary fire season, the Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany Lauga said today.

She said Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk wrote to the Prime Minister last month requesting compensation for Queensland firefighters after he announced a compensation scheme for New South Wales volunteer firefighters.

Mrs Lauga said she was pleased QFES volunteer firefighters and SES workers would now be eligible for compensation under the Federal Government's Volunteer Firefighters Compensation Package which would be administered under her government.

"We're going to make sure this funding gets out the door as soon as possible," she said.

"This year's bushfire season has been long and hard both in Queensland and interstate and many of our hardworking QFES volunteers have given up a considerable amount of personal time in battling these blazes.

"It's only fair those that have suffered a loss of income as a result, are fairly and quickly compensated."

Mrs Lauga said eligible volunteers who had lost income after working more than 10 calendar days of service from the 1 July 2019 to the 30 June 2020 would be able to apply for compensation.

"Volunteers step out on to the frontline without asking for or expecting compensation," she said.

"There are times when they miss out on income as a result of giving to others and this payment goes some way to recognising this.

#### **ELECTORATE OFFICE**

Shop 3, Evia Building Normanby Street  
Yeppoon QLD 4703

#### **POSTAL ADDRESS**

Post Office Box 1474  
Yeppoon QLD 4703

#### **CONTACT**

Phone: (07) 4913 1500 Fax: (07) 4913 1509  
Email: keppel@parliament.qld.gov.au

#### **WEBSITE**

[www.brittanylauga.com.au](http://www.brittanylauga.com.au)

“This is an acknowledgement of the prolonged bushfire season our emergency services have battled, and the trying conditions they have faced.”

The Volunteer Compensation Package 2019-20 will be available to volunteers who are self-employed or work for a business with an annual turnover of less than \$50 million.

The package is funded by the Commonwealth Government under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements and administered for Queensland-resident volunteers by the Queensland Government.

The payments of up to \$300 per person, per day (up to \$6,000) will be tax-free and not means-tested, under criteria established by the Commonwealth Government.

Registrations of interest are open from today, with payments expected to occur from Monday 13 January 2020.

Volunteers will receive more information on how to access the payments directly from QFES, or they can visit [www.qld.gov.au/VolunteerCompensation](http://www.qld.gov.au/VolunteerCompensation)

**ENDS**

**Contact John 0400787037**