## JOINT MEDIA RELEASE







BARRY O'ROURKE MP

Member for Rockhampton

## **BRITTANY LAUGA MP**

Member for Keppel
Assistant Education Minister

27 March 2020

## Fast-tracked police to join CQ crime fighters

Four new police officers have been fast-tracked to fight crime in Rockhampton through unprecedented moves by the Palaszczuk Government.

The Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany Lauga congratulated the latest round of police recruits to graduate from the QPS academy and enter the Service as First Year Constables.

"This is the second round of QPS recruits to have their graduation fast-tracked in the past week."

Ms Lauga said she had been in discussions with local police superintendents in recent months and this fast-tracked graduation was in part a response to their need for more officers to not only fight crime but to also police requirements in the current COVID19 environment.

Member for Rockhampton Barry O'Rourke welcomed the news and said: "I'm pleased the Commissioner has taken the step to bring forward the graduations to ensure the safety of both frontline officers, and the wider community," he said.

"It's good to know Rockhampton will benefit from these First Year Constables."

Ms Lauga said "I want to thank these new officers for their cooperation during the current circumstances, as they join their new colleagues across Queensland ahead of schedule.

"It is crucial that our communities feel safe, now more than ever."

Ms Lauga said the new officers would be welcomed into CQ life with two to be appointed each to Rockhampton and North Rockhampton police stations.

One new First Year Constable will also be stationed in Blackwater and Emerald.

**ENDS** 

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