

## Guy Barnett MP

Minister for Trade  
Minister for Primary Industries and Water  
Minister for Energy and Emissions Reduction  
Minister for Resources  
Minister for Veterans' Affairs  
Liberal Member for Lyons



### Tasmanian Government **Media Release**

27 January 2022

Guy Barnett, Acting Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management

### Continuing to keep Tasmanians safe

The latest release of the 2022 Report on Government Services (ROGS) demonstrates that the increased investment in rebuilding our police services and strengthening our fire and emergency services is having a positive impact.

Expenditure on police has increased 23 per cent under the Tasmanian Liberal Government, with the 2022 ROGS demonstrating that in 2012-13, the real recurrent expenditure on police services per person was only \$424, compared to \$523 in 2020-21.

This increased expenditure includes the recruitment of additional new police officers, with the Government committed to recruiting an additional 308 new police officers which is a 30 per cent increase from the previous Labor Government.

We are delivering more police officers to the front line to protect our communities.

The ROGS demonstrates that Tasmania now has 338 police staff per 100,000 people, which is the third highest rate nationally.

Importantly it also indicates that Tasmanians continue to feel safe in their homes and in public places, with 92.3 per cent of Tasmanians surveyed saying they felt 'safe' or 'very safe' at home alone during the night, which was above the national average of 89.1 per cent.

In addition, 92 per cent of Tasmanians felt 'safe' or 'very safe' walking or jogging locally during the day, which was above the national average of 91.8 per cent.

Tasmania Police also has the highest percentage of female police staff across Australia, with 40.2 per cent of our service being female in 2020-21.

In 2021 we had 46 new firefighters join the Service, and the 2022 Report demonstrates that the firefighting workforce is continuing to increase, with the Tasmania Fire Service reporting a total of 494 staff in 2020-21, which represents 63.3 per 100,000 population.

This is an increase from a total of 460 in 2019-20 or 60.2 per 100,000 population.

Tasmania continues to have a decrease in the number of accidental residential structure fire incidents, of 70.4 per 100,000 households in 2020-21, which is down from 76.3 in 2019-20 and a massive 52 per cent decrease on the 2012-13 figures of the previous Labor Government (145.9 per 100,000 households).

Tasmanians can be proud of the incredible commitment and efforts of our volunteers.

We now have the second highest number of firefighting volunteers across Australia, with 910 volunteers per 100,000 people recorded in 2020-21, well above the national average of 781.

Our police, firefighters and state emergency service do an amazing job to ensure that our communities are protected and that we can continue to enjoy our peaceful way of life.

The Tasmanian Liberal Government will continue to take action and invest in police, fire and emergency services to keep Tasmanians safe.