



Minister for Fire and Emergency Services

File No: QFS/15767
Ref No: 00596-2020
Your Ref: A481074

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Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
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Dear Mr ~~Laurie~~ NEIL,

Thank you for your letter dated 5 February 2020 regarding petitions received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly in relation to the reregistering of the Captain Creek Rural Fire Brigade.

Under Section 79(3) of the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990*, the Commissioner may at any time cancel the registration of a rural fire brigade. Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) had determined after considering a range of operational, financial, human resource and risk factors that the brigade was unable to provide an effective, safe and sustainable fire and emergency service response. On 2 November 2019, the members of the Captain Creek Rural Fire Brigade were informed that the brigade had been deregistered.

QFES staff had made multiple interventions prior to making the decision to deregister the brigade in an attempt to support the brigade to improve the function and efficiency, however were not successful.

QFES has arrangements in place to provide coverage to the areas serviced by the former Captain Creek Rural Fire Brigade, and that the situation in these communities was closely monitored during the fire season to ensure that risks were managed appropriately.

A community meeting to discuss a potential future Rural Fire Brigade in the localities of Round Hill, Captain Creek, Taunton and Mount Tom was held on the 8 February 2020 at the Captain Creek Sport and Recreation Club. QFES is currently working with the community regarding the potential to re-establish a new brigade.

I trust this information is helpful to you. Should you wish to discuss this matter in more detail, please contact Mr Peter Clarke, Chief of Staff on telephone (07) 3008 3700.

Thank you for raising this matter.

Yours sincerely

The Honourable Craig Crawford MP
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services

6/3/2020