



**The Hon Troy Grant MP**  
Minister for Police  
Minister for Emergency Services

Mr David Wright  
Mayor  
Ballina Shire Council  
PO Box 450  
BALLINA NSW 2478

IM17/9185  
MIN17/000952  
Your Ref: IC/10132 (259-05)

31 MAY 2017

Via email to: [david.wright@ballina.nsw.gov.au](mailto:david.wright@ballina.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Mr Wright

Thank you for your recent email about staffing at Ballina Fire Station, and your reference to your letter of 1 November 2016 to the former Minister of Emergency Services, The Hon David Elliott MP about these issues.

Commissioner Paul Baxter assures me that Fire & Rescue NSW (FRNSW) continually reviews service delivery requirements within NSW. Specifically, in relation to the Ballina area, the NSW Government and FRNSW has built a new state of the art fire station in Tamarind Drive, Ballina. This new fire station has capacity to accommodate future population growth, and service delivery requirements, including permanent staff, as required.

Currently, the Ballina Fire Station Retained (on call) Firefighter crew has the capacity to manage the emergency calls, prevention and preparation activities for the Ballina area. This situation is constantly reviewed and monitored by the FRNSW Regional North Zone Management, and their current assessment of the demand and demonstrated need of the area is that it is being adequately met by the existing arrangements.

I am further advised that FRNSW has mutual aid agreements in place with the NSW Rural Fire Service for joint response to structure fires in Lennox Head, Skennar's Head and other rural areas.

If you have any further questions please contact Robert McNeil Assistant Commissioner Regional Operations on 0292652702 or by email to [robert.mcneil@fire.nsw.gov.au](mailto:robert.mcneil@fire.nsw.gov.au)

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely

**TROY GRANT MP**  
Minister for Emergency Services

GPO Box 5341, SYDNEY NSW 2001  
Phone: (61 2) 8574 6800 Fax: (61 2) 9339 5536 Email: [www.nsw.gov.au/ministercontactform/minister-grant](http://www.nsw.gov.au/ministercontactform/minister-grant)