



## **RACHEL NOLAN MP**

### **Member for Ipswich**

Booval Professional Centre  
125 Brisbane Rd BOOVAL

PO Box 98  
BOOVAL Q 4304

Ph: 3202 3452  
Fax: 3202 4778

Email:  
[ipswich@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:ipswich@parliament.qld.gov.au)

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#### **Two new firefighters for Ipswich**

Ipswich will welcome two new firefighters following today's Queensland Fire and Rescue Service graduation of 20 firefighter recruits, Member for Ipswich, Rachel Nolan said.

Ms Nolan said the recruits, who have completed an intensive 12-week training program, come from a diversity of backgrounds, including former professional baseballer Tyson Loetzsch and Airforce technician Stephen Greenwood, who will both be based in Ipswich.

"These recruits bring a wealth of experience with them to the Emergency Services, and this is combined with the training they've received over the past three months to give them the skills and knowledge to serve the Queensland community as firefighters," she said.

"The QFRS recruit training course is one of the best in the world, and these new firefighters are trained to face a diverse range of emergency situations including fires, road accidents, chemical incidents and other rescue scenarios," Ms Nolan said.

Emergency Services Minister Chris Cummins said the recruits also have the advantage of training on Queensland's state-of-the-art live fire training pad, where they learn about fire behaviour and firefighting techniques under realistic but safe conditions.

"All of this leads to greater safety for our firefighters on the job and increased safety for the community."

Mr Cummins said the recruits applied to become firefighters during the 2001/2002 QFRS firefighter recruitment campaign, which attracted close to 2000 applications.