



Speech by

## **Hon. V. LESTER**

### **MEMBER FOR KEPPEL**

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Hansard 27 August 1998

#### **EMERGENCY SERVICES, KEPPEL ELECTORATE**

**Hon. V. P. LESTER** (Keppel—NPA) (2.29 a.m.): I also express my condolences to the Saunders family on their sad loss.

Tonight I ask the Minister for Emergency Services to consider allocating money in the coming Budget for the purchase of land to enable the establishment of a joint fire, ambulance and emergency services complex on the Capricorn Coast.

Presently there is an ambulance station and a fire station in the main street. This is no longer an ideal location because of the huge expansion of the Yeppoon and Capricorn Coast areas. We see fire appliances and ambulances travelling at high speeds, which they have to, down the main street, which has roundabouts, walkways and a speed limit of 40 kilometres per hour. I am not blaming anybody for the fact that we do not currently have such a facility. Simply, the Capricorn Coast has reached the point in its progression which means that this is the next step we have to take.

Another issue that needs to be addressed is the relocation of the Yeppoon Hospital. The present hospital is 22 years old. The present facility, when replaced, could be used for the extension of nursing home facilities at Yeppoon, which are currently heavily overburdened. North Rockhampton currently has a joint fire station and ambulance complex.

Time expired.

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