

Question on Notice No. 174, Thursday, 22 April 2004

**Dr CLARK** asked the Minister for Emergency Services (Mr Cummins) – Will he detail proposed changes at the Smithfield Ambulance Centre that will improve the effectiveness of the Ambulance Service?

**Mr CUMMINS:**

I am pleased to inform the Member for Barron River, Dr Lesley Clark MP, that I have been advised by the QAS Commissioner of the following developments at Smithfield Ambulance Station. The Beattie Government is spending approximately \$90,000 on these developments, which are complementary to the existing operational service delivery to the communities of Smithfield and its surrounding area.

- 1) The Regional Staff Development Unit is relocating to the Smithfield Ambulance Station. The relocation of this unit will further enhance the provision of regional training and development to permanent and volunteer ambulance staff in the Far Northern Region.
- 2) The existing Officer in Charge residence located above the Smithfield Station is currently being refurbished. This refurbishment will provide accommodation for rural and remote ambulance officers who will rotate into the higher workload area of Cairns Cluster for the purpose of further enhancing their clinical skills.