

Question on Notice
No. 777
Asked on 18 June 2004

MR COPELAND asked the Minister for Health (MR NUTTALL)-

QUESTION:

With reference to aeromedical assistance – for each of the last two financial years and the year to date, what is the number of callouts responded to, broken down by town and region?

ANSWER:

Queensland Health does not collect the data sought by the Member in a manner that identifies the number of callouts responded to, broken down by town and region. In addition, aeromedical assistance in Queensland is provided by a number of service providers and the type of data collected by these organisations and provided to Queensland Health differs significantly.

The various providers of aeromedical services in Queensland include the Royal Flying Doctor Service, the Department of Emergency Services' Aviation Unit, the Queensland Ambulance Service, Careflight and community helicopter service providers. Medical and nursing staff from Queensland public hospitals also participate in the retrieval and transfer of patients such as, Neonates, Paediatrics and Adult's.

As part of the Government's 2004 election commitments, additional resources have been allocated for increased medical staff support in Emergency Departments, particularly those sites called upon to support aeromedical patient transports such as Princess Alexandra, Royal Brisbane and Women's and Townsville Hospital.

Queensland Health is currently in the process of developing a clinical coordination centre in partnership with the Queensland Ambulance Service.