

**Question on Notice
No. 814
Asked on 24 May 2006**

MRS MILLER asked the Minister for Emergency Services (MR PURCELL) -

QUESTION:

How will the recent handover of an additional ambulance vehicle to the Redbank Ambulance Station benefit the local community?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for her question and for the strong support she has shown towards the Queensland Ambulance Service within her electorate.

In 2004, the Beattie Government committed 200 new or refurbished ambulance vehicles at a cost of \$29.5m. This new vehicle is a result of that commitment and will enhance an already world-class ambulance service within the Bundamba Electorate.

The ambulance vehicle is a Mercedes Sprinter and cost approximately \$170,000, including equipment and consumables. The Redbank Ambulance Station now has a fleet of 1 x F250, 1 x F350, 1 x Mercedes Sprinter, and one Holden Commodore Sedan.

Ambulance stations situated in Redbank, Raceview and Ipswich service the Bundamba Electorate. Combined, these ambulance stations provide 24-hour ambulance coverage to residents and visitors to the Bundamba Electorate.

Ambulance vehicles in the Ipswich urban area provide the most optimal coverage and response times for the entire Ipswich urban area at any given time.

I am pleased to advise that of the allocation of 350 paramedics for the Queensland Ambulance Service over four years, the Ipswich urban area has received 20 paramedics to date, (five in 2003-04, eight in 2004-05 and seven in 2005-06). Four of the 20 paramedics allocated to the Ipswich urban area are located at the Redbank Ambulance Station.

From the 2003-04 financial year to the 2005-06 financial year, year to date, response times in the Ipswich urban area have improved by 4.87% in an environment of increasing demand for services.

Queensland paramedics do a magnificent job protecting the lives of Queenslanders every day. The Queensland Government continues to provide the best possible resources for paramedics to do their job and this is proven with the record budget of \$355.7 million for the Queensland Ambulance Service to enhance the delivery of world-class emergency services to the Queensland community.