

Question on Notice
No. 752
Asked on 23 May 2007

MR ROBERTS asked the Minister for Emergency Services (MR PURCELL) -

QUESTION:

Will he advise of any recent or proposed improvements to ambulance services in the Nudgee electorate?

ANSWER:

The Beattie Government has announced a record \$404.4 million budget for the Queensland Ambulance Service in 2007-08. In the next financial year the Government will significantly increase the number of ambulance officers across Brisbane to meet the growth in demand for ambulance services.

This record budget demonstrates the Beattie Government's commitment to boosting ambulance coverage across the state with record funding to provide record numbers of ambulance officers, vehicles and life-saving defibrillators. This financial year, 250 positions will be delivered as the single, biggest increase in the number of ambulance officers in any one year.

Nudgee and surrounding areas fall within the Brisbane Region. This financial year, the Beattie Government will deliver an extra 56 paramedics across the Brisbane Region. This will create an extra nine emergency ambulance shifts and one non-urgent Patient Transport Service shift.

Twenty of these 56 positions will help transition Brisbane paramedics to a 38 hour week. This is part of the Beattie Government's commitment to reducing rostered shifts from 14 hours down to 10 hours, and giving paramedics an extra two weeks leave a year through the introduction of a 38-hour-working-week.

The suburb of Nudgee and surrounding areas is serviced by the Northgate, Sandgate and Chermside ambulance stations. It is also important to note that the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) is a mobile service. When a triple zero call is received the closest available ambulance vehicle, regardless of its station of origin, is dispatched to an emergency incident.

This financial year the Northgate and Chermside ambulance stations will receive an extra paramedic position and Chermside will receive another paramedic position in the next financial year. In addition to this the QAS provides an extensive Patient Transport Service to the constituents of the Nudgee Electorate, ensuring the transport of non-acute patients to and from their medical appointments.

The Beattie Government's record commitment to the ambulance service has created history with the single biggest increase in ambulance staff in one year. The 2007-08 Budget will deliver great things for residents in Nudgee and surrounding areas.