

**Question on Notice  
No. 430  
Asked on 13 March 2008**

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

**QUESTION:**

- (1) Will the Minister detail any and all improvements to staffing levels at the Stanthorpe Ambulance Station since November 2007?
- (2) Will the Minister also detail total weekly hours worked by station paramedics for the past three months – December, January and February?

**ANSWER:**

- (1) The Queensland Ambulance Service continues to undertake reviews of ambulance resources against the demands for each ambulance station. This work is on-going. Staffing levels at the Stanthorpe Ambulance Station were reviewed in conjunction with the Roster Working Party, on 17 and 18 January 2008. It was found that the staffing establishment of seven paramedics and one patient transport officer is sufficient to meet the current operational demands for Stanthorpe and the surrounding community. An additional ambulance officer position has been created at Warwick this financial year. This position is one of 21 being established this financial year in the South Western Region of the Queensland Ambulance Service as part of this Government's commitment to employ an extra 250 officers statewide. In addition, as a result of the Queensland Ambulance Service Audit, this Government has committed to employ a further 100 front-line ambulance officers, funded by savings in non-operational areas of the Queensland Ambulance Service and corporate areas of the Department of Emergency Services.
- (2) Paramedics at the Stanthorpe Ambulance Station work an approved five line (or 5 week) roster, which reflects an average of 40 hours per worked week, and equals 200 hours over the five week period. An officer commencing on line one of the first week of their roster moves onto line two of the roster at the beginning of week two and so on until the officer has completed the five week cycle. Paramedics at the Stanthorpe Ambulance Station undertake emergency availability as part of this roster.

The Officer-in-Charge, Stanthorpe Ambulance Station works Monday to Friday on eight hour shifts and undertakes emergency availability four nights a week. The patient transport paramedic works Monday to Friday on eight hour shifts.

All paramedics at the Stanthorpe Ambulance Station can access additional overtime, at their discretion, when it becomes available.

The total hours performed by Stanthorpe Ambulance Station staff for the 13 week period from December 2007 to February 2008 are as follows:

Week commencing	3 December 2007	267 hours 49 minutes
	10 December 2007	308 hours 42 minutes
	17 December 2007	197 hours 47 minutes
	24 December 2007	265 hours 42 minutes
	31 December 2007	293 hours 1 minute
	7 January 2008	295 hours 28 minutes
	14 January 2008	242 hours 10 minutes
	21 January 2008	252 hours 32 minutes
	28 January 2008	257 hours 5 minutes
	4 February 2008	268 hours 36 minutes
	11 February 2008	276 hours 23 minutes
	18 February 2008	273 hours 46 minutes
	25 February 2008	286 hours 54 minutes

The abovementioned figures reflect leave taken by officers and include rostered hours, overtime, special events and emergency availability hours worked by officers at the Stanthorpe Ambulance Station.

I am advised by the Queensland Ambulance Service that only 3.2% of ambulance shifts exceed two hours overtime.