

Question on Notice
No. 1435
Asked on 7 October 2009

Ms NELSON-CARR asked the Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Emergency Services (MR ROBERTS) –

QUESTION:

Will the Minister list the new vehicles that the Bligh Government has commissioned to the Townsville Cluster Ambulance Station?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the Question and for her ongoing strong support for emergency services within her electorate.

The Bligh Government is committed to the provision of a well funded and well equipped Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS).

In the 2009-10 financial year, our Government provided the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) with a record operating budget of \$494.6 million, an increase on last year's budget of \$38.9 million or 8.5 percent.

As part of this record operating budget for QAS, there is \$20.9 million for 150 new ambulance vehicles. In the 2009-10 financial year, two replacement vehicles have already been allocated to Townsville Cluster Stations which incorporate the Townsville, South Townsville, Kirwan and Northern Beaches Stations.

In the 2008-09 financial year, \$16.9 million of the QAS budget was allocated for the commissioning of 145 new ambulance vehicles, which was completed prior to 30 June 2009. I am pleased to advise that seven vehicles (four replacement vehicles and three enhancement vehicles) were allocated to Townsville Cluster Stations. This includes the purchase of a bariatric ambulance transport vehicle, which is scheduled to be operational in Townsville in December 2009 to optimise the capacity of QAS to manage the transportation of bariatric patients.

The Bligh Government is committed to supporting the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS), so it can continue to deliver world class services to communities across Queensland.