

Question on Notice
No. 1479
Asked on 8 October 2009

MS MALE asked the Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Emergency Services (MR ROBERTS) —

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise of the investment in the replacement of mobile data terminals in ambulance vehicles in South East Queensland and any other technological improvements that will improve Queensland ambulance services to the people of Queensland?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for her question and for her continuing interest in the emergency services.

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, this Government has invested over \$3.9 million for the replacement of mobile data terminals in ambulance vehicles in South East Queensland as well as to finalise the installation of Global Positioning System technology in all operational ambulance vehicles.

In addition, the Government has also funded \$12 million in other technological improvements which include the following projects: communications centre modernisation, telephone network upgrade, radio network upgrade, electronic Ambulance Report Form (eARF) - Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) interface and Toughbook replacement program, Operational Workforce Planning and Management Rostering System, Department of Community Safety Network Asset Infrastructure and Server Replacement Projects, E-Forms Online – Self Help Service, Mobile Data Terminal software upgrade, Queensland Health Authorised Transport web based ordering system and communication infrastructure within new and replacement ambulance stations.

Furthermore, in the 2009-10 financial year, the Bligh Government has provided the QAS with a record operating budget of \$494.6 million, an increase of \$38.9 million or 8.5 percent over the previous financial year. Included in this record budget is \$3.5 million for an additional 50 ambulance officers and allocated capital funding of \$49.3 million which includes:

- \$19.3 million to commence or complete work on two new ambulance stations at Ashgrove/The Gap and Springfield and 18 replacement, or redeveloped QAS facilities;
- \$1.9 million to complete work on a joint facility, the Palm Island replacement ambulance station;
- \$20.9 million for 150 new ambulance vehicles;

- \$3.4 million for strategic land purchases, including the acquisition of land at Ashgrove/The Gap; and
- \$3.8 million for minor capital works.

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