

**Question on Notice  
No. 1733  
Asked on 11 November 2009**

MR WENDT ASKED THE MINISTER FOR POLICE, CORRECTIVE SERVICES AND EMERGENCY SERVICES (MR ROBERTS) —

Will the Minister advise on the progress of the new Ipswich Ambulance Station and the benefits to the community of this modern facility?

ANSWER:

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, the Government provided the QAS with a record operating budget of \$494.6 million, an increase on last year's budget of \$38.9 million or 8.5%.

The Bligh Government has also committed \$4 million for the construction of a replacement ambulance station at Ipswich. In the 2009-2010 financial year, \$2.886 million has been budgeted to complete the project.

Tenders were called on 29 July 2009 and closed on 26 August 2009. The contract was awarded on 6 October 2009, and as mentioned above, it is planned to complete the works by the end of the 2009-2010 financial year.

The new Ipswich Ambulance Station forms part of the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) South Eastern Region Master Plan, which will provide a robust network of stations for the Ipswich area. It includes the current Redbank Ambulance Station and the planned Springfield Ambulance Station.

The advantages of this redevelopment and the relocation of the Ipswich & Raceview Ambulance Stations into the new Ipswich Ambulance Station include:

- The provision of new facilities which will meet the medium to long term requirements of QAS in the Ipswich area;
- Provide improved workplace conditions for the hardworking paramedics and support staff;
- Reduce recurrent costs per annum for building maintenance; and
- The proposed site is more central than either the current Ipswich or Raceview Ambulance Stations, and will maximize the ability of QAS to provide more responsive ambulance services to the community. The site is also located adjacent to the Limestone Park emergency helicopter landing pad and is closer to the Ipswich Hospital.

The new combined station provides Ipswich and the surrounding communities with a centrally located state-of-the-art ambulance station equipped to meet the anticipated demands of this dynamic area of South East Queensland.