

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 1759**  
**Asked on 11 November 2009**

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

QUESTION:

With reference to one officer QAS stations, particularly in rural settings with large geographic coverage (such as Maleny) -

Will the Minister detail findings of any investigations into a trained volunteer call out option where volunteers would be paid for providing driving or back up duties.

ANSWER:

I am advised the Commissioner of the Queensland Ambulance Service is not investigating any changes to the current service delivery model in Queensland.

The Queensland Government and the QAS values the role of the volunteers who utilise their own time to assist the communities in which they live.

In communities where there is low workload requirements, local volunteers provide valuable assistance and backup to QAS paramedics. The volunteers range from First Responders trained in advanced first aid, ambulance attendants with basic paramedic qualifications and emergency drivers who are trained in emergency driving techniques. In communities where there is very low workloads initial paramedic coverage is provided by honorary officers.