

Question on Notice
No. 155
Asked on 8 March 2011

MR DOWLING asked the Minister for Health (MR WILSON)

QUESTION:

How many emergency evacuations requiring helicopter transportation were conducted from each of the following (Russell, Lamb, Karragarra, Macleay and Coochiemudlo Islands) within the following time periods (itemised separately in table format) (a) the 2010 calendar year, (b) the 2009-10 financial year, and (c) the 2010-11 financial year to date?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Redlands for his question.

In the 21 months since 1 July 2009, there has been a total of 7 occasions of helicopter transportation by service providers contracted to Queensland Health from the Islands identified.

That is, there were 6 in 2009-10 and 1 so far in 2010-11. Of those 7, 2 were in the 2010 calendar year.

Patients requiring medical treatment who are transported by helicopter are taken to one of the major tertiary hospitals, such as the Princess Alexandra (PAH). PAH is one of the nation's leading trauma hospitals and is able to provide excellence in care regardless of the patient's condition. The PAH, on Brisbane's southside, is just minutes by helicopter from the islands.