

**Question on Notice
No. 914
Asked on 14 June 2011**

MR LANGBROEK asked the Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Emergency Services (MR ROBERTS) -

QUESTION:

With reference to the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS)—

(1) How many positions are vacant in the QAS as at 14 June 2011 (reported by station)?

(2) How many positions vacant in (1) have been vacant for more than three months?

(3) How many uniformed officers are working in support and EMQ headquarters or regional commands?

ANSWER:

(1) I refer the Member to my responses to Question on Notice 858 of 2011, Question on Notice 468 of 2009 and Question on Notice 1931 of 2008, which clearly advised that the Queensland Ambulance Service allocates resources regionally and collects its data on a regional basis. The collation of this type of data for individual QAS stations would not only be onerous, it would divert resources from front-line service delivery.

The number of vacant positions as at 31 May 2011 (statistics are compiled at the end of each month) reported by region is as follows:

Region	Vacant as at 31 May 2011
QAS Brisbane	39
QAS Central	15
QAS Far Northern	12
QAS North Coast	14
QAS Northern	16
QAS South Eastern	15
QAS South Western	8

(2) I refer the Member to my response to Question on Notice 858 of 2011, which detailed the number of vacancies for paramedics that have been unfilled for three months (as at 31 May 11) reported by region.

These vacancies do not include enhancement positions for the 2010-11 financial year. Many of the vacant and enhancement positions are in the final stages of the recruitment process.

In addition, arrangements for up to 120 third year students from the Queensland University of Technology and the University of the Sunshine Coast are currently being finalised for commencement of their compulsory 12 week paid clinical placement with the QAS from 1 August 2011. These students will be appointed on a temporary full time basis for the duration of their placement and following graduation, they will be eligible to apply for a permanent appointment with the QAS. These temporary and subsequent permanent appointments will reduce the number of vacancies.

Further to these recruitment processes and student placements that may result in permanent placements, the QAS utilises flexible work arrangements including temporary, casual and relieving to ensure rosters meet operational requirements.

(3) I refer the Member to the Department of Community Safety Annual Reports (2008-09 and 2009-10) and the former Department of Emergency Services Annual Report 2007-08 which detail the Full Time Equivalent officers (FTEs) employed at the end of each financial year.

The framework for ROGS reporting is determined by the Council of Ambulance Authorities (CAA) Data Dictionary and by definition, support is broken down into two categories, operational support and corporate support.

Operational support includes clinical support, education, quality assurance, infrastructure support, fleet and property maintenance, radio communications, community services and operational managers. As reported in ROGS 2011, the QAS had 301 operational support FTE at 30 June 2010, and 157 FTE of these were uniformed officers.

Corporate support includes executives, marketing, finance, human resources, information technology, and other administration. As reported in ROGS 2011, QAS had 340 corporate support FTE, 20 FTE of these were uniformed officers.

There are no QAS uniformed officers working in EMQ headquarters.