

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 146**  
**Asked on 6 March 2014**

MR KATTER asked the Minister for Health (MR SPRINGBORG)-

QUESTION:

With reference to the North West Queensland Rescue Helicopter Service which has supported itself from community funding at over \$1m per annum and also raised money to purchase its own night vision goggles—

Will the Minister reconsider the recently announced funding of \$3.5m for night vision goggles to the three costal services and make some funding available to the North West service?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Mount Isa for his question.

I am aware that the North Queensland Helicopter Rescue Service was established in 2008 as a commercial enterprise independent of approval or funding by the State Government.

To formalise service delivery and safety standards, Queensland Health established a fee for service agreement with North Queensland Helicopter Rescue Service from January 2013 until 30 June 2017, if the Service is called upon to deliver emergency helicopter services on behalf of the Government.

The Government will continue to support the North Queensland Helicopter Rescue Service through allocation of fee for service work through the Queensland Emergency Medical Coordination Centre for the transfer of patients within the local North West Hospital and Health Service area and aerial support to the Queensland Ambulance Service and Queensland Police Service under the terms of this agreement.