

## **Question on Notice**

No. 137

Asked on 6 February 2020

**MR J COSTIGAN** asked the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services (HON DR S MILES) -

### **QUESTION**

With reference to a member of the public having to drive an ambulance from Nebo to Mackay last month due to a staff shortage —

Will the Minister commit to boosting resources for the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) in the Mackay-Whitsunday region, including a commitment to build a QAS station in Mackay's northern beaches?

### **ANSWER**

The Queensland Ambulance Service continuously monitors workloads across the State to ensure the most appropriate level of service is provided to communities in Queensland. To inform this process, the Queensland Ambulance Service completes regular reviews of several factors including: the type of community (urban, rural and isolated); the number of incidents per day (demand); age demographic of the community; ingress to and egress from road and air networks; response time profiling; ambulance utilisation rates; risk profiling of the community; and available health infrastructure and access to services.

The Mackay Local Ambulance Service Network has received 16.63 full-time equivalent staff enhancements in the past two years, with 14 additional staff allocated in the 2019-20 financial year, inclusive of paramedics, supervisors and operational support staff. These staff enhancements also include a Local-area Assessment and Referral Unit paramedic response, which is a first for the Mackay area.

The Mackay Local Ambulance Service Network is currently resourced to meet community demand.