

Question on Notice

No. 1055

Asked on 14 September 2021

DR M ROBINSON ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON Y D'ATH)—

QUESTION

With reference to Queensland Ambulance Service meal penalties—
Will the Minister provide the following information (reported separately by financial year from 2015-16 to 2020-21 and Local Ambulance Service Network) (a) total meal penalty hours and (b) the total dollar value of meal penalty hours?

ANSWER

The Queensland Ambulance Service is consistent with all other sectors of the Health System, seeing sustained growth in demand for service.

In 2015-16 the Queensland Ambulance Service attended to 1,133,037 responses and last financial year it had risen to 1,403,380 an increase of 270,343 responses.

Since 2015 the Palaszczuk Government has put on over 700 additional ambulance staff and will continue this commitment with an additional 160 this financial year, as part of the 535 additional staff this term of Government, comparing that to the LNP election commitment of 320 over 4 years.

The Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) provided the below information.

Meal Penalty Payments

Local Ambulance Service Network	2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		2020-21	
	\$ Amount	Hours	\$ Amount	Hours	\$ Amount	Hours	\$ Amount	Hours	\$ Amount	Hours	\$ Amount	Hours
Torres and Cape	5,261	105	3,440	181	4,505	156	3,580	104	2,439	61	6,235	148
Cairns and Hinterland	723,643	21,617	723,376	22,442	736,301	20,735	701,287	18,797	777,867	19,829	1,012,903	24,376
North West	13,137	358	15,902	467	13,712	296	9,191	301	12,273	342	13,653	340
Townsville	355,113	9,961	339,506	10,561	389,925	10,833	277,883	8,024	297,509	7,948	402,953	10,165
Mackay	144,767	4,070	191,685	5,910	211,253	5,725	168,796	4,733	208,175	5,598	239,150	6,055
Central West	1,456	43	6,918	200	16,380	350	3,891	97	4,633	114	3,585	82
Central Queensland	169,790	4,913	217,920	6,913	255,470	7,019	190,605	5,334	313,108	8,152	550,475	13,348
Wide Bay	339,738	10,410	358,044	11,090	395,656	11,216	336,309	9,325	477,896	12,261	737,002	17,750
South West	7,479	202	7,032	182	7,779	200	2,980	107	5,862	150	10,805	261
Darling Downs	254,224	7,449	289,669	9,078	358,492	10,070	319,435	8,936	365,624	9,345	585,371	14,195
Sunshine Coast	1,602,200	50,108	1,804,133	56,062	2,150,971	60,295	1,820,223	47,951	2,771,822	68,695	3,992,336	93,631
West Moreton	1,039,150	33,214	1,181,106	37,374	1,266,906	36,393	1,360,842	37,421	2,047,963	53,389	3,047,092	74,812
Metro North	5,366,115	165,586	5,602,422	177,001	6,471,207	184,526	6,552,093	178,981	8,337,446	212,894	11,115,604	269,596
Metro South	5,276,344	166,304	6,097,182	192,064	6,836,146	195,637	7,212,120	198,876	9,191,944	237,782	12,116,601	293,372
Gold Coast	2,572,056	80,398	2,995,459	92,395	3,151,578	90,088	3,230,809	87,210	4,353,807	110,997	5,911,728	140,922
State Operations Centres	22,688	689	25,265	1,073	35,157	1,306	28,313	1,216	65,809	1,670	192,304	4,113
Head Office	13,499	404	15,595	335	46,753	534	21,540	733	13,435	330	15,017	285
Total	17,906,660	555,832	19,874,655	623,326	22,348,192	635,380	22,239,897	608,146	29,247,613	749,557	39,952,815	963,451

Notes:

- Figures are rounded.
- QAS implemented a new payroll system in 2018-19 which has enabled enhanced reporting of meal penalties.