

Question on Notice

No. 1107

Asked on 13 September 2023

MR S ANDREW ASKED MINISTER FOR HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR WOMEN (HON S FENTIMAN)—

QUESTION

With reference to all QAS stations in the Central Queensland District and the Mackay District—

Will the Minister provide (reported separately by year and district over the past three years) (a) the number of ambulances operating on a daily basis within each region, (b) the number of ambulances that are equipped with working defibrillators, (c) the average age of those defibrillators and (d) details of all 'out-of-hospital cardiac arrest deaths' where QAS paramedics were in attendance?

ANSWER

The Queensland Ambulance Service is the busiest, and among the fastest, in the country. It is also the only mainland service that is free, which will not change under the Palaszczuk Government.

The number of ambulances in the Central Queensland and Mackay Districts for years 2020-21 to 2022-23 is listed below:

- Central Queensland District: 72, 74, 77
- Mackay District: 58, 58, 59

Since 2015, the Palaszczuk Government has delivered more than 1,200 new frontline ambulance staff, and 1,000 new ambulance vehicles across the state.

Thanks to these investments, the QAS responds to 50 per cent of the most serious cases in 8.6 minutes. That achievement is replicated in the Mackay District, where 50 per cent of the most serious cases are seen in 8.3 minutes, and the Central Queensland District, where the response time is 7.9 minutes.

All ambulances in the Queensland Ambulance Service fleet are equipped with a defibrillator and the defibrillators inspected at the commencement of each shift.

The average age of defibrillators across Central Queensland and Mackay District is approximately 7 years. All defibrillators have a service life of 10 years from the date of manufacture.

I am advised it is not appropriate to provide details regarding 'out of hospital cardiac arrest deaths', where Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) paramedics were in attendance, due to details containing personal information and the ability to identify individuals in the community.