



Hon Steven Miles MP  
Minister for Health and  
Minister for Ambulance Services

13 JUL 2018

1 William Street Brisbane Qld 4000  
GPO Box 48 Brisbane  
Queensland 4001 Australia  
Telephone +61 7 3035 6100  
Facsimile +61 7 3220 6231

Mr Neil Laurie  
Clerk of the Parliament  
Queensland Parliamentary Service  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I write in response to your letter regarding petition number 2952-18, tabled in Parliament on 13 June 2018, in relation to an additional ambulance officer at Collinsville/Scottville.

The QAS continuously monitors workloads across the State to ensure the most appropriate level of service is provided to all communities. 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, are undertaken.

Regarding life-threatening cases occurring in and around the Collinsville community, the QAS assigns the closest, most appropriate paramedic. When an incident occurs in Collinsville/Scottville, the Collinsville paramedic is assigned and responds to the incident location. QAS resources are further supported by Auxiliary Queensland Fire and Emergency Services Rural Fire Service officers, as well as Queensland Police Service officers when required. It is also a requirement of the mining organisations to provide their own on-site paramedic and rescue staff to provide responses to incidents occurring on or around their mine and work-sites.

On the occasions when local officers are required to transport patients to Bowen, the QAS uses a dynamic deployment model. Under this model, the QAS manages and moves resources to provide coverage to areas experiencing greatest demand from areas or stations experiencing a lower demand. As ambulances are often dispatched from the location of the vehicle, services are not dependent on, or determined by, the location of the ambulance station. Deployment of resources across the state is coordinated using a computer aided dispatch system.

The QAS reviews both historical and predicted demands for service when considering the allocation of ambulance resources, and is currently resourced appropriately to respond to incidents within the Collinsville/Scottville community. Collinsville and Scottville area responses are attended by a paramedic from Collinsville Ambulance Station who is on day shifts, with on-call arrangements for after hours. Further support is provided by the Mackay or Townsville based rescue helicopter service for incidents requiring immediate extrication.

I appreciate the Petitioner's proposal, and will ensure their request is taken into consideration for future enhancement and infrastructure planning, as part of the overall planning for Queensland. Workforce enhancement allocations and infrastructure projects across the state are based on identified priorities from the outcome of the state-wide QAS review.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Miles', written in a cursive style.

**STEVEN MILES MP**  
**Minister for Health**  
**Minister for Ambulance Services**