



MEDIA RELEASE

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Courier Mail Response

In the cases involving bullying and harassment (inappropriate sex act) and the booze run over a Code 2 (then upgraded to a Code 1), there was no penalty aside from counselling. My question is whether there should have been harsher consequences in some of these cases? Particularly, when one of the bullying/harassment victims left the service as a result?

Bullying and harassment (allegations over the period of October 2006 – April 2007): As a result of the recommendations in the Ashdale report the officer concerned was asked to show cause at a Formal Disciplinary Hearing. The hearing was conducted by the Regional Assistant Commissioner and the Ethical Standards Unit. This officer was not counselled as the Regional Assistant Commissioner determined that the matter was of such a serious nature that this Officer should be Formally Reprimanded and further directed that a penalty be imposed by way of forfeiture of one of the officer periodic remuneration payments (two weeks pay). This sanction regarding periodic payment was suspended under section 50 of the *Ambulance Service Act* for a twelve month period based on the officer being of good order and behaviour for that period.

Booze run over a code 2 (2 – 13 July, 2007): Immediate action was taken by the region to ensure that this circumstance could not happen again, by way of counsel to the officer. An investigation was then conducted by Ashdale and as a result of this investigation the Regional Assistant Commissioner determined that counsel was the appropriate determination.

These complaints are assessed to determine an appropriate response to the matters raised. Where the allegations raised relate to matters of suspected official misconduct, they are referred to the CMC in accordance with legislative requirements. The outcomes of the departments handling of these matters was provided to the CMC

How many vehicles are manned in the Q5 or Brisbane region on weekends or weekdays after 7pm? It is our understanding that each station has one car with the exception of Spring Hill and Roma Street which have two.

Response type	7pm -9pm	9pm-10pm	10pm-11pm	11pm-2am	12am -7am
Acute Vehicles two officer	59	54	47	31	27
Single officer ICP Vehicle	3	3	3	3	3
Rural Stations on Emergency availability	8	8	8	8	8

Rapid Response Single Officer Vehicle	1	1	1	1	1
Total	71	66	59	43	39

How many people live in the Q5 drawing area according to the QAS?

Estimated population in Q5 in 2008/09 is 1,474,463.

In relation to a question that wasn't directly answered last Wednesday, what reasons did the QAS find for having the second worst cardiac arrest survival rate in the country especially given the state's position as No.1 in response times?

Rates of survival to hospital increased significantly between 2007 (18.6%) and 2008 (23.7%) which constitutes an additional 71 Queenslanders (5.1% increase) who survived their out-of-hospital cardiac arrest. It should be noted that for those arrest types most likely to be survivable (VF/VT arrests), the survival to hospital rate increased by 8.6% to 41.63%.

Comparisons between the States need to take into account the fact that several States report only on metropolitan areas rather than state-wide results (eg: Victoria and Western Australia). Queensland considers its most appropriate comparator, on the basis of state-wide coverage and population distribution, to be NSW (19.52% survival to hospital in 2008). QAS demonstrates survival results very close to the national average of 21% (2007-08).

For more information contact Department of Emergency Services Media on 3247 8186