



Inquiry into Appropriation Bill 2026–2027 and Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2026–2027

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Ms Deborah Morris MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services

In relation to: ACT Ambulance Service and number of additional paramedics required

Hearing: 28 July 2026

Uncorrected Proof Transcript pp 54

Transcript provided: 30 July 2026

Answer Due: 6 August 2026

Mr Wayne Phillips took on notice the following question(s):

MRS MORRIS: And what is the current additional number of paramedics required to keep the roster standing? Because it seems that figure changes and shifts quite a bit because of retention and other issues.

Mr Phillips: The additional paramedics required now, I would have to take that exactly on notice. But at the time of the roster review last year it was 82, but we have had additional paramedics come in since then. And we have been working with the government and the TWU in establishing of business cases and to sustain a model that we can bring in paramedics over a number of years. It is difficult to—and I would refer to the Chief Officer in regards to that, to bring in mass amounts of paramedics in at one time through ambulance service.

DR MARISA PATERSON MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The ACT Ambulance Roster Review Report recommended an additional 83.44 FTE paramedics would be needed to optimise the core emergency operations roster with a 1.87 relief ratio. The 2026-27 ACT Budget allocated funding for an additional 23 paramedics and 6 operational support roles for this financial year. The number increases to 26 paramedics and 6 operational support roles funded ongoing in future years. Further support will be considered through future budget cycles.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2026-2027

Signature:

Date: 10/8/26

By the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services, Dr Maris Paterson MLA

