



Adam Giles  
Chief Minister of the Northern Territory



Media Release

## More paramedics and ambulances secured with new funding agreement

19 January 2016

More paramedics will be employed and new ambulances delivered across the Territory as the result of a new \$149 million, five-year agreement between the Northern Territory Government and St John Ambulance Australia (NT).

Chief Minister Adam Giles said the new five-year agreement would provide St John with an additional \$43 million in funding compared to the previous five-year agreement.

The additional funding will support St John in preparing for the expected 6 per cent annual growth in service demand, allowing for approximately 55 new staff members, seven new ambulances, two new Station Officer use vehicles and expanded service delivery across the Territory over the life of the five-year agreement.

Last financial year St John responded to almost 48,000 '000' call outs and transported almost 38,000 patients.



"We are pleased to be continuing the Territory's long association with St John," Mr Giles said.

"St John already provides an outstanding Ambulance Service for Territorians and this new agreement will allow St John to employ additional staff and buy new ambulances and equipment."

St John Chairman Roland Chin said that over the life of the contract, St John would engage additional Emergency Paramedics and Non-Emergency Patient Transport Officers, Communications Supervisors and Station Officers.

"We are delighted that many months of intense negotiations have come to fruition, with a service delivery model that will benefit all Territorians," he said.

Mr Giles said the additional resources will ensure St John have the capacity to meet growing demand in Darwin and Palmerston in particular, while the contract also secures ambulance services in Alice Springs, Katherine, Nhulunbuy and Tennant Creek.

St John CEO, Ross Coburn said: "We are very comfortable that the level of funding provided will enable St John to appropriately manage the increasing demand on services by providing a suitable level of response to

both urgent and non-urgent cases.

“Going forward, we have the ability to review the allocation of resources, freeing up emergency ambulance crews as much of the non-emergency cases will now be directed to non-emergency crews.”

The new contract will also provide for greater partnering between St John and the Health Department to ensure the continued maintenance of the highest clinical standards.

Mr Giles said the new contract addressed the important areas of increased ambulance demand and crew active time as well as allowing for important improvements in the Communications Centre through increased supervision to enhance this critical area of ambulance operations

“The new deal is good news for Territorians and the hard-working St John staff dedicating their time to the service of the NT,” he said.

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