

Wednesday 30 June 2010

COALITION ALLOCATES TEN ADDITIONAL MICA PARAMEDIC TEAMS FOR REGIONAL VICTORIA

The Victorian Liberal Nationals Coalition today announced if it wins the November election, it will allocate ten new MICA Single Responder Units in regional Victoria.

The Single Responder Units (SRUs) will deliver MICA care through a 24-hour roster, and will be based in major regional areas to provide life-saving specialist-trained paramedics, significantly boosting ambulatory care in regional Victoria.

Victorians living in regional areas will now have highly-trained paramedics available in their communities to provide much needed care during an emergency.

This announcement will provide ten SRU MICA paramedics across these regional centres at a total capital cost, including specialised fit-out and equipment, of approximately \$1 million:

Warrnambool

Horsham

Mildura

Shepparton

Wangaratta

Wodonga

Sale

Bairnsdale

Wonthaggi

Swan Hill

Full time MICA paramedic response units are already located in Geelong, Ballarat, Bendigo and Morwell.

Policy

This commitment follows Monday's announcement of the biggest increase of ambulance staff in Victoria's history. The Coalition's plan provides for 310 new ambulance paramedics, 210 of which will be based in country Victoria, and an additional 30 patient transport officers allocated to country Victoria.

John Brumby and his government have not planned for growth, and have failed to make the provisions required for stronger ambulance services that Victorians can rely on.

Regional Victoria has pleaded with John Brumby to take action and fix the crisis in our ambulance service, yet he has ignored this.

The Coalition's commitment providing these extra these life-saving SRU's will see highly-trained MICA paramedics operating in major regional centres throughout the state.

Labor has had 11 years to fix the crisis in our ambulance service and for all those years, Victorians have heard nothing but excuses from this incompetent government.

It's time to take action and the Coalition will take it, because we are committed to rebuilding Victoria's ambulance service.