



# A Stronger Ambulance Service

South  
Australian  
**Labor**

For the  
Future



Emergency

STEPHEN

AMB 017  
SA The Festival State

000  
EMERGENCY

## Foreword

The Malinauskas Labor Government believes in a strong ambulance service, and we have spent four years boosting the resourcing of the SA Ambulance Service as we endeavour to make it one of the best in the country.

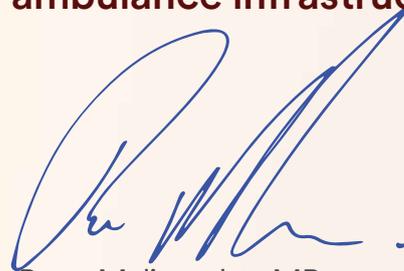
Our government delivered an unprecedented level of permanent operational funding, including the largest ever suite of initiatives for available, high-quality regional ambulance resourcing.

Out of the 24 new, rebuilt or upgraded stations we are delivering, 16 are in peri-urban and regional South Australia, and we've already employed 151 extra full-time equivalent ambos across our regional roads.

And as we know, much of regional South Australia remains supported by an incredibly qualified volunteer workforce, juggling their busy lives with the training and rosters of an on-call ambulance crew.

While SAAS has made great progress in streamlining the training and campaigning for more volunteers, we know there is more to do in supporting regional ambulance coverage.

**That's why the Malinauskas Labor Government will take to the election a plan to employ more ambos on our regional roads and invest in regional ambulance infrastructure.**



Peter Malinauskas MP  
Premier for South Australia



# LABOR'S PLAN WILL

**1** Establish the role of  
Chief Paramedic Officer

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**2** Recruit a new emergency crew  
and redevelop the Yorketown  
Ambulance Station

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**3** Build a new ambulance station  
in Millicent

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**4** Permanent operational funding  
for Two Community Paramedics  
in Ceduna

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**5** Redevelop the Barmera  
Ambulance Station

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**6** Permanent operational funding  
for an additional Regional  
Medical Transfer Crew for  
Murray Bridge

# NEW INITIATIVES

## ESTABLISHING THE ROLE OF CHIEF PARAMEDIC OFFICER

A re-elected Malinauskas Labor Government will create a new Chief Paramedic Officer role, which will sit alongside other Chief Clinical Officers within the Department for Health and Wellbeing.

The new role will consider further opportunities to expand a paramedics scope of practice, as well as working with both SAAS and the Ambulance Employees Association to contribute strategic clinical advice and advocacy on behalf of paramedics.





## YORKETOWN

**INVESTMENT: \$6.8 million**

Due to its location at the bottom of the Yorke Peninsula, Yorketown is geographically isolated and finding their volunteer crewing increasingly difficult to staff.

We will commit \$1.5 million to redevelop the tired Yorketown Ambulance Station, ready to house a new 12 full-time equivalent salaried ambulance crew to start from July 2028.

## BARMERA

**INVESTMENT: \$1.5 million**

We have already committed to the conversion of the on-call Barmera crew to a 24/7 crewing due to begin in 2026/27.

However, the existing garage at the station is non-usable, leaving vehicles to be cleaned, maintained and housed outside and exposed.

We will commit \$1.5 million to redevelop the station, providing the new crew the facilities they need to support the Riverland.

## CEDUNA

**INVESTMENT: \$1.6 million**

Community paramedicine is an emerging innovation to respond to primary care and non-emergency care shortages in regional areas.

Ceduna has been well serviced by the Community Paramedic model for several years, but funding for the model has only ever been as an extension of a trial program, leaving employment uncertainty for a crew working in one of South Australia's most remote areas.

We recognise the ongoing success that Community Paramedics are delivering for the Ceduna community, and we will commit \$1.6 million of ongoing operational funding for two permanent Community Paramedic roles.

## MILLICENT

**INVESTMENT: \$4 million**

Millicent Ambulance Station is currently in a deteriorating leased facility that is no longer functional.

We will commit to building a new \$4 million station in Millicent.

## MURRAY BRIDGE

**INVESTMENT: \$5.6 million**

Labor will invest \$5.6 million to expand SA Ambulance crewing in Murray Bridge. This expansion will support volunteers with a dedicated transfer team comprising of 3 paramedics and 3 ambulance officers.

The dedicated transfer team will manage non-emergency patient transfers to metropolitan hospitals, easing pressure on local emergency crews and retaining volunteer capacity in the community.



# DELIVERED



## EMPLOYED 350 MORE AMBOS

By the start of 2022, the Liberals had overseen an \$11 million cut in resourcing to the SA Ambulance Service, and a disturbing deterioration in Priority Two response times.

More often or not when South Australians called 000 in an emergency, it was not arriving on time.

We were ranked the worst performing in the country, and only one in three of these ambulances arrived within their 16-minute target - in some instances resulting in tragedy.

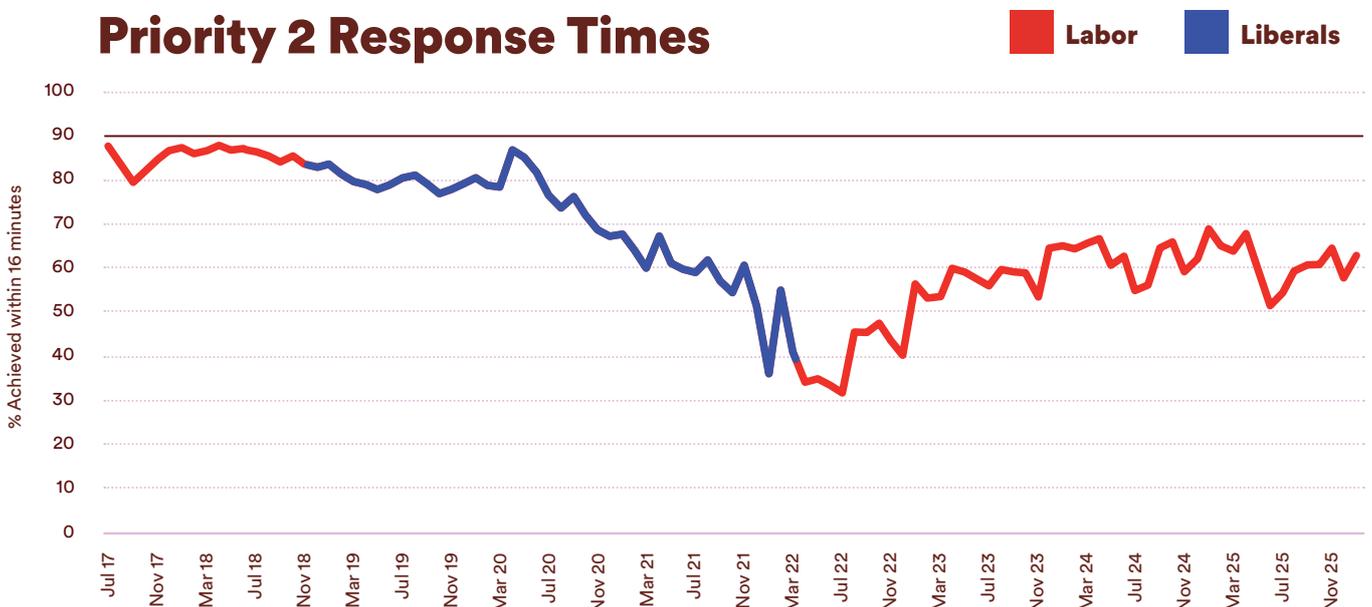
**The Malinauskas Labor Government values a strong ambulance service, and we're committed to returning our ambulance service to being one of the best performers in the country.**

Our generational recruitment drive has employed 278 more paramedics and 72 more ambulance officers, and ambulances are arriving twice as fast as they were four years ago.

Our investment included more dispatchers in our Emergency Operations Centre, and more senior leadership positions to maximise and manage the workforce growth.

As a result of our investment, more than 21,000 ambulances have arrived on time in 2024/25 than in the last year of the former Liberal Government.

### Priority 2 Response Times





**DELIVERED**

# NEW SAAS HQ

**We delivered a brand new, state-of-the-art Emergency Operations Centre in Mile End South.**

The new \$134 million Headquarters opened in late 2025, and is now home to South Australia's team of highly-skilled Triple Zero call-takers and dispatchers, with plenty of room for future growth.

The infrastructure is earthquake proof and designed to continue operation even if essential services such as power and water supply are temporarily unavailable - it is now one of South Australia's most important strategic assets.

As well as housing the State Health Coordination Centre to oversee system flow throughout the state, the precinct includes dedicated rooms for training and large-scale emergency management, as well as the new Adelaide Ambulance Station.



# STATIONS OVERHAUL

## 24 NEW, REBUILT OR UPGRADED

In just four years, we've invested in the overhaul of our state's ambulance infrastructure, and we're delivering the building, rebuilding and upgrading of 24 stations across the state.







## TWO REAL PAY RISES

Commencing in January 2026, the new enterprise agreement delivers a 13.5 per cent wage rise over the next four years, as well as improved leave and professional development entitlements, penalty rates and new classifications.

Ambos didn't receive a pay rise for over four years, a period which included the entire length of the Marshall Liberal Government.

At the time, it was the longest gap between pay increases in the public sector workforce and a blatant show of disrespect for our ambos on the frontlines.

**Within six months of coming to office, the Malinauskas Labor Government secured a new deal that provided Ambos the improved salaries and back pay they deserved after years of frozen salaries.**



## ePCR

We invested \$23.5 million to give ambulance crews the tools to electronically document patient information for the first time, eliminating the need for handwritten clinical case cards that require subsequent data entry.

The ePCR system is set to streamline the out of hospital provision and communication of patient care in South Australia.

The rollout will commence in mid-2026, covering over 500 ambulance fleet, including emergency and patient transport ambulances, extended care and community paramedics, SAAS MedSTAR and special operations teams as well as some light ambulance fleet.

Over time, a key feature of the ePCR system will be the ability to integrate with hospital electronic medical records, enhancing communication between ambulance crews and hospital staff.





# EXPANDING THE CLINICAL TELEPHONE ASSESSMENT SERVICE

**We committed \$10.7 million over four years to expand the Clinical Telephone Assessment Service, employing 16 more Paramedic Telehealth Clinicians.**

For Triple Zero calls that are deemed non-urgent, the service is transferred to an experienced paramedic to determine the best possible course of action, including presenting to an alternative care pathway like an Urgent Care Centre.

This service avoids the unnecessary dispatching of ambulances, as well as reducing presentations to our emergency departments.

# ENDING THE ARBITRATION

In 2023, we finalised the longstanding industrial proceedings which commenced between the Ambulance Employees Association and the former Marshall Liberal Government in 2018.

This resolution marked the end of genuine animosity regarding the cutting and chronic under-resourcing of the ambulance service under the Liberals.

**This marked a new beginning as the Malinauskas Labor Government recommitted to working with our ambos, not against them.**





# MORE VEHICLES ON OUR ROADS

There are currently more ambulance vehicles on the road than ever before.

In its first 100 days, the Malinauskas Labor Government made a \$36.9 million investment to replace 184 existing ambulances reaching their end of life, as well as 36 new ambulances to support additional crewing.

These ambulances have been delivered and are now on our roads, including 17 deployed in regional locations.

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