

HEALTH — GENERAL PRACTITIONERS — REGIONAL

2340. Ms M.J. Davies to the Minister for Health:

- (1) With relation to General Practitioners employed by or contracted to the Department of Health or the West Australian Country Health Service, what is the number of full time service equivalent (FSE) positions, the head count and the total cost of service for the following regions:
  - (a) South West;
  - (b) Great Southern;
  - (c) Goldfields–Esperance;
  - (d) Wheatbelt;
  - (e) Peel;
  - (f) Mid West;
  - (g) Gascoyne;
  - (h) Pilbara; and
  - (i) Kimberley?
- (2) For each of the above regions, can the Minister please provide a list of all vacant General Practitioner positions including specific location, and length of time the position has been vacant?

**Mr R.H. Cook replied:**

For the purpose of Question on Notice 2340 a General Practitioner (GP) is defined as any senior registered medical practitioner contracted on either a Medical Services Agreement (MSA) or as a Salaried Medical Officer with the WA Country Health Service who is not registered by the Australian Health Practitioner Registration Agency (AHPRA) in a non-GP specialist category (eg. specialist Surgeon or Specialist Obstetrician). It should be noted that some Practitioners included would have GP specialist qualifications (e.g. FRACGP) but not all. There may be some included in the ‘Day Rate Locum’ category number on an MSA that are trainees and/or registrars, and it is not possible to specifically identify these from our systems.

The information has been provided separately for Salaried Medical Practitioners (Table 1A) and Medical Practitioners on MSAs (Table 1B) below based on information available from current systems.

(1) Table 1A: Salaried Medical Practitioners

Region	Number of FTE* positions (Oct 2017 FTE)	Head count (Oct 2017)	Total cost of service**
(a) South West	17.86	27	\$7,333,796
(b) Great Southern	5.14	6	\$1,864,894
(c) Goldfields–Esperance	5.86	8	\$1,673,400
(d) Wheatbelt	3.93	5	\$1,515,002
(e) Peel***	Nil	Nil	Nil
(f) Mid West	20.75	24	\$8,335,316
(g) Gascoyne****			
(h) Pilbara	29.23	33	\$12,032,501
(i) Kimberley	37.26	47	\$15,678,354
<b>Total</b>	120.02	150	\$48,433,262

\*Based on actual Month-To-Date (MTD) Full Time Equivalents (FTE) as at October 2017 pay month.

\*\*Total cost of service has been provided for the 2016/17 Financial Year and encompasses all services provided by the Medical Practitioners (as defined above) including GP services provided by these Medical Practitioners.

\*\*\*Not within WACHS boundary.

\*\*\*\*Combined under WACHS Midwest Region.

Table 1B: Contract Medical Practitioners on MSAs

Region	Number of FTE positions**	Head count for MSAs		Total cost of service**
		FFS Contracts	Day Rate Locum contracts	
<b>Central Office</b>		Nil	10	
<b>(a) South West</b>		71	32	
<b>(b) Great Southern</b>		38	34	
<b>(c) Goldfields–Esperance</b>		13	37	
<b>(d) Wheatbelt</b>		47	35	
<b>(e) Peel***</b>		Nil	Nil	
<b>(f) Mid West</b>		15	40	
<b>(g) Gascoyne</b>		-		
<b>(h) Pilbara</b>		Nil	35	
<b>(i) Kimberley</b>		Nil	41	
<b>Total MSA contracts #</b>		184 #	264 #	
<b>Total Headcount</b>		<b>169</b>	<b>227</b>	

- (2) The position vacancies listed below relate to the GP definition above for the purposes of PQ 2340 and only relate to established salaried WACHS positions.

Region	Vacant Positions	Specific Location	Length of time position has been vacant (Approximate period)
<b>(a) South West</b>	-		
<b>(b) Great Southern</b>	-		
<b>(c) Peel</b>	Nil	Nil	Nil
<b>(d) Wheatbelt</b>	-		
<b>(e) Goldfields–Esperance</b>	-		
<b>(f) Mid West</b>	-		
<b>(g) Gascoyne</b>	-		
<b>(h) Pilbara</b>	-		
<b>(i) Kimberley</b>	DMO anaesthetics* – 1 FTE	Kununurra	68 Weeks
	DMO Obstetrics* – 1 FTE	Derby	68 Weeks
	DMO Non-Proceduralists* – 2 FTE	Halls Creek	512 Weeks
	DMO Non-Proceduralists* – 3 FTE	Fitzroy Crossing and Derby	16 Weeks

\*These positions are currently filled with locums on an MSA who may or may not hold GP fellowship.