

ALBANY HOSPICE, FUNDING

28. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the Minister for the Midwest, Wheatbelt and Great Southern:

On visiting the Albany Hospice last Thursday, 26 April, Hon Muriel Patterson and I were informed that the Government had pledged \$50 000 to cover an impending financial crisis for the hospice in the next nine months prior to the completion of the new buildings at the Albany Hospital. While applauding and supporting the funding for this wonderful service, can the minister indicate where it has come from? Has the Lower Great Southern Health Service been instructed to find the money from this year's or next year's budget, has the money come from the Great Southern Development Commission or has it come from another source?

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

I thank the member for the question and also his recognition of the Government's swift action in addressing the funding shortfall for the Albany Hospice. I agree with the views he has expressed.

Hon Barry House asked whether the funds had been drawn from the Lower Great Southern Health Service budget or from the Great Southern Development Commission budget. Regrettably, without notice, I am unable to answer the question in respect to the Lower Great Southern Health Service; however, as far as I am aware the funds have not come from the Great Southern Development Commission.