

PATIENT ASSISTED TRAVEL SCHEME — PEEL

521. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the minister representing the Minister for Health:

I refer to the fact that Peel is not part of the WA Country Health Service, but that some residents of the Peel region have limited access to the patient assisted travel scheme.

- (1) How many claims for PATS did the state government receive for patients living in Peel in each of —
 - (a) 2013–14;
 - (b) 2014–15; and
 - (c) 2015 to date?
- (2) For each of these years —
 - (a) where in Peel did these applications come from;
 - (b) how many applications from patients in Peel were refused; and
 - (c) what has been the total value of these PATS claims from patients in Peel?

Hon DONNA FARAGHER replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) (a)–(c) Given the time frame, unfortunately calendar data only was available. In 2014, 109 patients made a total of 141 claims. In 2015, 62 patients made a total of 661 claims.
- (2) (a) Given the time frame, the only information available is a sample of data from the 2013–14 financial year, which shows the following breakdown of claims by suburb: Meadow Springs, 21 per cent; Preston Beach, 17 per cent; Hamel, seven per cent; Halls Head, Wannanup, six per cent; Bouvard, Dudley Park, Erskine and Silver Sands, five per cent; Coolup, Falcon and Meelon, three per cent; Dawesville and Waroona, two per cent; Coodanup, Dwellingup, Furnissdale, Greenfields, Madora Bay and South Yunderup, one per cent.
 - (b) If applications meet the criteria according to Peel PATS policy, the relevant subsidy is provided. Anecdotally, only a small number are refused or rejected, because generally they heed the advice given when they originally make contact about eligibility or are well aware of the guidelines.
 - (c) Given the time frame, unfortunately only calendar data was available. For 2014 the total value was \$33 608, and for 2015 the total value was \$27 035.