

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, REVIEWS, COMMITTEES, INQUIRIES AND TASK FORCES,
ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

695. Hon. C.L. Edwardes to the Minister for Health

I refer the Minister to the answer to question on notice No. 1572 and ask: -

- (a) within the existing Department of Health resources, what is the amount allowed for to conduct reviews, committees' inquiries and taskforces;
- (b) if there is no specific allowance or budget allocation, how is spending controlled;
- (c) if there is no specific allowance or budget allocation, what part of the individual budgets does this money come from; and
- (d) as the Minister is unwilling or unable to give even a general cost to the reviews, committees, inquiries and taskforces established in the Health Department under his control, what confidence can the people of Western Australia have that the service delivery (both management and operational) are not being deprived of funds to allow the Minister to initiate reviews, committees, inquiries and taskforces?

Mr R.C. KUCERA replied:

- (a) Where costs are met within existing resources, no separate estimate of costs for reviews, committees, inquiries and taskforces is undertaken.
- (b) By ensuring that no expense additional to existing resources is incurred.
- (c) This depends on the issue under consideration and the particular requirement of the process.
- (d) Costs of reviews and inquiries are kept to a minimum. The reviews referred to in question on notice No. 1572 were established for the purpose of improving service delivery and ensuring the best possible outcomes for the people of Western Australia.