

HOSPITALS — REGIONAL — SAFETY

611. Ms M.J. DAVIES to the Minister for Health:

I have a supplementary question. Kalgoorlie hospital experienced 156 code blacks in two years. Will the minister confirm that it will be a priority under this \$5 million to ensure the safety of patients and nursing and hospital staff as he moves forward with this program, please?

Mr R.H. COOK replied:

My priority will be the doctors and nurses working on the front line. I can confirm for the member that our emphasis will be to make sure that we look right across the system to get to the bottom of the security issues. The member appropriately raised issues at Kalgoorlie hospital. I am aware of some antisocial behaviour at Albany hospital as well. We will make sure that the security at those places is beefed up, but we will look at other measures as well, whether that is upgrades of CCTV equipment or a change in the configuration of security. We will look at a whole range of measures to ensure that short-term and long-term measures are in place to improve the security of our doctors and nurses working in our busy emergency departments.