

REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICES, REVIEW COMMITTEE

91. Mr WALDRON to the Minister for Health:

Given the Labor Party's election commitment to overhaul health service delivery in Western Australia, will the minister ensure that the views of regional health services about the future management and funding of health care in country Western Australia are considered by the Health Administrative Review Committee before it reports to him on 4 June 2001?

Mr KUCERA replied:

The simple answer is yes. In fact, the committee has already consulted with many of the area health authorities. I must emphasise that the HARC is essentially aimed at examining the replacement of the Metropolitan Health Service Board. I have asked the committee to look at issues in bite-size chunks when considering metropolitan health services. Later on I intend to move to the rural health services specifically. In the meantime, the committee must consult with the country areas - it is doing that - because many of the treatments carried out for country people are in our metropolitan health services. However, the simple answer is that the committee is consulting and will continue to consult.