

PATIENT ASSISTED TRAVEL SCHEME, KIMBERLEY HEALTH REGION

479. Mr L. Graham to the Minister for Health

Under the Government's revamped PATS guidelines what particular benefits are specific to the Kimberley Health Region?

Mr R.C. KUCERA replied:

There were no changes to the PATS guidelines that were specific for the Kimberley Health Region, however there were a number of changes that provide particular benefit to patients in the Kimberley Health region.

These changes include:

- The extension of PATS to people who are discharged following interhospital transfer to a private hospital;

- Extension of PATS to specialist procedures carried out by a GP Proceduralist;

- The four (4) trips in a financial year has changes to four (4) trips in the previous twelve (12) months.

- Fuel subsidy of 25 cents per kilometre for group travel in a large vehicle (not standard family wagon);

- Assistance with the cost of return transport between the Perth airport and specialist appointment or accommodation for concession card holders; and

- Automatic accommodation subsidy for people travelling >750 kilometres one way to assist them to break their journey.