

NURSES - EMPLOYMENT BY NURSEWEST WHILE ON LEAVE

3493. Hon Margaret Rowe to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Health
- (1) For December 2005 through to 1 April 2006, how many nurses have taken leave longer than four weeks (excluding maternity leave) from the following hospitals -
 - (a) RPH (excluding Shenton Park);
 - (b) SCGH; and
 - (c) Fremantle?
 - (2) How many of the nurses in (1) above, have subsequently being employed by NurseWest whilst on leave from any of the above hospitals?
 - (3) For those nurses that have taken leave from each of the four hospitals and who are now working for NurseWest -
 - (a) how many nurses residing in the Perth metropolitan area are regularly placed in regional hospitals (regularly meaning more than one regional placement from December 2005 through to 1 April 2006);
 - (b) how long was each regional placement for;
 - (c) why was NurseWest used to fill the vacancy;
 - (d) which agency paid for the NurseWest nurses travel and accommodation to fill the vacancy at the regional hospital; and
 - (e) What was the cost for each temporary regional relocation?
 - (4) For those nurse/s that have taken leave from each of the three hospitals named above, who have been employed by NurseWest, and who have done more than one regional placement, how many metropolitan placements has each nurse done?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

1.
 - (a) 108 nurses.
 - (b) 106 nurses.
 - (c) 95 nurses.
2. Three nurses have subsequently been employed.
3.
 - (a) 1 nurse.
 - (b) 2 placements where each placement included 3 shifts;
1 placement that included 5 shifts; and
1 placement that included 10 shifts.
 - (c) NurseWest is the single point of contact for regional coordinators (except WA Country Health Service - South West) to source temporary nursing staff to fill nursing staff deficits.
 - (d) The rural health site making the request is responsible for paying travel costs and the nurse is responsible for paying accommodation costs.
 - (e) Cost for 1 placement of 3 shifts \$65.36 (road travel).
Cost for 1 placement for 5 shifts \$81.70 (road travel).
Cost for 1 placement of 3 shifts \$130.72 (road travel).
Cost for 1 placement of 10 shifts \$711.86 (return flight).
4. Two shifts.