

HEALTH, REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICE BUDGETS

1279. Mr Waldron to the Minister for Health

With respect to Regional Health Service Budgets will the Minister provide the following details -

- (a) the State Government's contribution to each Regional Health Service budget in 2000/2001;
- (b) the State Government's contribution to each Regional Health Service budget in 2001/2002;
- (c) the new health and administrative functions required of each Regional Health Service in 2001/2002 and the cost of these functions; and
- (d) the estimated cost in 2001/2002 to each Regional Health Service of wage increases for health staff, negotiated by the State Government during this calendar year?

Mr KUCERA replied:

For the purpose of this response, regional Health Services have been defined as the seven major rural health areas that include the recognised regional hospital and health service within the relevant rural health area, ie Bunbury regional hospital is contained in the South West Health Area.

- (a) South West - \$74.9 million - Inpatient Activity - 1999/00 - Episodes - 22,637; Standard Core Episodes (SCEs) - 20,801; 2000/01 - Episodes - 23,495; SCEs - 21,654
Pilbara, including Gascoyne - \$57.4 million - Inpatient Activity - 1999/00 - Episodes - 12,642; SCEs - 10,017; 2000/01 - Episodes - 12,003; SCEs - 9,278
Midwest, including Geraldton - \$35.0 million - Inpatient Activity - 1999/00 - Episodes - 9,230; SCEs - 7,757; 2000/01 - Episodes - 9,257; SCEs - 8,808
Kimberley - \$50.4 million - Inpatient Activity - 1999/00 - Episodes - 10,047; SCEs - 8,671; 2000/01 - Episodes - 10,477; SCEs - 8,808
Great Southern - \$52.6 million - Inpatient Activity - 1999/00 - Episodes - 16,672; SCEs - 15,647; 2000/01 - Episodes - 16,817; SCEs - 15,440
Northern Goldfields, including South East Coastal - \$44.3 million - Inpatient Activity - 1999/00 - Episodes - 13,151; SCEs - 11,928; 2000/01 - Episodes - 14,089; SCEs - 12,037
Central Wheatbelt area - \$35.7 million - Inpatient Activity - 1999/00 - Episodes - 7,263; SCEs - 6,719; 2000/01 - Episodes - 7,130; SCEs - 6,576

- (b) South West - \$77.5 million
Pilbara, including Gascoyne - \$60.3 million
Midwest, including Geraldton - \$39.5 million
Kimberley - \$53.3 million
Great Southern - \$58.5 million
Northern Goldfields, including South East Coastal - \$48.4 million
Central Wheatbelt area - \$39.1 million

Government contributions in each of the above responses (a) and (b) include allocations of capital for minor works to each rural health area.

For comparison purposes, the contribution figure for 2001/02 does not include superannuation, which will be incurred by all health areas for the first year. There is additional funding for this expense which was previously met by Treasury and only brought to account in the annual report.

- (c) Kimberley Health Area:
 - 1. Upgrade of Obstetric services at Kununurra District Hospital (Kimberley Health Service): \$400 000.
 - 2. Establishment of interim dialysis services at the Broome District Hospital in 2001/02. Allocation made for operational costs: \$436 800.
- Midwest Health Area:

In 2000/01 the Midwest Health Area received \$1 916 300 for the regional community mental health service incorporating Geraldton, Midwest and Murchison.

In 2001/02 this allocation was increased to \$3 099 220 and transferred to Geraldton Health Service to manage the regional mental health service incorporating Geraldton, Midwest, Gascoyne and Murchison.

The increase in funds from 2000/01 to 2001/02 relates to the incorporation of the allocation previously made for the Gascoyne mental health service, as well as an increase in community mental health services, mental illness prevention services and drug and alcohol services.

Central Health Area:

Enhancement and expansion of services to Shires of Gingin and Chittering.

Establishment of Bindoon Health Centre – Silver Chain co-locate and shares costs with Western Health Service.

Non-recurrent State funding \$130 000.

OTHER PROGRAMS:

Diabetes Program

In line with the Department of Health's commitment to Diabetes, funding has been allocated to the following rural health services in the 2001/02 budget for new diabetes services.

These funds are to assist with the establishment and maintenance of the Diabetes Integrated Hub and Spoke model of service delivery to enhance a coordinated best practice approach to the delivery of the Department of Health Diabetes program.

Non recurrent State funding:

Midlands/Avon - \$80 000

Upper and Central Great Southern Health - \$60 000

Mid West - \$60 000

Rural Visiting Specialist Program:

\$1M has been allocated to rural health services for the provision of visiting specialists. These services include specialist allied health and medical services.

A breakdown of these non recurrent State funding is as follows:

Avon Health Service - \$50k

Bunbury Health Service - \$100k

Gascoyne Health Service - \$100k

Geraldton Health Service - \$100k

Northern Goldfields Health Service - \$100k

Central Great Southern Health Service - \$100k

Lower Great Southern Health Service - \$100k

Upper Great Southern Health Service - \$100k

Kimberley Health Service - \$100k

East Pilbara Health Service - \$100k

Eastern Wheatbelt Health Service - \$50k

Dental Program (Oral Health):

\$0.875M is allocated for new oral health services including specialist orthodontic and general oral health.

Bunbury - \$37k

Gascoyne Health Service - \$25k

Geraldton Health Service - \$114k

Kimberley Health Service - \$28k
East Pilbara Health Service - \$55k
Eastern Wheatbelt Health Service - \$15k
Central Great Southern - \$12k
Lower Great Southern - \$15k
Upper Great Southern - \$12k
Northern Goldfields - \$243k
South East Coastal - \$20k
West Pilbara - \$137k
Western Health Service - \$10k
Peel Health Service - \$120k
Vasse Leeuwin - \$32k

- (d) The State Government has negotiated two major award agreements to date. These are:
the Australian Nursing Federation; and
Hospital Salaried Officers Association.

The estimated cost in 2001/2002 to each regional health service for these increases are:

South West - \$3.7 million
Pilbara, including Gascoyne - \$2.8 million
Midwest, including Geraldton - \$1.6 million
Kimberley - \$2.5 million
Great Southern - \$2.8 million
Northern Goldfields, including South East Coastal - \$2.0 million
Central Wheatbelt area - \$1.7 million

Negotiations are continuing with the Australian Medical Association and other employee representatives ie enrolled nurses, other trades. Cost estimates are not available while the negotiations are in progress.