

BUNBURY HEALTH CAMPUS, ONCOLOGY SERVICES

705. Mr Masters to the Minister for Health

- (1) Has the provision of a full range of oncology services from the Bunbury Health Campus been considered, so that South West cancer patients do not have to travel to and find accommodation in Perth?
- (2) If yes, but assuming that the cost benefit analysis does not support the provision of such services from Bunbury, what population size is needed in the South West to justify the supply of oncology treatments?

Mr KUCERA replied:

- (1) Chemotherapy Oncology Services are a contracted service provided by St John of God Health Care Bunbury. The range of oncology treatments provided is determined by the availability of medical specialists, the type and number of patient referrals.
- (2) The Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council 1989 report and the National Health and Medical Research Council Australian Health Technology Committee (1996) report on 'Beam and Isotope Radiotherapy' indicate a range of population between 300 000 and 500 000 is required to support a cancer centre. This level of population is required if the Cancer Centre is to provide the professional expertise to support the wide range of oncology treatments which include Chemotherapy Oncology, Radiotherapy Oncology and Surgical Oncology.