

POST-ACUTE CARE SERVICES - SOUTH WEST REGION

**1094. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Health:**

- (1) How much funding has been provided to the WA Country Health Service South West for the provision of post-acute care services?
- (2) How much of this funding has been received by Busselton District Hospital to facilitate replacement of Silver Chain Nursing Association services?
- (3) How many extra staff have been employed by the WA Country Health Service South West to provide post-acute care services?
- (4) How many extra staff have been employed at the Busselton District Hospital to provide post-acute care services?
- (5) Does the ambulatory care program and hospital-in-the-home service extend to Busselton and Margaret River?
- (6) What is the current staff-patient ratio in the Western Australian health service for post-acute care services?
- (7) What is the current staff-patient ratio in the WA Country Health Service South West for post-acute care services?
- (8) What is the current staff-patient ratio in the Busselton District Hospital for post-acute care services?

I apologise for the length of the question.

**Hon SUE ELLERY replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) Post-acute care services are part of the WA Country Health Service South West budget. Services will be supplemented by the development of hospital-in-the-home services in Bunbury.
- (2) Post-acute care services are part of the WA Country Health Service South West budget. Patients who previously accessed Silver Chain Nursing Association post-acute services in Busselton are able to access hospital and community health services provided by the WA Country Health Service South West.
- (3) Post-acute services in Bunbury are integrated into general nursing services. The nursing complement has increased by 1.5 full-time equivalent nursing staff to provide from Bunbury Regional Hospital the post-acute care service previously provided by the Silver Chain Nursing Association.
- (4) Post-acute care services in Busselton are integrated into general nursing services. No expansion has occurred in the nursing complement.
- (5) The state government is rolling out a major program of ambulatory care services. To date the program has focused on the metropolitan area. This will be extended through hospital-in-the-home services in regional centres, including Bunbury. Currently, no specific ambulatory care program covers the Busselton and Margaret River areas.
- (6)-(8) No specific staff-to-patient ratio is used for post-acute care.