

METROPOLITAN PUBLIC HOSPITALS, BUDGET ALLOCATION AND EXPENDITURE

**485. Mr BOARD to the Minister for Health:**

I have given the minister some notice of this question. Can the minister inform the House -

- (1) What is the budgetary allocation for each of the public hospitals in the metropolitan area for 2001-02?
- (2) What is the total expenditure for each of those public hospitals for the three months ending 30 September 2001?
- (3) Why - this issue has been raised in question time today - has only \$50 000 of the \$8 million commitment from the sale of AlintaGas to aged care beds in this State been allocated?

The SPEAKER: Before I give the minister the call, that is an example of a question that is a little long. In future, when asking for the required information, members should taper their question to maybe one question instead of 30. The member is asking for a very detailed answer. I am sure the minister has the information, but that sort of question and answer ties up question time for an inordinate time.

**Mr KUCERA replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of this question.. However, no notice was given of the third matter.

- (1) The budget allocated by the Department of Health for each metropolitan public hospital for 2001-02 is: Royal Perth Hospital and the Inner City Mental Health Service, \$328.8 million; Bentley Hospital \$49.9 million; Kalamunda District Community Hospital, \$10.7 million; Swan District Hospital, \$53.1 million; Fremantle Hospital and Health Service, \$173.6 million; Armadale-Kelmscott Memorial Hospital, \$45.6 million; Rockingham-Kwinana District Hospital, \$29.2 million; Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, \$235.8 million; North Metropolitan Health Service, \$64.5 million; Graylands Selby-Lemnos and Special Care Health Services, \$53.8 million; and King Edward Memorial Hospital for Women-Princess Margaret Hospital for Children, \$174.2 million.

It should be noted that these allocations include the cost of superannuation. In addition to the budget allocated by the Department of Health, each hospital receives revenue from private patients and other sources, which adds to the total funds available.

- (2) The total gross expenditure for each metropolitan public hospital for the three months ending 30 September 2001 is: Royal Perth Hospital and the Inner City Mental Health Service \$92.2 million; Bentley Hospital, \$12.3 million; Kalamunda District Community Hospital, \$2.9 million; Swan District Hospital, \$12 million; Fremantle Hospital and Health Service, \$48.3 million; Armadale-Kelmscott Memorial Hospital, \$11.9 million; Rockingham-Kwinana District Hospital, \$7.7 million; Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, \$64.1 million; North Metropolitan Health Service, \$15.1 million; Graylands Selby-Lemnos and Special Care Health Services, \$14.4 million; and King Edward Memorial Hospital for Women-Princess Margaret Hospital for Children, \$49.2 million.

Strategies are being developed to ensure hospitals manage their budgets. So that the member for Murdoch does not make this mistake, to determine a full year cost, it is not simply a matter of multiplying by four, as there are seasonal variations and major payments such as insurance, all of which are paid at the beginning of the year.

- (3) I have no knowledge of the \$8 million that was referred to; I was not here when members opposite were in government. All funds that the Treasurer inherited as a result of the budget, which were given to him by the previous Government, have been included in our forward estimates.

We as a Government clearly recognise the pressures and the problems of people. At lunchtime I met with a person from my family who is having difficulty finding a place for an aged mother. We recognise the problems in aged care, as does Kim Beazley. We do not put our heads in the sand like Bishop and Howard and say that there is no problem.