

ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES, REPORT

797. Mr TRENORDEN to the Minister for Health:

I refer the minister to the answer he provided just a few moments ago. With reference to the commissioning of a report by the chief health officer under the previous Government into the state of accident and emergency services in country Western Australia, I ask -

- (1) When did the department receive the report?
- (2) When was the minister made aware of the contents of the report?
- (3) Why has the report not been tabled?
- (4) When will it be tabled?

Mr KUCERA replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The report was an advice document provided to the chief health officer to assist with departmental planning processes. The Department of Health received it in October 2000.
- (2)-(4) The advice in the report has been factored into the ongoing planning of rural services. Therefore, some priorities have been reflected in other advice to me. I am not aware of discussions that occurred prior to the Labor Government's election. The Health Administrative Review Committee report, which was commissioned by this Government, addresses rural health service governance issues in an endeavour to deliver a more equitable and effective service. That includes the provision of best practice in accident and emergency centres in the rural sector. The report will now be considered in the broader review being undertaken to implement the recommendations of the HARC report.