

STATEWIDE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN COORDINATION UNIT

867. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Health:

- (1) What is the role of the department's Statewide Protection of Children Coordination—SPOCC—Unit?
- (2) How many employees work in the unit, and what are their roles?
- (3) What other government and non-government agencies are involved in the SPOCC unit?

Hon ALYSSA HAYDEN replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) The Statewide Protection of Children Coordination—SPOCC—Unit leads and promotes WA Health's role and compliance in the protection of children and staff roles and responsibilities under the legislation relating to the mandatory reporting of child sexual abuse. Further information regarding the functions of the unit has been provided, and I table that information.
- (2) The unit comprises five full-time equivalent positions—namely, one FTE manager position, three FTE senior policy and program officer positions, and one FTE research and program support officer position. The total headcount of employees working in the unit is seven; four of these employees work part-time.
- (3) Other key agencies that the unit works in collaboration with include, but are not limited to, the Department for Child Protection and Family Support, WA Police, the Department of Education, the Royal Flying Doctor Service, and Aboriginal medical services. The unit works with these agencies across the state in developing or presenting issues related to child protection to ensure interagency policies and procedures are in place that support children's safety.

[See paper 3190.]