

WYNDHAM HOSPITAL — OPERATING HOURS

757. Ms M.J. DAVIES to the Minister for Health:

I refer to the service reduction at Wyndham Hospital, from 24 hours to 12 hours, that started on 25 October 2021.

- (1) What measures is the state government taking to address staff shortages and resume normal operating hours for this hospital?
- (2) Can the minister confirm that the reduced operating hours are only temporary, and advise the time line for a return to normal operations?

Ms A. SANDERSON replied:

- (1)–(2) I can confirm that the reduced hours are only temporary and are due to staffing pressures. The WA Country Health Service is working diligently and intensively to ensure that we relieve those staffing pressures. This is a challenged area—it is remote and difficult to staff. We work very closely with Rural Health West. We are recruiting a number of healthcare workers, particularly from Queensland and the Northern Territory. We are very focused on getting that back up to a 24/7 service. During the hours that staff are not in place, the community has access to emergency on-call, so it has access to emergency health care when it requires it. It is temporary.