

SEXUAL ASSAULT — VICTIM COUNSELLING WAIT TIMES — JOONDALUP

930. Ms S.F. McGURK to the Minister for Health:

I refer to the blowout in average wait times for sexual assault victims to receive treatment in the Joondalup area.

- (1) Can the minister confirm that the average waiting time for sexual assault victims to receive outreach counselling from the point of contact has blown out by 70 per cent to 71 days?
- (2) Does the minister believe it is acceptable that a sexual assault victim should have to wait so long?

Mr J.H.D. DAY replied:

- (1)–(2) I am not aware specifically of sexual assault consultations in the Joondalup area. I do not have it in front of me, but I know there was a question without notice asked in the Legislative Council recently. Obviously, it is not desirable that somebody who has been a victim of sexual assault has to wait any longer than absolutely necessary, so I will request more information about what the cause of the increase in waiting times is, and what might be done about it.