

COLLIE HOSPITAL — MATERNITY WARD

8221. Mr M.P. Murray to the Minister for Health

In relation to the Government's announcement on 24 May 2012 which claims to usher in a new era of country health care in a large part of southern Western Australia, and, in particular, the Minister's statement that Collie will become a key hospital, I ask:

- (a) will the maternity ward remain operational as part of the Government's expanding healthcare role for Collie District Hospital;
- (b) how many beds will be available in the maternity ward;
- (c) how many birthing suites will be available in the maternity ward;
- (d) will midwifery services be provided 24 hours a day; and
- (e) will a General Practitioner, qualified in obstetrics, be available or on call over a 24 hour period for expectant mothers?

Dr K.D. HAMES replied:

- (a) Collie Hospital does not have a designated Maternity Ward. There are 6 beds allocated for maternity patients on the general ward. There are no plans to change the current services.
- (b) The number of beds available for maternity patients in Collie Hospital is determined by the need.
- (c) 2
- (d)–(e) Yes.