

HEALTH — PUBLIC DENTAL WAIT LIST — REGIONAL AREAS

1550. Hon MARTIN ALDRIDGE to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health:

I refer to the public dental waitlist in regional areas.

- (1) What is the current average waiting time for the Pilbara region?
- (2) What is the current average waiting time for the Gascoyne and midwest region?
- (3) What is the state government doing to increase the number of dentists in regional areas?

Hon KYLE MCGINN replied:

I thank the member for the notice of the question. The following answer has been provided by the Minister for Health. I answer on behalf of the Leader of the House. The answer to (1) and (2) is in tabular form so I seek leave to have that incorporated in *Hansard*.

[Leave granted for the following material to be incorporated.]

(1)–(2)

	1. Pilbara	2. Gascoyne/Mid West
School Dental Service Initial	3.4 months	6 months
School Dental Service Recall	16.6 months	24 months
Adult Dental Service General	0 months*	10.6 months
Adult Dental Service Recall	0 months*	33.7 months

*Care provided as required.

- (3) The Dental Health Service has ongoing recruitment campaigns in place to increase the number of dental practitioners in regional areas, including the relocation incentives contained in the WA Health Belong campaign. DHS is also providing visiting services to regional areas utilising agency and Perth based DHS clinicians to deliver care in regional areas.