

VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING — ANNUAL REPORT — INTERPRETERS

1165. Hon Nick Goiran to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health:

I refer to page 39 of the *Voluntary Assisted Dying Board Western Australia Annual Report 2021–22* that states ‘To increase the number of interpreters who may provide services as part of the voluntary assisted dying process, the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Health has broadened the bodies that an interpreter may be accredited by under section 163 to also include a Registered Higher Education Provider or a Registered Training Organisation, in addition [sic] the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI).’ Earlier in the report (page 19) it was noted that a patient was assisted by an interpreter in only two cases during a First Assessment; and I ask, was there difficulty in obtaining an interpreter in these two cases that necessitated the Chief Executive Officer’s actions in broadening the bodies that an interpreter may be accredited by under section 163?

Hon Sue Ellery replied:

There was no difficulty in obtaining an interpreter in either of the two cases included in the annual report.

The Chief Executive Officer’s action in broadening interpreter accreditation was done solely to be inclusive of interpreters who are suitably qualified and willing to be involved in the voluntary assisted dying process but who have chosen not to be credentialed by the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters.