

HEALTH RESEARCH GROUP

620. Hon Jim Scott to the Attorney General representing the Minister for Health:

- (1) What reports has the Health Research Group published since its formation in 1998?
- (2) What epidemiological investigations has the Health Research Group undertaken or commissioned on the health impacts of photochemical smog?
- (3) Who is currently on this Health Research Group and which department or organisation are they from?
- (4) How is the Health Research Group funded and what is its annual budget.

Hon PETER FOSS replied:

It is assumed that the question refers to the Health Research Working Group established by the Air Quality Coordinating Committee, which in turn was established by the Minister for the Environment in response to the recommendations of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Perth's Air Quality. While the Air Quality Coordinating Committee falls within the portfolio of the Minister for the Environment, we will answer the questions from the perspective of the Health Department of Western Australia.

- (1) None.
- (2) The Health Research Working Group has undertaken a time series study to assess the relationship between mortality and morbidity, and air pollution in the Perth metropolitan area.
- (3) The Health Research Working Group comprises the following members:

Dr Jim Codde	HDWA
Ms Cobie Rudd	GP Divisions of WA
Dr Nick de Klerk	Dept Public Health UWA
Dr Bill Musk	Dept Public Health UWA
Dr Peter Di Marco	HDWA
Ms Pierina Otness	HDWA
Dr Andrea Hinwood	Department of Environmental Protection
Prof Louis Landau	Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, UWA
Prof Jeff Spickett	Curtin University
Prof Tom Lyons	Murdoch University
Dr Quentin Summers	Royal Perth Hospital
A/Prof Frank Murray	Murdoch University
- (4) A budget has not been allocated to the Health Research Working Group and activities are resourced through the organisations of its constituent members.