

NURSES — ENTERPRISE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

866. Ms L. METTAM to the Premier:

I have a supplementary question. When will the Premier take meaningful action to address the huge shortfall of nurses across the state —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order, please!

Ms L. METTAM: — and will there be a resolution before Christmas?

Mr R.H. COOK replied:

The Minister for Health has just reminded me that we have seen an increase of 30 per cent in staffing in our hospital system. That speaks volumes about two things. The first is the fact that we are being successful in recruiting people to work in our hospitals to provide great care to the people of Western Australia. The second is that it demonstrates the commitment of my government to make sure that we fund health services to ensure that we continue to have the best hospital system in this country.