

PERTH CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL — EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT — RESUSCITATION TEAM

364. Ms L. METTAM to the Premier:

I refer to the 30 recommendations from the independent inquiry into Perth Children's Hospital following the tragic death of Aishwarya Aswath and evidence provided by the Child and Adolescent Health Service during the annual report hearings that as of 16 February 2023, only 18 of them had been implemented.

- (1) As the minister originally responsible, is it acceptable that, after two years, Perth Children's Hospital still does not have a supernumerary resuscitation team in place?
- (2) When will all 30 recommendations be implemented?

Mr R.H. COOK replied:

- (1)–(2) I thank the member for the question. I remember Perth Children's Hospital when I was the Minister for Health. This was the one that members opposite could not open. This was the one for which they could not even get the lead out of the water. It took our government, with its determination and resolve, to actually open the hospital in the first place.

CAHS and this government are absolutely committed to implementing the recommendations of the report following Aishwarya's death in April 2021. I am confident that CAHS is prioritising this work, and expect it to continue to as a priority. I have spoken to the Minister for Health. She is very focused on this and is taking a great leadership role in making sure that we continue to implement the recommendations, but this is not a tick-a-box exercise. This is actually continuing to drive and guide a complex organisation with difficult relationships while it continues to provide world-class health care for the kids of Western Australia. This is about ensuring lasting and meaningful change to our health system. That is a commitment that I made to Aswath and Prasitha at the time and following this dreadful, tragic set of circumstances, and we will continue to make sure that we build on that improvement, both in Aishwarya's memory and on behalf of all the sick kids of Western Australia.